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# 2024 G7 Apulia Summit Final Compliance Report

15 June 2024 to 15 May 2025

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9 June 2025

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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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## Introduction

This compliance report begins with the 2024 Apulia Summit hosted by Italy on 13-15 June 2024. It assesses actions taken by the G7 members to fulfil 20 priority commitments of the 469 commitments made at Apulia during the period of 15 June 2024 to 15 May 2025, building on the interim compliance report that covered the period up to 20 December 2024.

To conduct these assessments, researchers rely on publicly available information, documentation and media reports of actions taken beginning the day after the release of the Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué.

The G7 Research Group has been producing annual compliance reports since 1996. It began publishing interim reports in 2002 to assess progress at the time of the transition from the outgoing G7 presidency to the incoming presidency each 1 January. These reports are offered to the general public and to policy makers, academics, civil society, the media and interested citizens around the world in an effort to make the work of the G7 more transparent and accessible, and to provide scientific data to enable meaningful analysis of the impact of this unique informal international institution.

Based at the University of Toronto and founded in 1987, the G7 Research Group strives to be the leading independent source of information and analysis on the institutions, performance, issues and participants of the G7 summit and system of global governance. It is a global network of scholars, students and professionals. The group oversees the G7 Information Centre, which publishes freely available research on the G7 as well as official documents issued by the G7.

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

To ensure the accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity of these reports, comments and suggestions are always welcome. Indeed, this is a living document, and the scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available. All feedback remains anonymous and is never attributed. Responsibility for this report's contents lies exclusively with the report's authors and the analysts of the G7 Research Group.

The work of the G7 Research Group would not be possible without the steadfast dedication of many people around the world. This report is the product of a team of energetic and hard-working analysts led by Jacob Rudolph and Angus MacKellar, co-chairs of summit studies, Mahek Kaur, Petrina van Nieuwstadt, Brinda Batra, and Ilya Goheen, the editors, and their team of compliance directors, lead analysts and analysts. It would also not be possible without the efforts of Professor John Kirton, director of the G7 Research Group, Brittaney Warren, director of compliance studies, Dr. Ella Kokotsis, director of accountability, and Madeline Koch, executive director. We are also indebted to the many people who provide feedback on our drafts, whose comments are always carefully considered in the published report.

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## Summary

The G7 Research Group's Final Compliance Report on the 2024 Apulia Summit assesses the compliance of the G7 members with 20 priority commitments selected from the total of 469 made at the Apulia Summit on 13-15 June 2024. It evaluates members' implementing actions taken only between 15 June 2024 and 15 May 2025 and builds on the interim report, which covered actions only up to 20 December 2024.

This selection of commitments reflects the breadth and focus of the Apulia Summit's agenda, including macroeconomic stability in the midst of a global inflation crisis, addressing the food security crisis, managing borders, and promoting clean energy domestically and abroad. The 2024 agenda also covered the usual issues addressed by the G7 alongside the pressing regional security concerns regarding the conflict in Ukraine including a landmark commitment to use proceeds from frozen Russian sovereign assets to repay loans to Ukraine.

Table A lists the 20 Apulia commitments selected for monitoring.

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

## The Final Compliance Score

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

For the period of 15 June 2024 to 15 May 2025, average compliance for the 20 commitments assessed is +0.83 (92%), a 4% increase from the interim score of +0.77 (88%). Compared to previous final reports, it is lower than the final scores for 2023 Hiroshima Summit's +0.91 (96%) and the 2020 Virtual Summit's +0.92 (96%), but higher than the 2022 Elmau and 2021 Cornwall summits, which both had a score of +0.81 (90%).

Table B contains the full breakdown of all the final compliance scores by issue and by member for the 2024 Apulia Summit. Table C lists the scores by member and includes scores for the previous four summits.

## Compliance by Member

The European Union and the United Kingdom ranked first with average compliance of +0.95 (98%), followed by 2025 host Canada and Germany at +0.90 (95%). These members were followed by 2024 host Italy at +0.85 (93%), France and Japan at +0.80 (90%), and the United States at +0.50 (75%).

For the interim report, by December 2024, the European Union ranked first with an average compliance score of +0.95 (98%), followed by the United Kingdom and United States at +0.90 (95%), Canada at +0.80 (90%). Germany at +0.75 (88%), Italy at +0.70 (85%), France at +0.60 (80%) and Japan at +0.55 (78%). Scores thus increased for all but two members: the EU score remained unchanged and the US score decreased to +0.50 (75%) from +0.90 (95%).

These final scores from 2024 form a different configuration from the 2023 final scores, when Canada, the European Union, France and the United States all ranked first with an average compliance score of +0.95 (98%) each, followed by Germany and the United Kingdom each at +0.90 (95%) and Italy and Japan both at +0.85 (93%).

## Compliance by Commitment

Six of the 20 commitments assessed achieved full compliance: on cyber security, forest protection, border management, extraordinary revenue acceleration loans for Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and resilient supply chains. Ten achieved +0.88 (94%). As with the interim compliance report, the commitment on climate adaptation had the lowest compliance, remaining at 0 (50%). See Table D for more information.

Compliance increased for seven commitments since the interim report, notably food security and closing the digital divide. It declined for four commitments: clean energy in developing countries, the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment, price and financial stability, and climate adaptation.

### **The Compliance Gap between Members**

These final results from the 2024 Apulia Summit show a difference of 0.45 between the highest and lowest scoring members.

### **Future Research and Reports**

The information contained within this report provides G7 members and other stakeholders with an indication of the G7 members' compliance with 20 commitments for the period beginning immediately after the 2024 Apulia Summit on 15 June 2024 until 15 May 2025. As with previous compliance reports, this report has been produced as an invitation for others to provide additional or more complete information on G7 members' compliance. Comments are always welcomed and would be considered as part of an analytical reassessment. Please send your feedback to [g7@utoronto.ca](mailto:g7@utoronto.ca).

**Table A: 2024 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment\***

	Commitment
1	Together with international partners, we are determined to continue to provide military ... support to Ukraine and its people. (2024-33)
2	With a view to supporting Ukraine's current and future needs in the face of a prolonged defense against Russia, the G7 will launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD 50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. (2024-37)
3	We reiterate our unwavering commitment to the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and in this regard stress the importance of unifying the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. (2024-72)
4	We are strengthening effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. (2024-452)
5	We note that, despite progress, there is a need to continue to scale up action and support, including finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. (2024-213)
6	We are determined to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean, and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa, [recognizing the opportunity that the clean energy transition presents to spur a new era of productivity, industrial growth, and economic development, and to advance the priority of clean cooking in the continent.] (2024-202)
7	We reaffirm our commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. (2024-172)
8	We are committed to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests, [and in that context welcome the launch of country packages for forests, nature, and climate at the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.] (2024-227)
9	Noting that we have already exceeded our joint commitment of USD 14 billion to global food security, announced in Elmau in 2022, we remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. (2024-102)
10	We reaffirm our commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG [Sustainable Development Goal] 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. (2024-393)
11	We reiterate our commitments in the Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué to universal access to adequate, affordable, and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. (2024-422)
12	[We will continue accelerating] ... gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. (2024-273)
13	We will also work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. (2024-258)
14	[We will work to ensure that artificial intelligence] ... fosters inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work. (2024-250)
15	[Our policy efforts will continue to focus on promoting] ... ensuring price and financial stability. (2024-324)
16	In particular, we are building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring our toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose, and safeguarding critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. (2024-360)

17	We reaffirm our commitment to mobilize up to USD 600 billion through the PGII [Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment] by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. (2024-120)
18	We will enhance cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on ... efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. (2024-295)
19	In line with the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, we will also strengthen our actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. (2024-309)
20	We are pursuing a four-fold approach to counter malicious cyber activities ... developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. (2024-282)

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

**Table B: 2024 G7 Apulia Final Compliance Scores**

Commitment	Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average	
1 Regional Security: Military Assistance for Ukraine	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
2 Regional Security: Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loans for Ukraine	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
3 Regional Security: Two-State Solution for Israel and Palestine	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
4 Non-Proliferation: Export Controls	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
5 Climate Change: Climate Adaptation	0	0	0	0	0	+1	-1	0	0.00	50%
6 Energy: Clean Energy in Developing Countries	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
7 Energy: Decarbonizing the Power Sector	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
8 Environment: Forest Protection	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
9 Food and Agriculture: Global Food Security	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.75	88%
10 Health: Sustainable Development Goal 3	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
11 Gender: Health Services for Women	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
12 Labour and Employment: Gender and Other Forms of Equality	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+0.75	88%
13 Digital Economy: Closing Digital Divides	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
14 Digital Economy: AI for Work	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.88	94%
15 Macroeconomics: Price and Financial Stability	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
16 Trade: Resilient Economies and Supply Chains	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
17 Infrastructure: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
18 Migration and Refugees: Border Management	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
19 Migration and Refugees: Preventing Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.38	69%
20 Cybersecurity: Countering Malicious Behaviour	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
2024 Final Compliance Average	+0.90	+0.80	+0.90	+0.85	+0.80	+0.95	+0.50	+0.95	+0.83	92%
	95%	90%	95%	93%	90%	98%	75%	98%		

**Table C: 2024 G7 Apulia Final Compliance Scores by Member**

Rank	Member	Final Compliance		Interim Compliance		Difference
1	European Union	+0.95	98%	+0.95	98%	0%
	United Kingdom	+0.95	98%	+0.90	95%	3%
3	Canada	+0.90	95%	+0.80	90%	5%
	Germany	+0.90	95%	+0.75	88%	7%
5	Italy	+0.85	93%	+0.70	85%	8%
6	France	+0.80	90%	+0.60	80%	10%
	Japan	+0.80	90%	+0.55	78%	12%
8	United States	+0.50	75%	+0.90	95%	-20%
	Average	+0.83	92%	+0.77	88%	4%
	Spread	0.45		0.40		

	2023 Hiroshima				2022 Elmau				2021 Cornwall				2020 Virtual			
	Final		Interim		Final		Interim		Final		Interim		Final		Interim	
European Union	+0.95	98%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.81	90%	+0.95	98%	+0.82	91%	+0.95	98%	+0.95	98%
United Kingdom	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.86	93%	+0.91	95%	+0.77	89%	+0.85	93%	+0.85	93%
Canada	+0.95	98%	+0.85	93%	+0.90	95%	+0.76	88%	+0.86	93%	+0.77	89%	+0.85	93%	+0.80	90%
Germany	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.81	90%	+0.91	95%	+0.82	91%	+0.95	98%	+0.90	95%
Italy	+0.85	93%	+0.65	83%	+0.52	76%	+0.33	67%	+0.59	80%	+0.36	68%	+0.95	98%	+0.75	88%
France	+0.95	98%	+0.90	95%	+0.71	86%	+0.67	83%	+0.68	84%	+0.59	80%	+0.90	95%	+0.90	95%
Japan	+0.85	93%	+0.65	83%	+0.76	88%	+0.48	74%	+0.64	82%	+0.59	80%	+0.80	90%	+0.85	93%
United States	+0.95	98%	+0.95	98%	+0.90	95%	+0.86	93%	+0.91	95%	+0.82	91%	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%
Average	+0.91	96%	+0.82	91%	+0.81	90%	+0.70	85%	+0.81	90%	+0.69	85%	+0.92	96%	+0.85	93%
Spread	0.10		0.30		0.43		0.52		0.36		0.45		15.00		0.10	

**Table D: 2024 G7 Apulia Final Compliance Scores by Commitment**

Rank	Commitment	Final		Interim		Difference
1	Cybersecurity: Countering Malicious Behaviour	+1.00	100%	+0.88	94%	6%
	Environment: Forest Protection	+1.00	100%	+1.00	100%	0%
	Migration and Refugees: Border Management	+1.00	100%	+0.88	94%	6%
	Regional Security: Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loans for Ukraine	+1.00	100%	+1.00	100%	0%
	Regional Security: Two-State Solution for Israel and Palestine	+1.00	100%	+1.00	100%	0%
	Trade: Resilient Supply Chains	+1.00	100%	+0.88	94%	6%
7	Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence for Work	+0.88	94%	+0.75	88%	6%
	Digital Economy: Closing Digital Divides	+0.88	94%	+0.50	75%	19%
	Energy: Clean Energy in Developing Countries	+0.88	94%	+1.00	100%	-6%
	Energy: Decarbonizing the Power Sector	+0.88	94%	+0.88	94%	0%
	Gender: Health Services for Women	+0.88	94%	+0.88	94%	0%
	Health: Sustainable Development Goal 3	+0.88	94%	+0.88	94%	0%
	Infrastructure: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment	+0.88	94%	+1.00	100%	-6%
	Macroeconomics: Price and Financial Stability	+0.88	94%	+1.00	100%	-6%
	Non-Proliferation: Export Controls	+0.88	94%	+0.88	94%	0%
	Regional Security: Military Assistance for Ukraine	+0.88	94%	+0.75	88%	6%
17	Food and Agriculture: Global Food Security	+0.75	88%	+0.13	56%	32%
	Labour and Employment: Gender and Other Forms of Equality	+0.75	88%	+0.63	81%	6%
19	Migration and Refugees: Preventing Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking	+0.38	69%	+0.38	69%	0%
20	Climate Change: Climate Adaptation	0	50%	+0.13	56%	-6%



## 1. Regional Security: Military Assistance for Ukraine

“Together with international partners, we are determined to continue to provide military ... support to Ukraine and its people.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

The G7 has addressed concerns of regional stability, such as between the two former Soviet states of Ukraine and the Russian Federation.<sup>1</sup> Before the ongoing full-scale invasion of Ukraine launched in 2022, Russia's precursory annexation of the Crimean Peninsula in 2014 sparked a new wave of G7 action. In 2014, when Russia was scheduled to host the G8 summit in Sochi in June, G7 leaders called on Russia to halt its annexation of Crimea on 12 March.<sup>2</sup> In the Hague Declaration on 14 March, G7 leaders stated that they would not participate in the Sochi Summit and would instead meet, without Russia, in Brussels in June.<sup>3</sup> The suspension of engagement with Russia as a part of the G8 was never reversed.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders implored Russia to collaborate with Ukraine in the pursuit of a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>4</sup> G7 leaders called on illegal armed groups to disarm and supported the contribution made by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe in de-escalating the crisis through the Special Monitoring Mission and other tools. The G7 announced its support for members' sanctions on individuals and entities supporting Russian action in Crimea and Eastern Ukraine.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders restated their condemnation of the Crimean annexation and reaffirmed their commitment to working with international partners to provide technical support to Ukraine.<sup>5</sup> G7 leaders called on both sides to adhere to the Minsk Agreements and respect the associated ceasefire. During the summit, members stressed that the stability of Ukraine's economy was crucial to its ability to resist Russian aggression, specifically calling for G7 ambassadors in Kyiv to establish a Ukraine support group to assist the advancement of the Ukrainian economic reform process.

<sup>1</sup> Economic Declaration: Working Together for Growth and a Safer World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1992. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1992munich/communiqué/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> Statement by G7 Leaders on Ukraine, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 March 2014. Access Date: 3 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine\\_140312.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine_140312.html)

<sup>3</sup> G7: The Hague Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 March 2014. Access Date: 3 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/hague\\_140324.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/hague_140324.html)

<sup>4</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 5 June 2014. Access date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>5</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders stood united in their conviction that the conflict in Ukraine must be resolved diplomatically. Members shared concern at the continued violence and the violation of the ceasefire. They reiterated that sanction duration remained contingent upon Russia's complete implementation of the Minsk Agreements and respect for Ukrainian sovereignty, and that the group stood ready to take further restrictive methods on Russia if required.<sup>6</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their support for the complete implementation of the Minsk Agreements by all parties, their stance of non-recognition regarding Russia's annexation of Crimea, and their commitment to sanctions against Russia.<sup>7</sup> They also reiterated their support for Ukraine's reform efforts, its "independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty," and the de-escalation initiatives of the Normandy Group.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders condemned once more the violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and reiterated its support for Ukraine's territorial integrity.<sup>8</sup> The leaders restated their position on sanctions, whereby sanctions could be lifted or increased depending on Russia's respect for the Minsk Agreements. They also restated their support for the Normandy Format and of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, France and Germany announced the future hosting of a Normandy Format summit, in order to address issues surrounding Ukraine.<sup>9</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders restated their support for Ukrainian independence, sovereignty, democracy and territorial integrity as well as the Normandy Process' work towards securing the implementation of the Minsk agreements.<sup>10</sup> The leaders stated that Russia was a participant, not a mediator, in the conflict and that Russian-backed groups must abide by the broken ceasefire.

During the 2022 Elmau Summit, following the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, G7 leaders strongly condemned the war in Ukraine perpetrated by Russia and reiterated their full support for the Ukrainian government and the people of Ukraine.<sup>11</sup> The leaders demanded the withdrawal of all Russian troops and military forces from Ukraine. The leaders announced their intent to support Ukrainian efforts to end the war, including meeting Ukrainian need for military and defense equipment, along with coordinating to provide Ukraine with the material, training and logistic, intelligence, and economic support to build up its armed forces.<sup>12</sup> This represents the first instance of military support for Ukraine from the G7, with prior commitments concerning mostly diplomatic or non-military economic initiatives. Leaders also committed to deepened and broadened sanctions against Russia and associated economic agents.

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<sup>6</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

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

<sup>7</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

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

<sup>8</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

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

<sup>9</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

<sup>10</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>11</sup> G7 Statement on Support for Ukraine, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2022. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220627-ukraine.html>

<sup>12</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 April 2022. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220407-statement.html>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their unwavering support for Ukraine and commitment to providing Ukraine with increasing financial, military, humanitarian and diplomatic support.<sup>13</sup> They also called on China to apply pressure on Russia to withdraw from Ukraine.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders recommitted to the continued provision of military, economic, and humanitarian support for Ukraine.<sup>14</sup> Alongside budget and reconstruction requirements, Ukrainian military financing will be supported by the G7 through various streams, such as those funded through frozen Russian assets. The leaders noted the importance of supporting Ukrainian air defense. The G7 reiterated its calls for China and other third countries to support its agenda against Russian aggression. These measures, alongside leaders' commitments to bilateral security deals with Ukraine, aim to ensure and restore Ukrainian territorial integrity, sovereignty, and democracy across its internationally recognized borders.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed that, “together with international partners, we are determined to continue to provide military...support to Ukraine and its people.”

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Together” is understood to mean “as a group.”<sup>15</sup> It implies that G7 members will not act in isolation but will work jointly with other countries and international organizations to ensure effective and comprehensive support for Ukraine. This collective approach emphasizes shared responsibilities, mutual coordination, and synchronized actions to enhance the overall impact of the military support provided. The goal is to unify efforts, leverage diverse resources and expertise, and present a cohesive front in addressing Ukraine's needs in the face of aggression.

“International” is understood to mean “of, relating to, or affecting two or more nations.”<sup>16</sup> In this context, “international” encompasses actions, agreements, or collaborations that extend across national borders, involving various sovereign states and international organizations working together on common goals or issues.

“Partner” is understood to mean “one associated with another, especially in an action.”<sup>17</sup> “Partners” refers to other countries, organizations, or entities that cooperate with G7 members to provide support to Ukraine.

“Determined” is understood to mean “having reached a decision” about which one remains “firmly resolved.”<sup>18</sup> In the context of this commitment, it emphasizes the strong and unwavering stance of G7 leaders to continue their military support for Ukraine. It suggests that the G7, alongside international partners, will persist in its assistance for Ukraine regardless of challenges that may arise.

“Continue” is understood to mean “to keep going or add to.”<sup>19</sup> In this context, “continue” refers to the ongoing nature of military assistance to Ukraine, which was already being provided by G7 members before the Apulia

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<sup>13</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communiqué.html>

<sup>14</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communiqué.html>

<sup>15</sup> Together, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/together>

<sup>16</sup> International, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/international>

<sup>17</sup> Partner, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/partner>

<sup>18</sup> Determined, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/determined>

<sup>19</sup> Continue, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/continue>

summit. It indicates a long-term commitment to provide sustained military support to Ukraine throughout the conflict.

“Military” is understood as “of or relating to soldiers, arms, or war.”<sup>20</sup> In the context of this commitment, “military” includes the provision of weapons, ammunition, vehicles (such as tanks or armored personnel carriers), drones, surveillance technology, and other hardware necessary for combat operations. It also covers military services such as intelligence gathering, reconnaissance, the training of Ukrainian troops, cybersecurity support, and logistical assistance in battlefield operations. Military support is not limited to these specific examples.

“Support” refers to the act of providing help or assistance.<sup>21</sup> In the context of this commitment, “support” means aiding Ukraine’s ability to defend itself through the provision of military resources and services. It also involves indirect actions, such as funding defense efforts, bolstering logistical supply chains, or offering expertise to enhance Ukraine’s military capabilities. Support is understood as encompassing both direct military contributions and the infrastructure needed to sustain Ukraine’s military efforts over time.

“Ukraine and its people” is understood to refer to both the state of Ukraine, its military forces, and the civilian population. In this context, “its people” are Ukrainian citizens and residents indirectly supported by G7 actions through direct G7 member support for the Ukrainian state and armed forces.

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Full compliance, or a score of +1 will be granted to G7 members that have taken at least three strong actions to continue providing military support to Ukraine in collaboration with international partners. Strong actions may include supplying lethal military equipment (such as tanks, fighter jets, air-defense systems, arms and ammunition, artillery, or other weaponry); providing intelligence, engineering, or cyber support; training members of the Ukrainian armed forces; or otherwise tailoring assistance to the current or future needs of Ukraine. Further, G7 members must demonstrate cooperation with international partners on two or more occasions, carrying out joint actions or programs and offering cohesive military aid packages.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0 will be assigned to G7 members that have taken one or two strong actions or weak action in continuing to provide military support. Weak actions may include the provision of non-lethal military equipment (such as uniforms, protective equipment, medical supplies, or military rations) or the provision of supplies insensitive to Ukraine’s capacities and needs (such as lethal weaponry that is outdated or that’s use will be unsustainable for Ukraine due to infrastructural or logistical restrictions). Partial compliance will also be assigned to G7 members that have taken strong action in collaboration with international partners only on one occasion.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1 will be given to G7 member that have not taken action to continue providing military support for Ukraine. This will include G7 members that have failed to engage in coordinated military efforts with international partners or have chosen to focus on non-military assistance to Ukraine which is beyond the scope of this commitment.

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<sup>20</sup> Military, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/military>

<sup>21</sup> Support, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support>

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has not taken actions to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.
0	The G7 member has taken one or two strong actions or weak action to provide military support to Ukraine and its people or has action in collaboration with international partners on only one occasion.
+1	The G7 member has taken at least three strong actions to provide military support to Ukraine and its people and has taken action in collaboration with international partners on two or more occasions.

*Compliance Director: Tisya Raina*  
*Lead Analyst: Olivia Hofman*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including Canada, published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>22</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which intends to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>23</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward NATO membership.

On 12 July 2024, Minister of National Defence Bill Blair announced additional military assistance to Ukraine, consisting of two separate funds of CAD500 million and up to CAD389 million over five years to assist F-16 pilot training through Ukraine Defense Contact Group Air Force Capability Coalition (UDCG).<sup>24</sup>

On 6 September 2024, Minister Blair announced that pilots from the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) would receive instruction from Canadian Air Force (CAF) instructors. Minister Blair also announced the donation of 80,840 rocket motors, 1,300 warheads, 970 machine guns, 10,500 9mm pistols, and the chassis from 93 armored vehicles to the AFU.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>23</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>24</sup> Defence Minister Blair concludes productive visit to Washington, D.C. for NATO Summit, Government of Canada (Washington D.C.) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2024/07/defence-minister-blair-concludes-productive-visit-to-washington-dc-for-nato-summit.html>

<sup>25</sup> Minister Blair announces additional military assistance for Ukraine at the 24th meeting of the Ukraine Defence Contact Group, Department of National Defence (Ramstein-Miesenbach) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2024/09/minister-blair-announces-additional-military-assistance-for-ukraine-at-the-24th-meeting-of-the-ukraine-defense-contact-group.html>

On 25 September 2024, the Ukraine Compact, including Canada, met for a second time in New York, where members reaffirmed their solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's ongoing aggression and pledged to continue military, financial and humanitarian support for as long as needed.<sup>26</sup>

On 18 October 2024, Minister Blair announced CAD64.8 million in additional military assistance to Ukraine.<sup>27</sup> This funding includes CAD27 million in small arms, CAD20 million towards the production of Canadian-made personal protective equipment and military uniforms for 30,000 female AFU soldiers, CAD5 million towards the Drone Capability Coalition (DCC) Common Fund, CAD10.5 million for CAF training of AFU soldiers and CAD2 million in funding for the Information Technology (IT) Coalition, a joint initiative working to provide cyber support to Ukraine and increase its cybersecurity. Funding spent on small arms in particular, addresses the critical needs of the AFU.

On 9 January 2025, Minister Blair announced CAD440 million in further assistance to Ukraine after a meeting of the UDCG.<sup>28</sup> The package includes CAD200 million towards critical ammunition for Ukraine as well as CAD100 million for military drone production, CAD30 million for winter equipment for AFU soldiers and CAD64 million in drone cameras.

On 24 February 2025, Prime Minister Trudeau announced CAD118.5 million in new assistance measures to Ukraine.<sup>29</sup> Of this, CAD8 million is dedicated towards providing personal protective equipment for Ukraine's Ministry of Defence to reduce the threat of non-conventional weapons.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. Canada has provided critical military support to Ukraine through its involvement in NATO, the UDCG, DCC, and the IT coalition, as well as the direct donation of crucial military equipment, high value parts, and vehicles to the AFU, constituting several strong actions. Canada has ensured that military aid is tailored to Ukraine's needs and that such aid is given in concert with international partners, indicating full compliance.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexei Wasylucha*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including France, published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>30</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which intends to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other

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<sup>26</sup> Second meeting of the participants of the Ukraine Compact in New York, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/zweites-treffen-der-teilnehmer-des-ukraine-compact-in-new-york-2311578>

<sup>27</sup> Canada announces new military assistance for Ukraine, Department of National Defence (Brussels) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2024/10/canada-announces-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine.html>

<sup>28</sup> Defence Minister Bill Blair commits \$440 million in military assistance to Ukraine, Department of National Defence (Ramstein Air Base) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2025/01/defence-minister-bill-blair-commits-440-million-in-military-assistance-to-ukraine.html>

<sup>29</sup> A just and lasting peace for Ukraine, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 25 February 2025. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2025/02/24/just-and-lasting-peace-ukraine>

<sup>30</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

On 11 July 2024, President Emmanuel Macron joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>31</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward NATO membership.

On 25 September 2024, the Ukraine Compact, including France, met for a second time in New York, where members reaffirmed their solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's ongoing aggression and pledged to continue military, financial and humanitarian support for as long as needed.<sup>32</sup>

On 26 March 2025, President Macron announced an additional EUR2 billion in military aid for Ukraine.<sup>33</sup> Macron also announced that new military equipment, such as anti-tank and air defence missiles, armoured vehicles and munitions will be provided.

France has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. France has taken action to provide military support through participation in multilateral initiatives and has also provided military equipment or aid packages to Ukraine, indicating full compliance.

Thus, France receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Catriona Hayes Morris*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 9 July 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz made a joint statement alongside the United States President Joe Biden, Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.<sup>34</sup> This statement announced that Germany, alongside the United States and Romania, would be donating additional strategic air defense systems to Ukraine, including Patriot batteries.

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including Germany, published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>35</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which intends to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

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<sup>31</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>32</sup> Second meeting of the participants of the Ukraine Compact in New York, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/zweites-treffen-der-teilnehmer-des-ukraine-compact-in-new-york-2311578>

<sup>33</sup> Entretien de travail avec Volodymyr Zelensky, Président de l'Ukraine, Élysée (Paris) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2025/03/26/entretien-de-travail-avec-volodymyr-zelensky-president-de-lukraine>

<sup>34</sup> Joint Statement on Strengthening Ukraine's Air Defenses, U.S. Embassy in Ukraine (Kyiv) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 25 July 2024. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-on-strengthening-ukraines-air-defenses/>

<sup>35</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

On 11 July 2024, Chancellor Scholz joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>36</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses towards NATO membership.

On 25 September 2024, the Ukraine Compact, including Germany, met for a second time in New York, where members reaffirmed their solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's ongoing aggression and pledged to continue military, financial and humanitarian support for as long as needed.<sup>37</sup> That same day, the Bundestag approved an additional EUR400 million in military funding for Ukraine, facilitating the purchase of enhanced air defense systems, tanks, drones, ammunition, and spare parts to strengthen the Armed Forces of Ukraine and Ukraine's defense efforts.

On 11 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz announced a EUR1.4 billion military aid package for Ukraine, to be delivered by the end of 2024.<sup>38</sup> The package is provided in collaboration with Belgium, Denmark and Norway, and includes enhanced air defense systems, tanks, combat drones and artillery.

On 22 October 2024, Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius and United Kingdom Secretary of State for Defence John Healey and signed the Trinity House Agreement, a military investment treaty with Germany.<sup>39</sup> As part of the deal, the two members will work together to equip German Sea King helicopters with modern missile systems in a new initiative supporting Ukraine.

On 28 October 2024, Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius and Croatian Minister of Defence Ivan Anušić signed a letter of intent agreeing to coordinate Croatia's provision of tanks to Ukraine.<sup>40</sup> Germany will partly finance the sale of new tanks to Croatia, which will then send a portion of its existing tanks to Ukraine.

On 13 November 2024, Chancellor Scholz announced the planned delivery of a sixth IRIS-T air defense system, arranged to arrive in Ukraine by the end of 2024.<sup>41</sup> Chancellor Scholz and President Zelensky also discussed potential additional air defense and aid from Germany.

On 2 December 2024, Chancellor Scholz announced during his visit to Kyiv EUR650 million in new military aid for Ukraine, including IRIS-T air defense systems, tanks and armed drones.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>37</sup> Second meeting of the participants of the Ukraine Compact in New York, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/zweites-treffen-der-teilnehmer-des-ukraine-compact-in-new-york-2311578>

<sup>38</sup> "Playing for time won't work", The Federal Government (Berlin) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 9 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/chancellor-zelensky-berlin-2314868>

<sup>39</sup> Landmark UK-Germany defence agreement to strengthen our security and prosperity, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-uk-germany-defence-agreement-to-strengthen-our-security-and-prosperity>

<sup>40</sup> Croatia to buy Leopard tanks from Germany in swap for Ukraine, Reuters (London) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/croatia-buy-leopard-tanks-germany-swap-ukraine-2024-10-28/>

<sup>41</sup> The Sixth Planned IRIS-T Air Defense System from Germany Will BE Delivered to Ukraine by the End of This Year – Olaf Scholz During a Conversation with Volodymyr Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine (Kyiv) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/shosta-iz-zaplanovanih-sistem-ppo-iris-t-vid-nimechchini-nad-94409>

<sup>42</sup> Bolstering Air Defense, Continued Defense Support and Joint Weapons Production – Key Outcomes of the Meeting Between the President of Ukraine and the Chancellor of Germany, President of Ukraine (Kyiv) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/posilennya-ppo-prodovzhennya-oboronnoyi-pidtrimki-ta-spilne-94773>



On 9 January 2025, Minister Pistorius attended the 25th meeting of the UDCG where he announced Germany's further provision of delivery of further IRIS-T anti-aircraft systems and 54 wheeled howitzers to Ukraine.<sup>43</sup> Minister Pistorius also emphasised Germany's commitment to the goal of training 10,000 Ukrainian soldiers by 2025 and announced that Germany and Croatia have jointly financed 30 additional main battle tanks and 30 infantry fighting vehicles.

On 12 February 2025, Defence Minister Pistorius attended the UDCG meeting in Brussels, where he reaffirmed Germany's long-term commitment to supporting Ukraine's defense capabilities.<sup>44</sup> He also announced that "several thousand" training slots will be made available this year for Ukrainian security personnel. Under the framework of the EU Military Assistance Mission, Germany will maintain its current level of training support for Ukraine, including through the Bundeswehr-led Multinational Special Training Command in Strausberg and a broad range of specialised programs conducted within Germany.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. Germany has taken several strong actions to provide military support alongside international partners, providing military arms and aid packages both independently, through its involvement in NATO, and through its bilateral cooperation with other actors.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julianna Kutas*

#### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners, to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 9 July 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni made a joint statement alongside Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, American President Joe Biden, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The statement announced that Italy has donated an additional SAMP-T system to Ukraine.<sup>45</sup>

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including Italy, published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>46</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which intends to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>47</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius

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<sup>43</sup> Pistorius in Ramstein: First meeting of the Ukraine Defence Contact Group in 2025, Federal Ministry of Defence (Berlin) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/erstes-treffen-ukraine-defence-contact-group-2025-5876054>

<sup>44</sup> Ukraine support: reliable and lasting, Federal Ministry of Defence (Berlin) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/ukraine-unterstuetzung-verlaesslich-und-dauerhaft-5889394>

<sup>45</sup> "Joint Statement on Strengthening Ukraine's Air Defenses" U.S. Embassy Kyiv (Kyiv) 9 July 2024. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-on-strengthening-ukraines-air-defenses/>

<sup>46</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>47</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward NATO membership.

On 16 September 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani announced that Italy will send an additional SAMP-T antimissile battery to Ukraine.<sup>48</sup> This marks the second donation of the theatre antimissile system from Italy to Ukraine.

On 25 September 2024, the Ukraine Compact, including Italy, met for a second time in New York, where members reaffirmed their solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's ongoing aggression and pledged to continue military, financial and humanitarian support for as long as needed.<sup>49</sup>

On 16 December 2024, the Council of Ministers approved a tenth aid package for Ukraine.<sup>50</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners, to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. Italy has taken several actions to provide military support to Ukraine, including in collaboration with international partners, through the provision of SAMP-T systems and its involvement in NATO.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Calleigh Pan*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Kishida Fumio joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>51</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward North Atlantic Treaty Organization membership.

On 25 September 2024, the Ukraine Compact, including Japan, met for a second time in New York, where members reaffirmed their solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's ongoing aggression and pledged to continue military, financial and humanitarian support for as long as needed.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> Tajani: "On missiles, each country for itself, now a peace conference", Italian Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/interviste/2024/09/tajani-sui-missili-ogni-paese-per-se-ora-una-conferenza-di-pace-corriere-della-sera/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/interviste/2024/09/tajani-sui-missili-ogni-paese-per-se-ora-una-conferenza-di-pace-corriere-della-sera/)

<sup>49</sup> Second meeting of the participants of the Ukraine Compact in New York, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/zweites-treffen-der-teilnehmer-des-ukraine-compact-in-new-york-2311578>

<sup>50</sup> Italian government approves 10th military aid package for Ukraine, Ukrainska Pravda (Kyiv) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 31 January 2025.

<sup>51</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>52</sup> Second meeting of the participants of the Ukraine Compact in New York, The Federal Government (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/zweites-treffen-der-teilnehmer-des-ukraine-compact-in-new-york-2311578>

On 16 November 2024, Ambassador to Ukraine Masashi Nakagome and First Deputy Head of the Security Service of Ukraine Serhii Andrushchenko signed a security information sharing agreement.<sup>53</sup> The agreement outlines provisions for sharing classified information that can benefit Ukrainian security.

On 4 February 2025, Defense Minister Gen Nakatani announced that the Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces will be providing approximately 30 additional vehicles, including half-ton trucks and high mobility vehicles, to Ukraine.<sup>54</sup> Six half-ton trucks have already been sent on 2 February 2024, prior to the public announcement.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. Japan has participated in a multilateral initiative to support Ukraine militarily and signed a security information sharing agreement with Ukraine but has not provided direct military equipment or aid as Japan's constitution prohibits the threat or use of force in settling international disputes in Article Nine.<sup>55</sup>

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Calleigh Pan*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 7 July 2024, Secretary of State for Defence John Healey visited Odessa and pledged to enhance the United Kingdom's military support for Ukraine.<sup>56</sup> Following meetings with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Ukrainian Defence Minister Rustem Umerov, he announced a new aid package, including artillery, a quarter of a million ammunition rounds, and nearly 100 precision Brimstone missiles. Secretary Healey emphasized the UK's unwavering commitment to Ukraine, asserting that the government's resolve to support the Ukrainian people remains steadfast despite recent changes in leadership.

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including the United Kingdom published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>57</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which is intended to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

On 10 July 2024, Secretary Healey signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the Drone Coalition, which aims to provide Ukraine with drones.<sup>58</sup> The memorandum establishes a Drone Coalition Common Fund to

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<sup>53</sup> Signing of the Japan-Ukraine Agreement on the Security of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Kyiv) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c\\_see/ua/pageite\\_000001\\_00671.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c_see/ua/pageite_000001_00671.html)

<sup>54</sup> Press Conference by Defense Minister Nakatani on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 8:40 AM, Ministry of Defense (Tokyo). 4 February 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.mod.go.jp/en/article/2025/02/ab54019634854375396cc8159595ad4761382a0d.html>

<sup>55</sup> The constitution of Japan, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

[https://japan.kantei.go.jp/constitution\\_and\\_government\\_of\\_japan/constitution\\_e.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/constitution_and_government_of_japan/constitution_e.html)

<sup>56</sup> New Defence Secretary pledges to step up support for Ukraine on visit to Odesa, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-defence-secretary-pledges-to-step-up-support-for-ukraine-on-visit-to-odesa>

<sup>57</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>58</sup> Joint statement by Defence Ministers of the Drone Coalition, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-defence-ministers-of-the-drone-coalition>

facilitate procurement and delivery. The United Kingdom, alongside the Netherlands, Latvia, New Zealand and Sweden, already pledged EUR45 million to this fund.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer joined 32 world leaders in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>59</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward NATO membership.

On 6 September 2024, Secretary Healey announced that the United Kingdom will supply 650 Lightweight Multirole Missile systems to Ukraine, with a total value of GBP162 million.<sup>60</sup> Norway supplements the UK's leading role in financing this package.

On 6 September 2024, Secretary Healey announced the extension of Armed Forces of Ukraine training in the United Kingdom until at least the end of 2025.<sup>61</sup> The training is part of Operation Interflex, a joint initiative involving Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Australia and Romania.

On 26 September 2024, the Ministry of Defence announced that it had delivered ten units of AS90 artillery guns to Ukraine, with another six expected in subsequent weeks.<sup>62</sup> The delivery marks a success in the United Kingdom's efforts to increase the speed with which it is furnishing Ukraine with weaponry.

On 22 October 2024, Secretary Healey and German Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius signed the Trinity House Agreement, a military investment treaty with Germany.<sup>63</sup> As part of the deal, the two members will work together to equip German Sea King helicopters with modern missile systems in a new initiative supporting Ukraine.

On 22 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced that the United Kingdom will provide GBP120 million for the Maritime Capability Coalition (MCC).<sup>64</sup> The MCC, a British and Norwegian led initiative, supports Ukraine's naval capabilities.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>60</sup> UK to provide £162 million package of air defence missiles for Ukraine as Defence Secretary meets international partners, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-provide-162-million-package-of-air-defence-missiles-for-ukraine-as-defence-secretary-meets-international-partners>

<sup>61</sup> UK to extend training programme for Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel throughout 2025, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-extend-training-programme-for-ukrainian-armed-forces-personnel-throughout-2025>

<sup>62</sup> UK to speed up military kit deliveries to support Ukraine's fight, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-speed-up-military-kit-deliveries-to-support-ukraines-fight>

<sup>63</sup> Landmark UK-Germany defence agreement to strengthen our security and prosperity, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-uk-germany-defence-agreement-to-strengthen-our-security-and-prosperity>

<sup>64</sup> Prime Minister warns Russian threat to global stability is accelerating as Putin ramps up attacks on Black Sea, Prime Minister's Office (London) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-warns-russian-threat-to-global-stability-is-accelerating-as-putin-ramps-up-attacks-on-black-sea>

<sup>65</sup> British minehunting ships to bolster Ukrainian Navy as UK and Norway launch maritime support initiative, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 11 December 2023. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-minehunting-ships-to-bolster-ukrainian-navy-as-uk-and-norway-launch-maritime-support-initiative>

On 19 November 2024, Secretary Healey announced an additional GBP7.5 million in funding for attack and surveillance drones for Ukraine.<sup>66</sup> The British and Latvian led drone coalition will fund this package.

On 19 December 2024, Secretary Healey announced a GBP186 million package of military support to Ukraine through the International Fund for Ukraine (IFU).<sup>67</sup> This includes GBP92 million to strengthen Ukraine's navy with small boats, drones, and loitering munitions; GBP68 million for air defence systems such as radars and electronic warfare equipment; GBP26 million for spare parts and support for previously delivered systems; and GBP39 million for over 1,000 counter-drone systems and protective gear. The package also includes explosive charges for more than 90,000 155mm artillery rounds compatible with the UK-supplied AS-90 self-propelled guns.

On 28 December 2024, the Ministry of Defence announced that it would increase the number of Ukrainian soldiers trained as "combat mental resilience practitioners" from 100 to 180, expanding an initiative aiming to address a need for mental health support that the AFU previously identified.<sup>68</sup> The program remains part of Operation Interflex, an international training initiative.

On 9 January 2025, Secretary Healey announced that the United Kingdom will partly fund the delivery of another 30,000 drones to Ukraine, in collaboration with Latvia, Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands.<sup>69</sup> This package is a part of the DCC.

On 12 February 2025, Secretary Healey announced an additional GBP150 million in military support to Ukraine during the UDCG Summit, including drones, battle tanks, armored vehicles, and air defence systems.<sup>70</sup> The package also includes maintenance contracts for in-country repairs and repairs training for Ukrainian personnel.

On 1 March 2025, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves signed the UK-Ukraine Bilateral agreement, granting a GBP2.26 billion loan to Ukraine for the purchase of military equipment.<sup>71</sup> As a part of the Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) program, this loan will be repaid by the profits of frozen Russian assets.

On 2 March 2025, Prime Minister Starmer announced a GBP1.6 billion contract that will provide Ukraine with the funds to procure 5,000 lightweight-multirole missiles from British companies.<sup>72</sup> British manufacturers will collaborate with Ukrainian manufacturers to produce operationally capable missile systems.

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<sup>66</sup> UK marks 1,000th day of full-scale invasion of Ukraine as training programme hits 50,000, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-marks-1000th-day-of-full-scale-invasion-of-ukraine-as-training-programme-hits-50000>

<sup>67</sup> UK leadership on Ukraine continues as Defence Secretary announced £225m support package during Kyiv visit, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 9 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leadership-on-ukraine-continues-as-defence-secretary-announced-225m-support-package-during-kyiv-visit>

<sup>68</sup> UK to train hundred more Ukrainian soldiers in mental health first aid for combat, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 28 December 2024. Access Date: 9 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-train-hundreds-more-ukrainian-soldiers-in-mental-health-first-aid-for-combat>

<sup>69</sup> 30,000 new drones for Ukraine in boost to European security, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/30000-new-drones-for-ukraine-in-boost-to-european-security>

<sup>70</sup> UK leads major Ukraine Summit and announces £150 million firepower package, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-major-ukraine-summit-and-announces-150-million-firepower-package>

<sup>71</sup> UK reinforces support for Ukraine with £2.26 billion loan to bolster Ukrainian defence capabilities, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 1 March 2025. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-reinforces-support-for-ukraine-with-226-billion-loan-to-bolster-ukrainian-defence-capabilities>

<sup>72</sup> Historic £1.6bn deal provides thousands of air defence missiles for Ukraine and boosts UK jobs and growth, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 2 March 2025. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/historic-16bn-deal-provides-thousands-of-air-defence-missiles-for-ukraine-and-boosts-uk-jobs-and-growth>

On 6 March 2025, Secretary Healey announced GBP30 million in new contracts with defence firm Anduril to provide drones for Ukraine.<sup>73</sup> The contracts are for loitering munitions and the funding is provided by the IFU

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. The United Kingdom has provided financial assistance alongside international partners, including through NATO, and has directly furnished Ukraine with lethal weaponry.

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

*Analyst: Catriona Hayes Morris*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 9 July 2024, President Joe Biden made a joint statement alongside Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.<sup>74</sup> This statement announced that the United States, alongside Germany and Romania, will be donating additional strategic air defense systems, including Patriot batteries. Simultaneously, the United States and allies announced the planned donation of tactical air systems in the coming months, including National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile Systems (NASAMS), HAWKS, IRIS T-SLM, IRIS T-SLS, and Gepard systems.

On 10 July 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including the United States, published the Washington Summit Declaration.<sup>75</sup> This included the establishment of the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine which intends to coordinate the provision of military equipment and training for Ukraine. Other actions include a Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, where NATO members allocate a minimum of EUR40 billion to provide military training, equipment, and assistance to Ukraine.

On 11 July 2024, President Biden launched the Ukraine Compact alongside 32 world leaders to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>76</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses toward NATO membership.

On 11 July 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced a new military aid package to Ukraine from the United States Department of Defense (DOD) stockpiles worth an estimated USD225 million.<sup>77</sup> The package is aimed at providing Ukraine with the high value military equipment needed for its defense and contained items which were at the top of the list of needs for the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU). This package contained

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<sup>73</sup> Advanced attack drones for Ukraine in new deal struck by UK government and Anduril UK, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/advanced-attack-drones-for-ukraine-in-new-deal-struck-by-uk-government-and-anduril-uk>

<sup>74</sup> Joint Statement on Strengthening Ukraine's Air Defenses (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-on-strengthening-ukraines-air-defenses/>

<sup>75</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 4 October 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>76</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>

<sup>77</sup> The United States Announces Significant New Military Assistance for Ukraine, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-significant-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine-6/>

one Patriot battery, ammunition for rocket systems, 105mm and 150mm artillery rounds and anti-tank weapons, amongst other items.

On 29 July 2024, Secretary Blinken announced a new military assistance package to Ukraine from DOD stockpiles worth USD200 million.<sup>78</sup> This package contains further support for Ukraine's air defence alongside artillery ammunition, small arms, anti-tank weapons and other items. This assistance package addressed Ukraine's specific defense needs, aiming to reinforce Ukraine's frontline capabilities and its defense against Russian air assaults.

On 9 August 2024, Secretary Blinken announced an additional military support package for Ukraine valued at an estimated USD125 million.<sup>79</sup> This package provides Ukraine with high value military equipment such as air defense interceptors, ammunition for artillery and rocket systems, radar systems, and anti-tank weapons. This package aims to fit Ukraine's specific needs and focuses on the AFU's ability to defend against Russian attacks on Ukrainian civilians while also strengthening Ukraine's frontline.

On 25 September 2024, the DOD announced a new military assistance package for Ukraine worth an estimated USD375 million, drawn from DOD stockpiles.<sup>80</sup> This package includes high value military equipment tailored to address crucial Ukrainian military needs, including ammunition and support for Ukrainian air defense systems, air-to-ground missiles, uncrewed aerial systems (UAS) and counter-UAS equipment. The package also provides secure communications equipment and support for domestic Ukrainian ammunition production.

On 26 September 2024, the DOD announced further military assistance to Ukraine worth an estimated USD2.4 billion.<sup>81</sup> The package intends to provide a large boost to Ukrainian air defence capabilities, domestic munitions manufacturing, and repair capacity by providing air-to-ground munitions. The package also includes more UAS, counter-UAS equipment and equipment for the domestic production of UAS.

On 16 October 2024, Secretary Blinken announced a new military assistance package for Ukraine with an estimated value of USD425 million, provided from DOD stockpiles.<sup>82</sup> This package aims to assist Ukraine's urgent military needs in coordination with the other members of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group (UDCG) and contains: high value munitions for Ukraine's air defences, 155mm and 150mm artillery rounds, anti-armor systems, small arms, High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles, demolitions equipment and munitions, thermals, and training equipment.

On 21 October 2024, the DOD announced an additional security assistance package for Ukraine worth an estimated USD400 million.<sup>83</sup> This package contains vital support for Ukraine's defensive capabilities, including

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<sup>78</sup> The United States Announces Significant New Military Assistance for Ukraine, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-significant-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine-7/>

<sup>79</sup> The United States Announces Significant New Military Assistance for Ukraine, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 9 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-significant-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine-8/>

<sup>80</sup> Biden Administration Announces New Security Assistance Package for Ukraine, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3917590/biden-administration-announces-additional-security-assistance-for-ukraine/>

<sup>81</sup> Biden Administration Announces New Security Assistance Package for Ukraine, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3918523/biden-administration-announces-new-security-assistance-package-for-ukraine/>

<sup>82</sup> The United States Announces Significant New Military Assistance for Ukraine, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-announces-significant-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine/>

<sup>83</sup> Biden Administration Announces Additional Security Assistance for Ukraine, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3940873/biden-administration-announces-additional-security-assistance-for-ukraine/>

rocket ammunition, anti-armor systems, armored vehicles, and equipment to protect critical Ukrainian infrastructure.

On 1 November 2024, Secretary Blinken announced further security assistance for Ukraine valued at approximately USD425 million.<sup>84</sup> The aim of the package is to fulfill the AFU's urgent needs by providing valuable munitions for Ukraine's NASAMS systems, ammunition for High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS), Stinger missiles, anti-armor missiles artillery rounds, as well as counter UAS equipment and armored personnel carriers. The package also contained small arms, other ammunition, and supplies for AFU soldiers.

On 20 November 2024, Secretary Blinken announced an additional security package to be sent to Ukraine with an estimated value of USD275 million.<sup>85</sup> This package includes ammunition for Ukrainian HIMARS, artillery rounds, anti-armor missiles, UASs, as well as protective equipment and small arms.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. The United States has taken extensive action to provide crucial military support tailored to Ukraine's specific defense needs through donations of high value military equipment, including tanks, air defence systems, and long-range missiles. The United States facilitated military support for Ukraine through its involvement in NATO, the UDCG, and its creation of the Ukraine Compact, indicating full compliance.

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

*Analyst: Alexei Wasylucha*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people.

On 27 June 2024, the European Union and Ukraine published a joint press release announcing the commitments the European Union and its member states are making to aid Ukraine in defending itself.<sup>86</sup> The European Union reaffirmed its commitment to provide both lethal and non-lethal military equipment and aid and committed to increasing the speed with which it delivers military aid.

On 11 July 2024, President of the European Council Charles Michel and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen joined 32 allies in forming the Ukraine Compact to provide Ukraine with long-term military aid including modern equipment, training and support for developing a capable defense force.<sup>87</sup> This demonstration of international cooperation fulfills commitments made at the 2023 Vilnius Summit to bolster Ukraine's current defense capabilities and to deter future aggression as it progresses towards membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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<sup>84</sup> Biden Administration Announces Additional Security Assistance for Ukraine, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/article/3954004/biden-administration-announces-additional-security-assistance-for-ukraine/>

<sup>85</sup> The United States Announces Significant New Military Assistance for Ukraine, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-announces-significant-new-military-assistance-for-ukraine-2/>

<sup>86</sup> Joint security commitments between the European Union and Ukraine, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/27/joint-security-commitments-between-the-european-union-and-ukraine/>

<sup>87</sup> President Joe Biden Launches the Ukraine Compact, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/07/11/president-joe-biden-launches-the-ukraine-compact/>



On 25 July 2024, the European Union transferred EUR1.5 billion in proceeds from immobilized Russian assets through the Ukraine Facility and the European Peace Facility aiming to support Ukraine's military and reconstruction needs.<sup>88</sup>

On 22 October 2024, the European Parliament approved a loan of up to EUR35 billion to Ukraine for defense and reconstruction, to be repaid with the future proceeds from frozen Russian central bank assets held abroad.<sup>89</sup> This loan constitutes the European Union's portion of the broader USD50 billion support plan established by the G7 at the Apulia Summit.

On 8 November 2024, the Council of the European Union extended the EU Military Assistance Mission Ukraine for an additional two years, with a budget allocation of nearly EUR409 million.<sup>90</sup> This extension reinforces the European Union's commitment to supporting Ukraine's defense capabilities through specialized training for the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the coordination of efforts among member states.

On 18 March 2025, the European Commission unveiled the 'White Paper for European Defence – Readiness 2030,' alongside the 'ReArm Europe Plan,' a major financial package aimed at reinforcing EU defence capabilities.<sup>91</sup> The White Paper outlines a strategic vision to close critical gaps in capabilities, enhance defense industry readiness and increase the integration of Ukraine's defense sector. The ReArm Plan enables over EUR800 billion in defence-related spending, including up to EUR150 billion in long-term loans under the new Security Action for Europe instrument. Together these measures expand the EU's capacity to provide sustained and large-scale military assistance to Ukraine.

On 19 March 2025, the European Commission disbursed an additional EUR1 billion to Ukraine as part of its EUR18.1 billion exceptional Macro-Financial Assistance programme, with repayments to be made using proceeds from immobilised Russian state assets.<sup>92</sup> This funding forms the EU's contribution to the G7-led ERA initiative. This EUR18.1 billion support will enable Ukraine to address its immediate and long-term military, budgetary and reconstruction needs.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work with international partners to continue to provide military support to Ukraine and its people. The European union advanced strong action by launching and extending international aid packages, constituting multiple actions of strong support and providing lethal and non-lethal military support to Ukraine.

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

*Analyst: Julianna Kutas*

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<sup>88</sup> First transfer of €1.5 billion of proceeds from immobilised Russian assets made available in support of Ukraine today, European Commission (Brussels) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 31 January 2025.

<sup>89</sup> Parliament approves up to €35 billion loan to Ukraine backed by Russian assets, European Parliament (Brussels) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241017IPR24736/parliament-approves-up-to-EU35-billion-loan-to-ukraine-backed-by-russian-assets>

<sup>90</sup> Ukraine: Council extends the mandate of the EU Military Assistance Mission for two years, European Council (Brussels) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/08/ukraine-council-extends-the-mandate-of-the-eu-military-assistance-mission-for-two-years/>

<sup>91</sup> Commission unveils the White Paper for European Defence and the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_793](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_793)

<sup>92</sup> Commission delivers a further €1 billion to Ukraine under its part of the G7 loan, to be repaid with proceeds from immobilised Russian assets, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_827](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_827)

## 2. Regional Security: Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loans for Ukraine

“With a view to supporting Ukraine’s current and future needs in the face of a prolonged defense against Russia, the G7 will launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD 50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.”

*Apulia G7 Summit Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

### Background

On 24 February 2022, Russia initiated an invasion of Ukraine, violating international law. This war, condemned by all G7 members along with 141 countries in the United Nations, represents a significant threat not only to regional stability but also to the broader international order. As Ukraine endures a prolonged defense against Russian aggression, its need for substantial financial support has become increasingly urgent. Tension between Russia and Ukraine over influence and control dates to the Soviet Union’s collapse in 1991 and heightened after Russia’s 2014 annexation of Crimea following Ukraine’s Euromaidan protests, which ousted pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich.

In March 2014, Russia organized an illegal referendum in Crimea under military occupation, leading to the region’s annexation. On 2 March 2014, G7 leaders announced the suspension of all preparatory activities for the upcoming G8 summit in Sochi, which Russia was set to host.<sup>93</sup> On 12 March 2014, they called on Russia to halt its plans for a referendum in Crimea on 16 March, condemning it as illegitimate under international law. On 24 March 2014, the G7 formally relocated the summit from Sochi to Brussels and suspended G7 participation in the G8 until Russia met the demands to cease its illegal activities.<sup>94</sup> The G7 has continued a steadfast dedication to supporting Ukraine in its fight for freedom, sovereignty, and the restoration of peace.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders issued a declaration that reiterated their condemnation of Russia’s annexation of Crimea and the referendum.<sup>95</sup> This early, coordinated response laid the foundation for ongoing international pressure on Russia and emphasized the G7’s commitment to upholding Ukraine’s sovereignty.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression. They emphasized the importance of Ukraine’s territorial integrity and pledged to maintain economic sanctions against Russia until it fully complied with international law. At Elmau, the leaders highlighted the need for sustained financial support for Ukraine, recognizing that such assistance was vital for the country to withstand Russian aggression and recover economically. The summit stressed Ukrainian

<sup>93</sup> Statement by G7 Leaders on Ukraine: G7 Summit 2014, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 March 2014. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine\\_140312.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine_140312.html)

<sup>94</sup> Statement by G7 Leaders on Ukraine: G7 Summit 2014, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 March 2014. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine\\_140312.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014sochi/ukraine_140312.html)

<sup>95</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

economic stability as critical to the country's ability to resist Russian aggression, and the leaders discussed the potential for increased financial aid to support Ukraine's long-term recovery and resilience.<sup>96</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The G7 emphasized the need for continued economic and technical support to Ukraine. Specifically, they pledged additional financial aid to support Ukraine's reform efforts, focusing on governance, anti-corruption measures, and energy independence. The G7 also committed to maintaining sanctions on Russia until it complied with international law, signaling a continued stance against Russian aggression.<sup>97</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders reiterated their support for Ukraine and its sovereignty amid ongoing conflict with Russia. The summit highlighted the need for financial support to stabilize Ukraine's economy and enhance its defense capabilities. The G7 pledged further aid to help Ukraine with its reform process, including efforts to combat corruption and strengthen democratic institutions. This aid aimed to bolster Ukraine's resilience against external pressures and support its long-term stability.<sup>98</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders reinforced their stance on Ukraine by committing to providing ongoing financial and humanitarian assistance. The summit underscored the importance of strengthening Ukraine's economy as a buffer against Russian influence and aggression. In light of the ongoing conflict, the G7 emphasized the need for significant economic support to ensure Ukraine's sovereignty and the stability of the region. The discussions at Charlevoix paved the way for future initiatives aimed at bolstering Ukraine's financial and economic resilience.<sup>99</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the leaders continued their strong support for Ukraine, condemning Russia's annexation of Crimea and ongoing aggression in the Donbas region. The summit focused on providing targeted financial and technical assistance to Ukraine. Specifically, the G7 committed additional funds to strengthen Ukraine's defense and support critical sectors such as infrastructure and energy. This aid was intended to help Ukraine rebuild and enhance its resilience against further destabilizing actions from Russia.<sup>100</sup>

The 2021 Cornwall Summit saw a reaffirmation of solidarity with Ukraine in the face of ongoing Russian threats. The G7 leaders reiterated their condemnation of Russian aggression and pledged continued financial support to Ukraine. This included commitments to aid Ukraine in addressing energy security, implementing anti-corruption reforms, and advancing democratic governance. The G7 also supported Ukraine's efforts to integrate more closely with European and transatlantic institutions, focusing on long-term economic and political stability.<sup>101</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, the leaders took a more assertive stance, committing to a comprehensive package of economic and military aid to Ukraine. This summit was marked by the participation of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who highlighted Ukraine's urgent need for increased financial support in the face of Russia's intensified military actions. The G7 leaders responded by pledging substantial economic aid and tightening sanctions on Russia, further solidifying their

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<sup>96</sup> Leaders' Declaration, G7 Summit, 7-8 June 2015, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.pdf>

<sup>97</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.pdf>

<sup>98</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/G7-Taormina-Leaders-Communique.pdf>

<sup>99</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>100</sup> G7 Leaders' Declaration, 26 August 2019, G7 Information Centre (Biarritz), 26 August 2019. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>

<sup>101</sup> Cardis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/> <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

commitment to Ukraine's defense and economic stability. This summit laid the groundwork for more structured financial assistance programs, such as the Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loans.<sup>102</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders escalated their support for Ukraine with a focus on providing extensive financial aid to counter the ongoing economic impact of the war. This summit was marked novel commitments to reduce dependence on Russian energy and further isolating Russia economically. The leaders agreed to increase financial support to Ukraine, recognizing that the sustained conflict required a robust and ongoing economic response.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed that “with a view to supporting Ukraine's current and future needs in the face of a prolonged defense against Russia, the G7 will launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD 50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.”

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment outlines a clear metric and timeline for completion.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Supporting” is understood to mean “to give assistance or backing to.”<sup>103</sup> In the context of this commitment, it refers to the provision of financial aid through the ERA Loans, enabling Ukraine to meet both immediate and future financial needs as it continues to defend against Russian aggression.

“Current and future needs” are understood to mean both the immediate financial requirements necessary for Ukraine to sustain its defense efforts and the anticipated financial demands that may arise due to the protracted nature of the conflict. These needs may include, but are not limited to, military expenditures, economic stabilization, infrastructure repair, and civilian support.

“Prolonged” is understood to mean “extended in duration.”<sup>104</sup> In this context, it refers to the extended and ongoing nature of Ukraine's defense efforts against Russian aggression. It highlights the expectation that the conflict and Ukraine's need for support will persist over a significant period, necessitating sustained and potentially increased financial assistance from the G7.

“Defense” is understood to mean “capability of resisting attack.”<sup>105</sup> In this context, defense pertains to Ukraine's continuous efforts to protect its sovereignty and territory from Russian military attacks. It includes both military actions and broader measures to secure the country against external threats, underscoring the importance of G7 financial support in maintaining these defensive operations.

“Launch” is understood to mean “to start or set in motion.”<sup>106</sup> In this context, it refers to the initiation of the ERA loans, which entails the creation, approval, and distribution of funds to Ukraine. The term also implies that the loans are a new financial mechanism specifically designed to meet Ukraine's needs in its ongoing defense against Russia.

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<sup>102</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué – Executive Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication-summary.html>

<sup>103</sup> Support, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support>

<sup>104</sup> Prolong, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prolong>

<sup>105</sup> Defense, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/defense>

<sup>106</sup> Launch, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/launch>

“Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loans” refer to financial disbursements to Ukraine “serviced and repaid by future flows of extraordinary revenues stemming from the immobilization of Russian Sovereign Assets held in the European Union and other relevant jurisdictions.”<sup>107</sup> The loans can be treated as a grant from Ukraine’s perspective.<sup>108</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that have taken strong action to fully launch the ERA loans, ensuring that the full USD50 billion in additional funding be made available to Ukraine through loan agreements by 31 December 2024; given the exact figure and time-based metrics the full USD50 billion must be made available by that date for any G7 member to receive full compliance. Strong actions include providing funds, contributing to loan repayment, providing loan repayment guarantees in the event of insufficient extraordinary revenue flows, ensuring Russian assets from which extraordinary flows originate remain frozen or playing a part in needed workarounds thereof, or strengthening dispersal mechanisms including the Ukraine Multi-Donor Coordination Platform or European Peace Facility among others.<sup>109</sup>

Partial compliance, or a score of 0 will be assigned if a G7 member has taken action to launch the ERA loans but the G7 has not collectively make available USD50 billion to Ukraine by 31 December 2024 or the G7 has collectively made available the full amount by the specified date but the G7 member has not taken strong action. Not taking strong action entails not playing any formal role in providing funds, contributing to loan repayment, providing loan repayment guarantees in the event of insufficient extraordinary revenue flows, ensuring Russian assets from which extraordinary flows originate remain frozen or playing a part in needed workarounds thereof, or strengthening dispersal mechanisms including the Ukraine Multi-Donor Coordination Platform or European Peace Facility among others. Weak actions include but are not limited to diplomatic efforts that advance the ERA loans, engaging in negotiations related to loan terms, and proposals for the ERA loans that remain unsigned.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member has not taken action to launch the ERA Loans for Ukraine.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has not taken action to launch the ERA loans for Ukraine.
0	The G7 member has taken action to launch the ERA loans, but the G7 has not collectively made available USD50 billion to Ukraine by 31 December 2024 or has made available the full amount after the specified deadline and by the end of the compliance period of or the G7 has collectively provided the full amount by the specified date but the G7 member has not taken strong action.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action to fully launch the ERA loans, ensuring that the full USD50 billion in additional funding is made available to Ukraine by 31 December 2024.

*Compliance Director: Tisya Raina*  
*Lead Analyst: Antonette De Los Reyes*

<sup>107</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024 Access Date: 14 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>108</sup> Background Press Call on an Update on the President’s Second Day at the G7, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2024/06/15/background-press-call-on-an-update-on-the-presidents-second-day-at-the-g7/>

<sup>109</sup> Background Press Call on an Update on the President’s Second Day at the G7, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2024/06/15/background-press-call-on-an-update-on-the-presidents-second-day-at-the-g7/>

## Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 15 June 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed CAD5 billion at the G7 summit in Apulia under the G7 ERA loans for Ukraine.<sup>110</sup> This significant funding in support of Ukraine would help sustain its prolonged defense against Russia.

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Katharine Rechico and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>111</sup> The FIF will administer ERA loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>112</sup> Ms Rechico is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of Canada.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>113</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a CAD5 billion Canadian contribution.<sup>114</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 16 December 2024, Government House Leader Karina Gould tabled the Fall Economic Statement.<sup>115</sup> The statement reiterates Canada's commitment to provide CAD5 billion to Ukraine as part of the ERA loans initiative.<sup>116</sup> The statement also outlines a plan to amend the Special Economic Measures Act. The planned amendments would allow for proceeds from revenues accruing to frozen assets held in Canada.

On 18 December 2024, Ms Rechico and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>117</sup>

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<sup>110</sup> Prime Minister advances shared progress and prosperity at the G7 Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/videos/2024/06/15/prime-minister-advances-shared-progress-and-prosperity-g7-summit>

<sup>111</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBOS1dfdf09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>112</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>113</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>114</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>115</sup> Fiscal Updates, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://budget.canada.ca/update-miseajour/home-accueil-en.html>

<sup>116</sup> 2024 Fall Economic Statement, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.budget.canada.ca/update-miseajour/2024/report-rapport/FES-EEA-2024-en.pdf>

<sup>117</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

On 24 February 2025, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada had finalized negotiations on its CAD5 billion contribution to the G7 ERA Loans mechanism for Ukraine.<sup>118</sup> Canada will disburse CAD2.5 billion in the coming days, with the remaining funds to follow shortly thereafter.

On 13 March 2025, Canada released the first CAD2.5 billion in ERA Loans to Ukraine.<sup>119</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA Loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. Canada committed to contribute CAD5 billion towards the ERA loans and agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans. Canada approved the FIF to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. Furthermore, Canada signed a bilateral agreement with Ukraine on the ERA loans and disbursed CAD2.5 billion thus far. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ruixue (Kerry) Zhong*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 21 June 2024, Permanent Representative to the European Union Phillipe L glise-Costa and the EU Economic and Fiscal Affairs Council engaged in discussions to advance the G7 commitment to provide USD50 billion in loans for Ukraine to be serviced and repaid by future flows of revenues from immobilized Russian assets.<sup>120</sup> The council prioritized operationalizing the commitment.

On 27 June 2024, President Emmanuel Macron and the European Council called on the Commission, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and the Council to attend to legal and financial provisions to provide Ukraine with USD50 billion in ERA loans by the end of the year.<sup>121</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to keep Russian assets immobilized subject to EU law.

On 9 October 2024, President Macron and the European Council agreed to loan up to EUR35 billion to Ukraine backed by proceeds from immobilized Russian sovereign assets as part of the ERA initiative.<sup>122</sup> This marks a significant and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

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<sup>118</sup> A just and lasting peace for Ukraine, Prime Minister of Canada (Kyiv) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2025/02/24/just-and-lasting-peace-ukraine>

<sup>119</sup> Ukraine has received the first tranche from Canada amounting CAD 2.5 billion under the G7 ERA initiative, Ministry of Finance of Ukraine (Kyiv) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://mof.gov.ua/en/news/ukraine\\_has\\_received\\_the\\_first\\_tranche\\_from\\_canada\\_amounting\\_cad\\_25\\_billion\\_under\\_the\\_g7\\_era\\_initiative-5060](https://mof.gov.ua/en/news/ukraine_has_received_the_first_tranche_from_canada_amounting_cad_25_billion_under_the_g7_era_initiative-5060)

<sup>120</sup> Economic and Financial Affairs Council, 21 June 2024, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2024/06/21/>

<sup>121</sup> European Council meeting (27 June 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/qa3lbgla/euco-conclusions-27062024-en.pdf>

<sup>122</sup> Immobilised assets: Council agrees on up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, European Council (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/09/immobilised-assets-council-agrees-on-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Arnaud Buissé and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>123</sup> The FIF will administer ERA loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>124</sup> Mr. Buissé is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of France.

On 17 October 2024, President Macron and the European Council directed the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to dialogue with Ukraine to meet the G7's commitment to making available EUR45 billion by the end of the year.<sup>125</sup> This would make a significant and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 23 October 2024, Ambassador L glise-Costa and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union approved the EUR35 billion Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) loan to Ukraine and indicated that Ukraine will have the ability to access the loan by the end of 2024.<sup>126</sup> The loan will have a maximum repayment timeframe of 45 years to be sourced from 95 per cent of the extraordinary revenue flows from immobilised Russian assets.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>127</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision.<sup>128</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Buiss  and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>129</sup>

On 19 December 2024, President Macron and the European Council announced that disbursements of Macro-Financial Assistance would begin in January with EUR18.1 billion to be disbursed in 2025.<sup>130</sup> It directed the commission to continue to address all necessary technical aspects to disburse funds based on G7 and bilateral agreements.

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<sup>123</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBOS1dfdf09f09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>124</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>125</sup> European Council meeting (17 October 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2pebcc2/20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

<sup>126</sup> Immobilised assets: Council greenlights up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 16 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/23/immobilised-assets-council-greenlights-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>127</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>128</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>129</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

<sup>130</sup> European Council meeting (19 December 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/jhlenhaj/euco-conclusions-19122024-en.pdf>



On 8 March 2025, Defense Minister Sébastien Lecornu announced that France would provide Ukraine with EUR195 million in military aid, funded by interest accrued from frozen Russian assets.<sup>131</sup> The funding will support the delivery of 155-mm shells and AASM gliding bombs. Lecornu also confirmed that France would accelerate the transfer of older military equipment, including tanks and armored vehicles, to Ukraine.

France has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. France agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans and approved the EU's MFA commitment of up to EUR35 billion. France approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophie Craciunescu*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 21 June 2024, Minister of Finance Christian Lindner and the European Union's Economic and Fiscal Affairs Council engaged in discussions to advance the G7 commitment to provide USD50 billion in loans for Ukraine to be serviced and repaid by future flows of revenues from immobilized Russian assets.<sup>132</sup> The council prioritized operationalizing the commitment.

On 27 June 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the European Council called on the Commission, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and the Council to attend to legal and financial provisions to provide Ukraine with USD50 billion in ERA loans by the end of the year.<sup>133</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to keep Russian assets immobilized subject to EU law.

On 9 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz and the European Council agreed to loan up to EUR35 billion to Ukraine backed by proceeds from immobilized Russian sovereign assets as part of the ERA initiative.<sup>134</sup> This is a significant and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Michael Krake and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>135</sup> The FIF will administer ERA Loan

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<sup>131</sup> France to Provide \$211 million in Military Aid to Ukraine Backed by Frozen Russian Assets, The Kyiv Independent. (Kyiv) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://kyivindependent.com/france-to-provide-211-million-in-military-aid-to-ukraine-using-interest-from-frozen-russian-assets/>

<sup>132</sup> Economic and Financial Affairs Council, 21 June 2024, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2024/06/21/>

<sup>133</sup> European Council meeting (27 June 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/qa3lbg/euco-conclusions-27062024-en.pdf>

<sup>134</sup> Immobilised assets: Council agrees on up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, European Council (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/09/immobilised-assets-council-agrees-on-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>135</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBOS1dfdf09f09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>136</sup> Mr. Krake is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of Germany.

On 17 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz and the European Council directed the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to dialogue with Ukraine to meet the G7's commitment to making available EUR45 billion by the end of the year.<sup>137</sup> This would be a significant and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 23 October 2024, Minister Lindner and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union approved the EUR35 billion Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) loan to Ukraine and indicated that Ukraine will have the ability to access the loan by the end of 2024.<sup>138</sup> The loan will have a maximum repayment timeframe of 45 years to be sourced from 95 per cent of the extraordinary revenue flows from immobilised Russian assets.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>139</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a CAD5 billion Canadian contribution.<sup>140</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Krake and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>141</sup>

On 19 December 2024, Chancellor Scholz and the European Council announced that disbursements of Macro-Financial Assistance would begin in January with EUR18.1 billion to be disbursed in 2025.<sup>142</sup> It directed the commission to continue to address all necessary technical aspects to disburse funds based on G7 and bilateral agreements.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. Germany agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans and approved the EU's MFA commitment of up to EUR35 billion. Germany approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved

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<sup>136</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>137</sup> European Council meeting (17 October 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2pebccz2/20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

<sup>138</sup> Immobilised assets: Council greenlights up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 16 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/23/immobilised-assets-council-greenlights-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>139</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>140</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>141</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

<sup>142</sup> European Council meeting (19 December 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/jhlenhaj/euco-conclusions-19122024-en.pdf>

the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Grynerych*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 21 June 2024, Minister of Economy and Finance Giancarlo Giorgetti and the European Union's Economic and Fiscal Affairs Council engaged in discussions to advance the G7 commitment to provide USD50 billion in loans for Ukraine to be serviced and repaid by future flows of revenues from immobilized Russian assets.<sup>143</sup> The council prioritized operationalizing the commitment.

On 27 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and the European Council called on the Commission, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and the Council to attend to legal and financial provisions to provide Ukraine with USD50 billion in ERA loans by the end of the year.<sup>144</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to keep Russian assets immobilized subject to EU law.

On 9 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and the European Council agreed to loan up to EUR35 billion to Ukraine backed by proceeds from immobilized Russian sovereign assets as part of the ERA initiative.<sup>145</sup> This is a serious and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Matteo Bugamelli and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>146</sup> The FIF will administer ERA Loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>147</sup> Mr. Bugamelli is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of Italy.

On 17 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and the European Council directed the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to dialogue with Ukraine to meet the G7's commitment to making available EUR45 billion by the end of the year.<sup>148</sup> This would be a significant and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 23 October 2024, Minister Giorgetti and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union approved the EUR35 Billion Macro Financial Assistance loan to Ukraine and indicated that Ukraine will

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<sup>143</sup> Economic and Financial Affairs Council, 21 June 2024, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2024/06/21/>

<sup>144</sup> European Council meeting (27 June 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/qa3lblga/euco-conclusions-27062024-en.pdf>

<sup>145</sup> Immobilised assets: Council agrees on up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, European Council (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/09/immobilised-assets-council-agrees-on-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>146</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBOS1dfd09f09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>147</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>148</sup> European Council meeting (17 October 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2pebccz2/20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

have the ability to access the loan by the end of 2024.<sup>149</sup> The loan will have a maximum repayment timeframe of 45 years to be sourced from 95 per cent of the extraordinary revenue flows from immobilised Russian assets.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>150</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a CAD5 billion Canadian contribution.<sup>151</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Bugamelli and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>152</sup>

On 19 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and the European Council announced that disbursements of Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) would begin in January with EUR18.1 billion to be disbursed in 2025.<sup>153</sup> It directed the commission to continue to address all necessary technical aspects to disburse funds based on G7 and bilateral agreements.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. Italy agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans and approved the EU's MFA commitment of up to EUR35 billion. Italy approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophie Craciunescu*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

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<sup>149</sup> Immobilised assets: Council greenlights up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 16 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/23/immobilised-assets-council-greenlights-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>150</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>151</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>152</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

<sup>153</sup> European Council meeting (19 December 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/jhlenhaj/euco-conclusions-19122024-en.pdf>

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Hideaki Imamura and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>154</sup> The FIF will administer ERA Loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>155</sup> Mr. Imamura is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of Japan.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>156</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a JPY471.9 billion Japanese contribution.<sup>157</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Imamura and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>158</sup>

On 18 April 2025, Ambassador to Ukraine Masashi Nakagome and Ukrainian Minister of Finance Sergii Marchenko signed an agreement for Japan to provide up to JPY471.9 billion in ERA Loans to Ukraine.<sup>159</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. Japan committed to contribute JPY471.9 billion towards the ERA loans and agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans. Japan approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. Japan also signed a bilateral agreement with Ukraine pertaining to the ERA loans. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ruixue (Kerry) Zhong*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

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<sup>154</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBOS1dfdf09f09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>155</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>156</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>157</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>158</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

<sup>159</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes concerning a Yen Loan project of the "Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loan for Ukraine (Kyiv) 18 April 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c\\_see/ua/pagewe\\_000001\\_00188.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c_see/ua/pagewe_000001_00188.html)

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Executive Director Vel Gnanendran and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>160</sup> The FIF will administer ERA Loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>161</sup> Mr. Gnanendran is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of the United Kingdom.

On 22 October 2024, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves and Secretary of State for Defence John Healey jointly announced that the United Kingdom will issue a GBP2.26 billion loan to Ukraine, funded by profits from sanctioned Russian sovereign assets.<sup>162</sup> This additional funding will support Ukrainian military needs, including equipment such as artillery and air defense.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>163</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a GBP2.26 billion UK contribution.<sup>164</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 30 October 2024, Chancellor Reeves tabled the Autumn Budget in the House of Commons.<sup>165</sup> The budget included the GBP2.26 billion ERA loan to Ukraine, specifically allocating GBP800 million for the next two years of loan dispersal.

On 6 November 2024, Chief Secretary to the Treasury Darren Jones introduced the Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill.<sup>166</sup> The bill provides for the treasury to operationalize G7 ERA loans subject to the G7 agreement of 25 October 2024.<sup>167</sup>

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Gnanendran and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>168</sup>

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<sup>160</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBO51dfdf09f09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>161</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

<sup>162</sup> UK strengthens national security and bolsters Ukraine's war chest with £2.26 billion military loan, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-strengthens-national-security-and-bolsters-ukraines-war-chest-with-226-billion-military-loan>

<sup>163</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>164</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>165</sup> AUTUMN BUDGET 2024 FIXING THE FOUNDATIONS TO DELIVER CHANGE, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn\\_Budget\\_2024\\_Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn_Budget_2024_Accessible.pdf)

<sup>166</sup> Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill, United Kingdom Parliament (London) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3882>

<sup>167</sup> Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill 2024-25, House of Commons Library (London) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-10133/CBP-10133.pdf>

<sup>168</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>

On 18 December 2024, the House of Commons passed the Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill which provides the legal basis for UK loan disbursements under the G7 ERA loans for Ukraine initiative.<sup>169</sup> The Bill advances to the House of Lords.

On 1 March 2025, Chancellor Rachel Reeves and Ukrainian Finance Minister Sergii Marchenko signed a UK-Ukraine bilateral agreement finalizing a GBP2.26 billion loan to strengthen Ukraine's defense.<sup>170</sup> The loan aims to enhance Ukraine's military capabilities and will be repaid using profits from Russia's sanctioned sovereign assets. This contribution forms part of the UK's support for the G7's USD50 billion ERA loan initiative.

On 7 March 2025, the Treasury confirmed the transfer of the first third of the GBP2.26 billion loan to Ukraine.<sup>171</sup> The GBP752 million demonstrates the UK's commitment to providing ERA loans to Ukraine to improve their military equipment and bolster their defense system.

On 14 April 2025, the Treasury disbursed an additional GBP752 million in ERA Loans to Ukraine.<sup>172</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. The UK committed to contribute GBP2.26 billion towards the ERA loans and agreed to the G7 term sheet for the loans. The UK also enshrined this commitment in financial legislation that passed the House of Commons to date. The UK approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. The UK also signed a bilateral agreement with Ukraine pertaining to the ERA loans and disbursed over GBP1.5 billion thus far. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

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

*Analyst: Isabelle Mishkéis*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 10 October 2024, World Bank Acting Executive Director L. Felice Gorordo and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors established a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Ukraine.<sup>173</sup> The FIF will administer ERA loan contributions from the United States, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>174</sup> Mr. Gorordo is an appointed and elected representative of the Government of the United States.

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<sup>169</sup> Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill, United Kingdom Parliament (London) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3882>

<sup>170</sup> UK reinforces support for Ukraine with £2.26 billion loan to bolster Ukrainian defence capabilities, United Kingdom Government (London) 1 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-reinforces-support-for-ukraine-with-226-billion-loan-to-bolster-ukrainian-defence-capabilities>

<sup>171</sup> First £752 million tranche of loan sent to Ukraine for military equipment, United Kingdom Government (London) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-752-million-tranche-of-loan-sent-to-ukraine-for-military-equipment>

<sup>172</sup> UK sends multi-million pound military equipment loan to Ukraine, Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 9 May 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-sends-multi-million-pound-military-equipment-loan-to-ukraine>

<sup>173</sup> ESTABLISHMENT OF A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FUND FOR UKRAINE, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099634510182496739/pdf/SECBO51dfdf09f1b10218ff7b46c29ea.pdf>

<sup>174</sup> New Ukraine fund approved by World Bank with money from Canada, U.S.: report, Global News (Vancouver) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalnews.ca/news/10806247/world-bank-ukraine-fund-canada-us-japan-support/>

On 23 October 2024, President Joe Biden announced that the United States will provide USD20 billion in loans to Ukraine.<sup>175</sup> These loans will be reimbursed through interest earned from immobilized Russian sovereign assets. This action will not affect taxpayers and will allow Ukraine to rebuild and defend itself. This package strongly supports and contributes to the G7 commitment of providing USD50 billion to Ukraine.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>176</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a USD20 billion US contribution.<sup>177</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 9 December 2024, Administrator at the US Agency for International Aid and Development Samantha Power signed a USD20 billion loan guarantee agreement as part of the G7's ERA loans program to Ukraine.<sup>178</sup> The loan will be repaid by revenue flows from immobilized Russian sovereign assets. The World Bank's Strengthening Ukraine Financial Intermediary Fund will administer the funds.

On 10 December 2024, Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen announced the official disbursement of USD20 billion as the US contribution to the ERA loans program to Ukraine.<sup>179</sup> This follows previous actions preparing for this disbursement.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Gorordo and the World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved USD2.05 billion in funds for Ukraine including USD1 billion from the Facilitation of Resources to Invest in Strengthening Ukraine (FORTIS) FIF for Ukraine which administers ERA loan contributions made by the US, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.<sup>180</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. The US contributed USD20 billion to the ERA loans, providing these funds to the World Bank's FORTIS FIF for Ukraine. The US approved the Financial Intermediary Fund to manage non-European Union ERA contributions and approved the first disbursement of funds to Ukraine through this mechanism. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

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

*Analyst: Isabelle Mishkéis*

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<sup>175</sup> Statement from President Joe Biden on Historic Decision to Leverage Russian Sovereign Assets to Support Ukraine, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/23/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-historic-decision-to-leverage-russian-sovereign-assets-to-support-ukraine/>

<sup>176</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>177</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>178</sup> The United States Signs Agreement Providing \$20 Billion Loan To Ukraine, United States Agency for International Aid and Development (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 12 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-10-2024-united-states-signs-agreement-providing-20-billion-loan-ukraine>

<sup>179</sup> Treasury Department Announces Disbursement of \$20 Billion Loan to Benefit Ukraine, To Be Repaid with Proceeds Earned from Immobilized Russian Sovereign Assets, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 12 December 2024.

<sup>180</sup> New World Bank Support Package Aims to Strengthen Ukraine's Economy and Improve Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/12/17/new-world-bank-support-package-aims-to-strengthen-ukraine-economy-and-improve-financial-stability>



## European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to launch Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year.

On 21 June 2024, the Economic and Fiscal Affairs Council engaged in discussions to advance the G7 commitment to provide USD50 billion in loans for Ukraine to be serviced and repaid by future flows of revenues from immobilized Russian assets.<sup>181</sup> The council prioritized operationalizing the commitment.

On 27 June 2024, the European Council called on the Commission, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and the Council to attend to legal and financial provisions to provide Ukraine with USD50 billion in ERA loans by the end of the year.<sup>182</sup> They reaffirmed their commitment to keep Russian assets immobilized subject to EU law.

On 9 October 2024, the European Council agreed to loan up to EUR35 billion to Ukraine backed by proceeds from immobilized Russian sovereign assets as part of the ERA initiative.<sup>183</sup> This makes a serious and concrete contribution towards ERA goals.

On 14 October 2024, the European Parliament Trade Committee voted in favor of providing up to EUR35 billion in Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) loans to Ukraine as part of the European Union's contribution to the USD50 billion ERA fund.<sup>184</sup> The European Union will finance this loan using future revenue from frozen Russian assets through the Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism. Ukraine has the right to decide how to allocate these funds, which the European Union aims to disburse by the end of 2025. The European Parliament will hold a final vote to implement this regulation.

On 17 October 2024, the European Council directed the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to dialogue with Ukraine to meet the G7's commitment to making available EUR45 billion by the end of the year.<sup>185</sup> This would make a serious and concrete contribution to ERA goals.

On 22 October 2024, the European Parliament approved the regulation to create the Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism (ULCM) and provide MFA loans to Ukraine, to a maximum of EUR35 billion, contributing to the USD50 billion G7 ERA package.<sup>186</sup> These funds offer additional financial assistance to Ukraine, mainly for defense spending, as it enters its third year resisting Russian aggression. Loan repayments will come from interest revenue generated by frozen Russian assets held in the European Union. Ukraine has the flexibility to use these funds as deemed appropriate, provided it adheres to the loan conditions.

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<sup>181</sup> Economic and Financial Affairs Council, 21 June 2024, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2024/06/21/>

<sup>182</sup> European Council meeting (27 June 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/qa3lblga/euco-conclusions-27062024-en.pdf>

<sup>183</sup> Immobilised assets: Council agrees on up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, European Council (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/09/immobilised-assets-council-agrees-on-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>184</sup> Ukraine: Trade Committee Endorses Financial Support Backed by Russian Assets, European Parliament News (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241011IPR24520/ukraine-trade-committee-endorses-financial-support-backed-by-russian-assets>.

<sup>185</sup> European Council meeting (17 October 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2pebccz2/20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

<sup>186</sup> Parliament Approves up to €35 Billion Loan to Ukraine, Backed by Russian Assets, European Parliament News (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241017IPR24736/parliament-approves-up-to-EU35-billion-loan-to-ukraine-backed-by-russian-assets>

On 23 October 2024, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the European Union approved the EUR35 billion MFA loan to Ukraine and indicated that Ukraine will have the ability to access the loan by the end of 2024.<sup>187</sup> The loan will have a maximum repayment timeframe of 45 years to be sourced from 95 per cent of the extraordinary revenue flows from immobilised Russian assets.

On 25 October 2024, G7 finance ministers announced their final agreement on providing ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>188</sup> The agreement's term sheet confirms an overall USD50 billion provision including a EUR18.115 billion EU contribution.<sup>189</sup> G7 members will establish bilateral loan terms with Ukraine by 30 June 2025 and will disburse funds from 1 December 2024 through 31 December 2027 with loan maturity lasting 30 years. The loans will be repaid in bi-annual installments using over 95 per cent of profits produced from immobilized Russian assets. The ULCM created by the European Union will administer these revenue flows.

On 4 December 2024, European Commission Executive Vice-President for An Economy that Works for People Valdis Dombrovskis signed a loan agreement to provide up to EUR35 billion and at least EUR18 billion to Ukraine as part of the G7 ERA scheme.<sup>190</sup> The ULCM will manage the funds.

On 19 December 2024, the European Council announced that disbursements of MFA would begin in January with EUR18.1 billion to be disbursed in 2025.<sup>191</sup> It directed the commission to continue to address all necessary technical aspects to disburse funds based on G7 and bilateral agreements.

On 10 January 2025, the European Commission disbursed the first EUR3 billion to Ukraine under the ERA loan initiative, which totals EUR18.1 billion.<sup>192</sup> The loan supports Ukraine's macroeconomic stability, along with its energy and defense infrastructure.

On 20 March 2025, the European Commission released an additional EUR1 billion in ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>193</sup>

On 8 May 2025, the European Commission disbursed an additional EUR1 billion in ERA loans to Ukraine.<sup>194</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to launch ERA loans for Ukraine, in order to make available approximately USD50 billion in additional funding to Ukraine by the end of the year. The EU

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<sup>187</sup> Immobilised assets: Council greenlights up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 16 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/23/immobilised-assets-council-greenlights-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>188</sup> G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-era.html>

<sup>189</sup> Annex to the G7 Finance Ministers' Statement on Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) Loan initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/finance/241025-finance-term-sheet.html>

<sup>190</sup> Minister of Finance signed Memorandum of Understanding and Loan Agreement with the EU to attract up to EUR 35 billion of Macro-Financial Assistance, Ministry of Finance of Ukraine (Kyiv) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 12 December 2024. [https://www.mof.gov.ua/en/news/minister\\_of\\_finance\\_signed\\_memorandum\\_of\\_understanding\\_and\\_loan\\_agreement\\_with\\_the\\_eu\\_to\\_attract\\_up\\_to\\_eur\\_35\\_billion\\_of\\_macro-financial\\_assistance-4927](https://www.mof.gov.ua/en/news/minister_of_finance_signed_memorandum_of_understanding_and_loan_agreement_with_the_eu_to_attract_up_to_eur_35_billion_of_macro-financial_assistance-4927)

<sup>191</sup> European Council meeting (19 December 2024) – Conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/jhlehaj/euco-conclusions-19122024-en.pdf>

<sup>192</sup> Commission disburses first €3 billion to Ukraine of its part of the G7 loan, to be repaid with proceeds from immobilised Russian assets, European Commission (Brussels) 10 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-disburses-first-eu3-billion-ukraine-its-part-g7-loan-be-repaid-proceeds-immobilised-2025-01-10\\_en](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-disburses-first-eu3-billion-ukraine-its-part-g7-loan-be-repaid-proceeds-immobilised-2025-01-10_en)

<sup>193</sup> Commission delivers a further €1 billion to Ukraine under its part of the G7 loan, to be repaid with proceeds from immobilised Russian assets, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Kyiv) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/commission-delivers-further-%E2%82%AC1-billion-ukraine-under-its-part-g7-loan-be-repaid-proceeds-immobilised\\_en?s=232](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/commission-delivers-further-%E2%82%AC1-billion-ukraine-under-its-part-g7-loan-be-repaid-proceeds-immobilised_en?s=232)

<sup>194</sup> Daily News 08 / 05 / 2025, European Commission (Brussels) 8 May 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/mex\\_25\\_1167](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/mex_25_1167)

created the Ukraine Loan Cooperation Mechanism to facilitate extraordinary revenue flows from immobilised Russian assets. The EU signed a loan agreement with Ukraine under this mechanism to provide up to EUR35 billion in ERA loans and has disbursed EUR5 billion thus far. The G7 collectively made available up to USD50 billion to Ukraine.

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

*Analyst: Mariya Grynenych*

### 3. Regional Security: Two-State Solution for Israel and Palestine

“We reiterate our unwavering commitment to the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and in this regard stress the importance of unifying the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

#### Background

Following Israel’s declaration of independence in 1948, which triggered the first Arab-Israeli war and the Nakba – the mass displacement of Palestinian refugees – decades of conflict ensued, including major wars in 1956, 1967, and 1973.<sup>195</sup> The Oslo Accords of the 1990s introduced hope for peace through a two-state solution, but ongoing settlement expansion, the earlier rise of the terrorist organization Hamas, and the Second Intifada (2000-2005) fueled renewed violence and deepened distrust. Since 1988, G7 leaders have consistently emphasized the need for a negotiated settlement between Israel and the Palestinians, recognizing that the conflict poses significant risks to regional stability and global security.<sup>196</sup> However, a critical turning point occurred on 7 October 2023, when Hamas launched a large-scale and coordinated attack on Israel, marking a significant escalation in the Israel-Palestinian conflict.<sup>197</sup> At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 members condemned the attacks and called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, as outlined in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2735.<sup>198</sup> The G7 has long advocated for the creation of a viable, democratic Palestinian state living peacefully alongside Israel, in accordance with international law and relevant UN resolutions, including Resolutions 242 and 338.<sup>199</sup> This commitment to a two-state solution, which includes addressing critical issues such as borders, security, and the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, has been reiterated at various summits.<sup>200</sup> For G7 members, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict represents a multifaceted international concern. In addition to the humanitarian toll, the conflict has broader implications for global security, economic stability, and diplomatic relations.

<sup>195</sup> Arab-Israeli Wars, Britannica (Chicago) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Arab-Israeli-wars>

<sup>196</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>197</sup> Arab-Israeli Wars, Britannica (Chicago) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Arab-Israeli-wars>

<sup>198</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>199</sup> <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>200</sup> G8 Statement: Gaza Withdrawal and the Road Ahead to Mideast Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2004. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/mideast.html>

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders reiterated their commitment to finding a resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.<sup>201</sup> The leaders urged all parties involved to show restraint and avoid retaliatory actions that could further escalate the conflict and lead to more violence in the region.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, G7 leaders expressed concern about the growing instability in the Near East, noting that the ongoing violence in the Occupied Territories highlighted the unsustainability of the current situation.<sup>202</sup> They emphasized the need for a timely negotiated settlement to address the Arab-Israeli conflict and endorsed the convening of an international conference as the most effective framework for direct negotiations.

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their concern regarding the situation in the Near East.<sup>203</sup> Leaders cited recent partisan declarations in Israel, ongoing violence in the occupied territories, and worsening living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza as clear indicators of the need for a solution that addresses the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people and the security of all states in the region, including Israel. They emphasized the importance of opening a dialogue between the Parties with the goal of negotiations and acknowledged that the proposed elections in the occupied territories may serve as a positive step toward mutual recognition. Additionally, they expressed support for an international conference as a suitable framework to facilitate direct dialogue and address the issues critical to achieving peace in the Near East.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged differing perspectives on the Middle East but reached a consensus on the need for progress in the peace process.<sup>204</sup> They expressed hope that the ongoing cycle of violence and repression would soon be replaced by dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians, leading to democratic elections and constructive negotiations.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the importance of launching a peace process between Israel, the Palestinians, and Arab neighbors, based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of territory for peace.<sup>205</sup> They endorsed the idea of a peace conference to facilitate direct negotiations and expressed continued support for the American-led initiative as the best path forward. The leaders urged all Parties to adopt confidence-building measures and show flexibility to enable the conference, calling for the suspension of the Arab boycott and Israel's settlement expansion in occupied territories.

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their full support for efforts to achieve lasting peace in the Middle East and urged both Israel and Arab states to take additional confidence-building measures.<sup>206</sup> They reiterated the call for an end to the Arab boycott and emphasized the importance of Israel fulfilling its obligations concerning the occupied territories.

At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 leaders welcomed the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and the Gaza-Jericho agreement as important steps forward.<sup>207</sup> They emphasized the need to accelerate aid delivery to

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<sup>201</sup> Chairman's Summary of Political Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/chairman.html>

<sup>202</sup> Chairman's Summary of Political Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1988. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/chairman.html>

<sup>203</sup> Statement on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 July 1989. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/arab\\_english.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/arab_english.html)

<sup>204</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1990. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/chairman.html>

<sup>205</sup> Political Declaration: Strengthening the International Order, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1991. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/political.html>

<sup>206</sup> Tokyo Summit Political Declaration: Striving for a More Secure and Humane World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1993. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/political.html>

<sup>207</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1994. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/chairman.html>

improve living conditions. Additionally, the leaders stressed the importance of progress in bilateral and multilateral negotiations to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their strong support for the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and urged both parties to finalize election arrangements for the Palestinian Autonomous Territory and the redeployment of Israeli Defence Forces.<sup>208</sup>

At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders welcomed the progress in the Middle East peace process, including key agreements between Israel and the Palestinians and growing ties between Israel and its neighbors.<sup>209</sup> Leaders emphasized the need for democratic institutions, rule of law, and human rights under the Palestinian Authority.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G7 leaders expressed their determination to revive momentum in the Middle East peace process, emphasizing the need to restore security and confidence between Israelis and Palestinians.<sup>210</sup> They committed to reinvigorating the implementation of the Oslo Accords and upholding the land-for-peace principle from the Madrid talks. Both sides were urged to avoid actions that could hinder negotiations.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders voiced deep concern over the deadlock in the Middle East peace process and urged efforts to revive it.<sup>211</sup> Both Israeli and Palestinian leaders were urged to avoid unilateral actions that could undermine final status talks. The leaders also emphasized the importance of resuming negotiations to restore momentum and achieve comprehensive peace with Israel, the Palestinians, Syria, and Lebanon. They warned that continued stalemate could threaten regional security.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a negotiated Middle East peace, highlighting the importance of implementing existing commitments and principles, such as land for peace, UN Security Council resolutions, and the Madrid and Oslo Accords.<sup>212</sup> They welcomed encouraging statements from Israel's Prime Minister-elect and called on all parties to engage in the peace process with renewed effort and good faith. The leaders urged Israel and the Palestinians to fully implement the Wye River Memorandum, stressing the need to combat terrorism, prevent violence, and avoid actions that could prejudice the outcome of Permanent Status negotiations.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the opportunity for achieving comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, along with the Madrid and Oslo Accords.<sup>213</sup> They reaffirmed their strong support for efforts to advance the peace process and emphasized the need for a peaceful resolution of disputes. They welcomed the decision to continue talks and pledged their support for implementing any peace agreements, urging the international community to contribute to these efforts.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders expressed deep concern over the worsening situation in the Middle East, noting the tragic loss of lives and the urgent need for action.<sup>214</sup>

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<sup>208</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 June 1995. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/chairman.html>

<sup>209</sup> Chairman's Statement: Toward Greater Security and Stability in a More Cooperative World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1996. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996lyon/chair.html>

<sup>210</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>211</sup> Political Statement – Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 1998. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/regional.htm>

<sup>212</sup> G8 Statement on Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/regional.htm>

<sup>213</sup> G8 Statement on Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 2000. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/region.htm>

<sup>214</sup> G8 Statement on the Middle East, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/middleeast.html>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to achieving peace in the Middle East, and envisioned two states, Israel and Palestine, coexisting within secure and recognized borders.<sup>215</sup> They emphasized the urgency of reforming Palestinian institutions and its economy, along with the need for free and fair elections.

At the 2003 Evian-les-Bains Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the acceptance of the Quartet Roadmap by both Israel and the Palestinians and expressed their commitment to supporting its implementation.<sup>216</sup> The Quartet Roadmap, a plan proposed by the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, and Russia, aimed to establish a two-state solution by outlining key steps for both parties, including ending violence, building Palestinian political institutions, and resuming negotiations for a final peace agreement.<sup>217</sup> The leaders directed their ministers to explore measures to revitalize and rebuild the Palestinian economy, with a focus on encouraging private investment as part of the broader Middle East Peace Process.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the prospect of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza settlements and parts of the West Bank, following the Israeli Cabinet's approval of Prime Minister Sharon's plan.<sup>218</sup> They saw this as an important opportunity for advancing peace and achieving the goal of two states, Israel and a viable, democratic Palestine, living peacefully side by side. Leaders reaffirmed the Quartet Roadmap as the path to comprehensive peace and urged all parties to fulfill their obligations. They also emphasized the importance of enhancing Palestinian humanitarian conditions, rebuilding institutions, and ensuring security in the areas Israel plans to withdraw from.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the importance of resolving the Middle East conflict for global peace and regional prosperity.<sup>219</sup> Their shared goal remained a final settlement that would establish a viable, democratic Palestinian state coexisting peacefully alongside a secure and recognized Israel. They also welcomed Israel's planned withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank, noting that its success would require close coordination between the parties.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders expressed deep concern over the escalating situation in the Middle East, highlighting the growing civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure.<sup>220</sup> The leaders outlined key steps toward a sustainable ceasefire, including the return of Israeli soldiers, the cessation of military operations, and the resumption of dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians. The leaders also encouraged regional actors such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan to continue their efforts to restore peace.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East.<sup>221</sup> They expressed full support for the Middle East Quartet's central role in advancing peace and emphasized their hope that ongoing talks would pave the way for negotiations to establish a Palestinian state. legislature.

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<sup>215</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>216</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communiquen\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communiquen_en.html)

<sup>217</sup> Middle East Quartet, Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (New York) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://unsco.unmissions.org/mideast-quartet>

<sup>218</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/summary.html>

<sup>219</sup> Middle East Peace Process, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/mepp.pdf>

<sup>220</sup> Middle East, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/mideast.html>

<sup>221</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their full support for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations aimed at reaching an agreement by the end of 2008.<sup>222</sup> They urged all parties to avoid actions that could undermine the talks and to fulfill their obligations under the Quartet Roadmap, including freezing settlement activities and ending violence, terrorism, and incitement. They also committed to continuing their assistance to the Palestinians and supporting the strengthening of Palestinian institutions, while expressing hope for a comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbors.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their strong support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and called for a swift resumption of direct negotiations between the parties.<sup>223</sup> The leaders also emphasized their commitment to fully supporting the Palestinian Authority, and once a peace agreement is achieved, they pledged to launch a comprehensive plan aimed at developing infrastructure and promoting economic growth in a future Palestinian state.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the start of talks between the Palestinians and Israel and urged conditions for direct negotiations toward a peaceful two-state solution.<sup>224</sup> The leaders expressed regret over the 31 May Gaza incident, supported Israel's independent commission, and stressed the need to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1860. They praised Israel's new Gaza policy, emphasizing full implementation to address humanitarian needs and security. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening Palestinian institutions, developing the economy, and supporting the West Bank and Gaza for future peace.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their support for a two-state solution, envisioning an independent, democratic, and viable Palestinian state living peacefully alongside Israel and its neighbors.<sup>225</sup> The leaders called for necessary trust-building measures and urged both parties to resume direct negotiations without preconditions, referencing the 23 September 2011 statement from the Middle East Quartet. They also reaffirmed their support for the Palestinian Authority and its state-building efforts, encouraging the international community to provide extensive assistance to help revitalize the Palestinian economy.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders expressed strong support for the United States' efforts to achieve a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>226</sup> They regretted the lack of significant progress by both parties and urged them to find the political will and common ground necessary to resume negotiations. The leaders reiterated that a negotiated two-state solution is the only viable path to resolving the conflict. They also called on both sides to exercise maximum restraint and refrain from unilateral actions that could further undermine peace efforts and jeopardize the viability of a two-state solution.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 leaders urged both parties in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to pursue a negotiated solution with the support of the international community.<sup>227</sup> They emphasized the goal of achieving two states living in peace and security.

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<sup>222</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 2008. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-summary.html>

<sup>223</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary.pdf>

<sup>224</sup> G8 Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>225</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>226</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2013. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>227</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>



At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders called on both sides to prevent further escalation and avoid actions that could jeopardize the two-state solution.<sup>228</sup> They expressed strong support for international efforts, including those by the Middle East Quartet, to move towards a negotiated solution.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders expressed ongoing concern over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>229</sup> They called for the immediate resumption of meaningful peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians to reach a negotiated solution that ensures peace and security for both sides. The leaders also emphasized the urgent need to address the worsening humanitarian and security situation in the Gaza Strip.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders called on Israelis and Palestinians to take meaningful steps to build trust in pursuit of a two-state solution.<sup>230</sup> They urged all parties to refrain from unilateral actions, such as settlement activities and incitement to violence. They welcomed recent discussions involving Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, and the United States, expressing hope that the commitments made would be honored in good faith. Additionally, they pledged continued support for Palestinian economic self-reliance and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

At a virtual summit on 6 December 2023, G7 leaders condemned the terror attacks launched by Hamas and other groups across Israel on 7 October 2023, and affirmed Israel's right to self-defence under international law.<sup>231</sup> They called for the release of hostages, increased humanitarian efforts for Gaza, and protection of Palestinian civilians and infrastructure. Leaders announced over USD600 million in aid for the Palestinian people and urged the international community to fully support the UN's flash appeal. Leaders condemned extremist settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank and denounced antisemitism and Islamophobia. The summit reiterated support for a two-state solution and the need for broader peace talks to ensure safety, dignity, and peace for both Israelis and Palestinians.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions,” and stressed “the importance of unifying the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.”<sup>232</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment comprises three main dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Two-state solution” refers to the “proposed framework for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by establishing two states for two peoples: Israel for the Jewish people and Palestine for the Palestinian people.”<sup>233</sup>

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<sup>228</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

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

<sup>229</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

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

<sup>230</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>231</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 December 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231206-statement.html>

<sup>232</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 31 August 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>233</sup> Two-state solution, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/two-state-solution>

“Democratic” is understood to mean “using the principles of democracy in elections and government.”<sup>234</sup>

“State” is understood to mean “a country or its government.”<sup>235</sup>

“Peace” is understood to mean “not only the absence of conflict, but also [requiring] a positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.”<sup>236</sup>

“Secure and recognized borders” refers to the clause in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, that calls for all states in the region to have boundaries that are both recognized and secure from threats.<sup>237</sup>

“International law” is understood to mean “a body of rules that control or affect the rights of nations in their relations with each other.”<sup>238</sup>

“UN resolutions” refers to “formal expressions of the opinion or will of United Nations organs.”<sup>239</sup>

“Unify” is understood to mean “to bring separate parts of something together so that they are one.”<sup>240</sup>

“Gaza strip” refers to the “territory occupying 140 square miles (363 square km) along the Mediterranean Sea just northeast of the Sinai Peninsula.”<sup>241</sup> The Gaza Strip is one of the regions that comprise the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>242</sup> Since 2007, it has been under the de facto governing authority of Hamas.<sup>243</sup>

“West Bank” refers to the “area of the former British-mandated (1920–47) territory of Palestine west of the Jordan River, claimed from 1949 to 1988 as part of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan but occupied from 1967 by Israel.”<sup>244</sup> The West Bank (along with East Jerusalem) is one of the regions that comprise the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>245</sup> It is under partial administrative control of the Palestinian Authority, with the majority of it under Israeli military occupation and administrative control.<sup>246</sup>

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<sup>234</sup> Democratic, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/democratic>

<sup>235</sup> State, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/state>

<sup>236</sup> Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace: resolutions / adopted by the General Assembly, United Nations General Assembly (New York) 6 October 1999. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/285677?ln=en&v=pdf>

<sup>237</sup> Resolution 242 (1967) / [adopted by the Security Council at its 1382nd meeting], of 22 November 1967, United Nations (New York) 22 November 1967. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/90717?ln=en&v=pdf>

<sup>238</sup> International Law, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/international%20law>

<sup>239</sup> Resolutions and other formal decisions of United Nations organs, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/editorial-manual/res-dec-index>

<sup>240</sup> Unify, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/unify>

<sup>241</sup> Gaza Strip, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 7 September 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Gaza-Strip>

<sup>242</sup> Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), European Council on Foreign Relations (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

[https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping\\_palestinian\\_politics/opt/](https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping_palestinian_politics/opt/)

<sup>243</sup> Gaza Strip – The World Factbook, CIA (Langley) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/gaza-strip/>

<sup>244</sup> West Bank, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 7 September 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/place/West-Bank>

<sup>245</sup> Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), European Council on Foreign Relations (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

[https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping\\_palestinian\\_politics/opt/](https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping_palestinian_politics/opt/)

<sup>246</sup> West Bank – The World Factbook, CIA (Langley) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/west-bank/>

“Palestinian Authority” refers to the “governing body of the Palestinian autonomous regions of the West Bank and Gaza Strip established in 1994 as part of the Oslo Accords peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.”<sup>247</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that take strong action in all three commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Examples of strong actions include but are not limited to: actively engaging in diplomatic efforts that promote the two-state solution, such as sponsoring or supporting UN resolutions, initiating and participating in peace talks or signing multilateral negotiations; providing support for initiatives that promote peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine, such as funding projects and/or facilitating dialogues and demonstrating support for the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority through financial aid; or diplomatic conflict mediation efforts.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action in fewer than three commitment dimensions, or to members that take weak action in two or more commitment dimensions. Reaffirmation of the commitment or its goals more broadly, such as in a speech, is an example of a weak action.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that do not take strong action in any commitment dimension, or members that take weak action in one or fewer dimensions.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not taken action in any commitment dimension: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority or the G7 member has taken weak action in only two commitment dimensions.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action in two or fewer commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority or the G7 member has taken weak action in all three commitment dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in all three commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders, and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

*Compliance Director: Jennifer Lee*  
*Lead Analyst: Rameen Azmat*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly, announced new sanctions on individuals affiliated with the attacks carried out by Hamas on 7 October 2023, per the Special Economic Measures Regulations.<sup>248</sup> The imposed sanctions demonstrate Canada’s dedication to combatting Hamas and its terrorist activities.

<sup>247</sup> Palestinian Authority, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Palestinian-Authority>

<sup>248</sup> Canada imposes additional sanctions in response to Hamas’ terrorist attacks against Israel, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-imposes-additional-sanctions-in-response-to-hamas-terrorist-attacks-against-israel.html>

On 27 June 2024, Minister Joly announced an additional set of sanctions following the Special Economic Measures (Extremist Settler Violence) Regulations on Israeli extremist settlers who engage in violence against Palestinian civilians and property.<sup>249</sup> Minister Joly recognized the harm extremist settler violence brings to Palestinian land, and condemned the illegal expansion of settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, acknowledging how these violent acts compromise the two-state solution and peace in the region.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and reaffirmed their support for the proposal advocating the release of hostages, an immediate ceasefire, increased aid to Gaza and a lasting resolution to the conflict.<sup>250</sup>

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers alongside the UN released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>251</sup> They reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 19 August 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen issued a statement on World Humanitarian Day advocating for the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers in conflict zones such as Gaza.<sup>252</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Minister Joly imposed a third round of sanctions under the Special Economic Measures (Extremist Settler Violence) Regulations targeting individuals and entities involved in violence against Palestinian civilians in the West Bank.<sup>253</sup> These sanctions highlight Canada's commitment to fostering peace and security in the region.

On 18 September 2024, Global Affairs Canada issued a statement explaining Canada's abstention from a United Nations General Assembly resolution on the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) advisory opinion regarding Israel's actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>254</sup> Global Affairs Canada condemned violence by extremist settlers, supported Palestinian self-determination, and opposed permanent Israeli control over occupied territories, thereby bringing conditions conducive to peace and stability.

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<sup>249</sup> Canada imposes second round of sanctions on perpetrators of extremist settler violence against civilians in West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-imposes-second-round-of-sanctions-on-perpetrators-of-extremist-settler-violence-against-civilians-in-west-bank0.html>

<sup>250</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/07/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-united-kingdom-sir-keir>

<sup>251</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>252</sup> Statement on World Humanitarian Day, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/08/statement-on-world-humanitarian-day.html>

<sup>253</sup> Canada imposes third round of sanctions on perpetrators of extremist settler violence against Palestinian civilians in West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-imposes-third-round-of-sanctions-on-perpetrators-of-extremist-settler-violence-against-palestinian-civilians-in-west-bank0.html>

<sup>254</sup> Canada abstains from United Nations General Assembly resolution on the Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences arising from Israel's policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-abstains-from-united-nations-general-assembly-resolution-on-the-advisory-opinion-of-the-international-court-of-justice-on-the-legal-consequence.html>

On 30 September 2024, Minister Joly delivered an address at the United Nations General Assembly, calling for an immediate ceasefire and urging both Israel and Palestine to engage in peace talks.<sup>255</sup> She emphasized the importance of diplomacy to prevent further violence and promote stability in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Minister Joly issued a statement marking one year since Hamas's terrorist attacks against Israel, condemning violence and advocating for peace and security in the region.<sup>256</sup> She denounced actions that destabilize the region and emphasized its support for efforts aimed at achieving lasting peace through mutual recognition and secure borders for both Israelis and Palestinians.

On 9 October 2024, Minister Joly issued a statement reaffirming Canada's call for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of civilians in the Israel-Palestine conflict.<sup>257</sup> Minister Joly emphasized the importance of measures to reduce violence, protect civilian lives, and create conditions conducive to peace negotiations, which are essential for establishing stable borders and achieving peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Joly and Minister Hussen issued a statement calling for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of civilians in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel.<sup>258</sup> Both ministers emphasized the importance of diplomatic efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution, ensure the safety of civilians, and reinforced the need for two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, to coexist peacefully within secure and recognized borders.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>259</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 26 October 2024, Global Affairs Canada along with the foreign ministers of Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom released a statement condemning the legislation under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, which jeopardizes United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East's (UNRWA) operations in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem.<sup>260</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Joly and Minister Hussen issued a joint statement addressing the severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza, urging the Israeli government to adhere to international humanitarian law by facilitating immediate and sustained humanitarian aid and calling for an immediate ceasefire.<sup>261</sup> This statement

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<sup>255</sup> Address by Minister Joly at the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/address-by-minister-joly-at-the-general-debate-of-the-79th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly.html>

<sup>256</sup> Statement by Minister Joly to mark one year since Hamas's terrorist attacks against Israel, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/statement-by-minister-joly-to-mark-one-year-since-hamass-terrorist-attacks-against-israel.html>

<sup>257</sup> Address by Minister Joly at the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/address-by-minister-joly-at-the-general-debate-of-the-79th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly.html>

<sup>258</sup> Statement by ministers Joly and Hussen on recent events in Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/statement-by-ministers-joly-and-hussen-on-recent-events-in-middle-east.html>

<sup>259</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>260</sup> Foreign ministers' statement on legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and-works-agency-for-palestine-refugees-in-the-near-east-under-considerati.html>

<sup>261</sup> Statement by ministers Joly and Hussen on persistent risk of famine in Gaza, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/statement-by-ministers-joly-and-hussen-on-persistent-risk-of-famine-in-gaza.html>

highlights the importance of addressing humanitarian needs to stabilize the region and fostering peaceful conditions.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders Meeting to continue establishing strong relations between the two countries.<sup>262</sup> During the meeting, the two leaders discussed the importance of regional stability in Gaza and emphasized the need for a two-state solution.

On 19 November 2024, Canada released a statement at the United Nations General Assembly reaffirming its recognition of the Palestinian Authority, emphasizing its important in governance and security of the West Bank, and paramountcy of its funds and rights.<sup>263</sup> The statement notes that Canada's current diplomatic presence in Ramallah symbolizes this recognition. Furthermore, the statement emphasized Canada's support for Palestinian self-determination, called for an immediate cease-fire, and the achievement of a two-state solution.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>264</sup>

On 29 November 2024, Minister Hussen announced the funding of CAD50 million dedicated towards humanitarian aid for Palestinian civilians living in the West Bank and Gaza.<sup>265</sup> Minister Hussen also reaffirmed Canada's commitment toward a ceasefire and the release of Israeli hostages.

On 2 December 2024, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Rob Oliphant conversed with various international members on facilitating humanitarian aid through Canada's recent allocation of CAD50 million to address the essential services and living conditions of Palestinians at the Cairo Conference on the humanitarian response in Gaza.<sup>266</sup>

On 11 December 2024, Canadian diplomatic representatives of the United Nations released an announcement regarding Canada's vote in favour of Emergency Special Session resolutions, reaffirming their support of the UNRWA and again criticizing the legislation passed by the Israeli Knesset on October 28, which jeopardizes UNRWA's operations in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem.<sup>267</sup> Canada also emphasized their commitment to an immediate ceasefire, and the release of hostages.

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<sup>262</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto>

<sup>263</sup> Canada's statement at the United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee Debate on Israeli Practices in the Occupied Territories, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-11-19-statements-declarations.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-11-19-statements-declarations.aspx)

<sup>264</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>265</sup> Minister Hussen announces \$50 million for humanitarian assistance in Gaza and West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/minister-hussen-announces-50-million-for-humanitarian-assistance-in-gaza-and-west-bank.html>

<sup>266</sup> Parliamentary Secretary Oliphant to attend Cairo conference on humanitarian response in Gaza, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/parliamentary-secretary-oliphant-to-attend-cairo-conference-on-humanitarian-response-in-gaza.html>

<sup>267</sup> Canada votes on Emergency Special Session resolutions calling for a ceasefire in Gaza and in support of the mandate of UNRWA, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-12-11-unrwa-statement-declaration.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-12-11-unrwa-statement-declaration.aspx)

On 16 January 2025, Prime Minister Trudeau and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>268</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 16 January 2025, the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Marc Miller, announced financial assistance dedicated toward Palestinians arriving in Canada.<sup>269</sup> Minister Miller stated Canada's commitment to assisting Palestinians escaping the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the safety of people in the region.

On 3 February 2025, Global Affairs Canada announced Parliamentary Secretary Rob Oliphant as Canada's representative at the Cairo conference on humanitarian response in Gaza, co-convened by Egypt and the UN.<sup>270</sup> During this conference, Canada committed to scaling up humanitarian aid, facilitating early recovery, and planning for Gaza's long-term reconstruction.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Joly and the G7 foreign ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>271</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 20 March 2025, Minister Joly announced over CAD99 million in funding to support the delivery of humanitarian aid, peace and security programs and governance support in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>272</sup> This support strengthens the Palestinian Authority's role in stabilization and reconstruction efforts, addressing urgent humanitarian needs and fostering conditions for long-term peace and coexistence within secure and recognized borders.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Joly and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting reaffirming support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>273</sup> The statement also emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Canada has taken strong action in the first two commitment dimensions by issuing statements at international forums, such as the United Nations General Assembly, where it has reiterated the need for peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine. Canada has also supported international resolutions that emphasize adherence to international law and condemned acts of

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<sup>268</sup> Leaders' Statement on Ceasefire and Hostage Deal, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>269</sup> Financial assistance for Gazans arriving in Canada now available, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (Ottawa). 16 January 2025. Access Date: 25 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2025/01/financial-assistance-for-gazans-arriving-in-canada-now-available.html>

<sup>270</sup> Parliamentary Secretary Oliphant to travel to France and Lebanon to discuss situation in Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/parliamentary-secretary-oliphant-to-travel-to-france-and-lebanon-to-discuss-situation-in-middle-east.html>

<sup>271</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>272</sup> Minister Joly announces assistance for people in Gaza and West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-joly-announces-assistance-for-people-in-gaza-and-west-bank.html>

<sup>273</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

violence that disrupt stability in the region. Canada has voiced its support for the Palestinian Authority and provided humanitarian relief.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Chloe Gergi*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 27 June 2024, President Emmanuel Macron and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>274</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 8 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning Israel's introduction of five additional settlements in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.<sup>275</sup> Additionally, France urged for a lasting and immediate ceasefire which would release hostages, protect civilians, and bring humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 8 July 2024, the French agency for development alongside the Consul General of France signed an agreement with the Palestinian Minister of Finance Shukri Bishara, that grants EUR10 million to Palestinian municipalities in the West Bank and Gaza.<sup>276</sup> The grant will allow municipalities to enhance the provision of essential services to the Palestinian population as a part of France's ongoing commitment to the Palestinian Authority.

On 10 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement expressing concern regarding the multiple Israeli strikes on schools housing displaced individuals in Gaza.<sup>277</sup> France called for Israel to fully comply with international humanitarian law and emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages and aid through Gaza.

On 12 July 2024, the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York announced EUR5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in

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<sup>274</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

<sup>275</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Israeli announcements concerning settlements, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-gaza-10-jul-2024>

<sup>276</sup> France grants 10 M€ support to Palestinian municipalities to help them deliver basic services to the population, Consulate General of France in Jerusalem (Ramallah) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://jerusalem.consulfrance.org/France-grants-10-MEUR-support-to-Palestinian-municipalities-to-help-them>

<sup>277</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Situation in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-gaza-10-jul-2024>



an effort to bring humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>278</sup> France also reaffirmed their commitment to an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the importance of the two-state solution in solving the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

On 12 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>279</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>280</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 18 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement reemphasizing the importance of adopting the two-state solution and called for the creation of a "sovereign, viable, contiguous Palestinian state."<sup>281</sup>

On 7 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning comments made by Israel's Finance Minister, Bezalel Smotrich, in which he stated that freeing the hostages in Gaza would be worth causing "two million civilians to die of hunger."<sup>282</sup> The Ministry emphasized the importance of humanitarian aid in Gaza and conveyed the urgency of a ceasefire in order to facilitate the release of all hostages.

On 7 August 2024, President Macron spoke with Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu over the phone, expressing the need for military de-escalation and an eventual two-state solution as the keys to lasting regional stability.<sup>283</sup> Both leaders agreed to remain in correspondence, and President Macron noted that France's focus would be on achieving unrestricted humanitarian aid to Gaza, an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages.

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<sup>278</sup> France reiterates its support for UNRWA with an additional contribution of 5 M€, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 6 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reiterates-its-support-for-unrwa-with-an-additional-contribution-of-5>

<sup>279</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>280</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

<sup>281</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-18-jul-2024>

<sup>282</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (7 August 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-7-aug-2024>

<sup>283</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Telephone conversation with Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of the State of Israel, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-telephone-conversation-with-benjamin-netanyahu>

On 10 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement denouncing an Israeli strike targeting a school in Gaza.<sup>284</sup> The Ministry expressed concern over civilian casualties and reiterated its call for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and Israel's adherence to international humanitarian law.

On 12 August 2024, President Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>285</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 15 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning an Israeli settler attack in the West Bank, calling on Israel to act against the perpetrators of settler violence in order to protect Palestinian civilians.<sup>286</sup> The Ministry confirmed that it will continue striving to adopt sanctions against Israeli settlers, both on the national level and in the European Union.

On 22 August 2024, the Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Nathalie Broadhurst, addressed the UN Security Council, supporting negotiation efforts led by the United States, Egypt and Qatar aiming to reach a ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>287</sup> Ms Broadhurst stressed that a two-state solution is an essential avenue toward regional stability and called on Israel to act against illegal settler activity in the West Bank.

On 2 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement expressing mourning for the loss of six hostages murdered by Hamas in the Gaza Strip.<sup>288</sup> The Ministry restated the importance of an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages, as well as reiterating its support for negotiation efforts spearheaded by the United States, Egypt, and Qatar.

On 11 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs condemned an Israeli drone strike against a designated humanitarian zone in Gaza and asserted the necessity of a peaceful and diplomatic resolution.<sup>289</sup> The Ministry also stressed that Israel must abide by international humanitarian law, by making provisions to protect the Palestinian population.

On 18 September 2024, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière, delivered a speech to the UN General Assembly conveying France's decision not to recognize the illegal Israeli settlements on Palestinian territory, as per Palestine's submitted draft resolution.<sup>290</sup> While France remains committed to maintaining the security of Israel, Ambassador de Rivière asserted that illegal settlements are

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<sup>284</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Strike on a school in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 10 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-strike-on-a-school-in-gaza-10-aug-2024>

<sup>285</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>286</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Settler attack on Palestinians in the West Bank, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-settler-attack-on-palestinians-in-the-west-bank>

<sup>287</sup> Gaza: France calls on the parties to make the necessary compromises so that the war can stop, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-france-calls-on-the-parties-to-make-the-necessary-compromises-so-that-the>

<sup>288</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (2 September 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-2-sept-2024>

<sup>289</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Q&A – Extract from the press briefing, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-q-a-extract-from-the-press-briefing-11-sep-2024>

<sup>290</sup> France voted in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Palestine, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-voted-in-favour-of-the-draft-resolution-submitted-by-palestine>

barriers to achieving a two-state solution, which is the only way to restore lasting peace and stability in the region.

On 19 September 2024, Ambassador de Rivière delivered a speech to the UN Security Council expressing France's condemnation of illegal Israeli settlements, attacks on Palestinian schools and the attacks perpetrated by Hamas on 7 October 2023.<sup>291</sup> France maintained its dedication to protecting Israel's security while also establishing a sovereign, contiguous state under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, President Macron met with President of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas during the UN General Assembly, expressing France's full support for the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state.<sup>292</sup> President Macron emphasized the importance of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza as the only way to achieve the release of hostages, the flow of humanitarian aid and an eventual two-state solution. President Macron also stated that he was in correspondence with Prime Minister Netanyahu calling for Israel to stop inhibiting funding to the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, Minister Barrot, delivered a speech to the UN Security Council, stating that achieving a two-state solution is an urgent priority in order to reach a lasting diplomatic resolution between Israel and Palestine.<sup>293</sup> Minister Barrot also reiterated the need for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, the release of hostages and the reconstruction of Gaza through the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, President Macron spoke in front of the UN General Assembly, standing in solidarity with both the victims of Hamas' attack on 7 October and the Palestinian civilian casualties during the resulting war.<sup>294</sup> President Macron restated France's support for the diplomatic procedures needed to attain a ceasefire and the release of hostages and called on the UN Security Council to take concrete steps toward implementing a two-state solution.

On 26 September 2024, Deputy Representative of France to the United Nations, Jay Dharmadhikari, delivered a speech at the Economic and Social Council of the UN, bringing attention to the urgent humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank, while stressing France's commitment to a two-state solution as the only viable measure to attain regional peace.<sup>295</sup> Mr. Dharmadhikari emphasized the importance of European and Arab states in facilitating mediation efforts and expressed France's willingness to lead a joint diplomatic initiative.

On 27 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement denouncing multiple Israeli strikes targeting schools in Gaza, calling for Israel to adhere to international humanitarian law.<sup>296</sup> The

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<sup>291</sup> France remains committed to preventing any risk of escalation on the Blue Line, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-remains-committed-to-preventing-any-risk-of-escalation-on-the-blue-line>

<sup>292</sup> Entretien avec Mahmoud Abbas, Président de l'Autorité palestinienne, L'Élysée (Paris) 25 September 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/09/25/entretien-avec-mahmoud-abbas-president-de-lautorite-palestinienne-1>

<sup>293</sup> France reaffirms that the principle of humanity must prevail, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-that-the-principle-of-humanity-must-prevail>

<sup>294</sup> 79th General Assembly of the United Nations, France in the United States - Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington D.C) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article11573>

<sup>295</sup> Gaza: L'Union européenne et les pays arabes ont un rôle essentiel à jouer pour accompagner la mise en œuvre de la solution à deux États, Mission permanente de la France auprès des Nations Unies à New York (New York) 27 September 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-l-union-europeenne-et-les-pays-arabes-ont-un-role-essentiel-a-jouer-pour>

<sup>296</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Attack on three schools in the Gaza Strip, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-attack-on-three-schools-in-the-gaza-strip-27>

Ministry once again highlighted the importance of an immediate ceasefire, the uninhibited movement of humanitarian aid and the release of all hostages in Gaza.

On 27 September 2024, Ambassador de Rivière spoke in front of the UN Security Council conveying France's concern over increased settler activity and called for Israel to stop blocking funding to the Palestinian Authority.<sup>297</sup>

On 2 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement expressing strong disapproval of recent Israeli strikes targeting schools, orphanages, and houses in Gaza.<sup>298</sup> The Ministry reasserted the need for a ceasefire, unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and the release of all hostages.

On 9 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, articulating the urgency of reaching a political solution in Gaza in light of the worsening humanitarian situation.<sup>299</sup> Ambassador de Rivière called for Israel to cease implementing barriers for aid deliveries and reiterated its demands for an immediate ceasefire as well as the release of hostages.

On 10 October 2024, France and the United Kingdom contributed EUR18 million to a World Bank emergency fund in support of the Palestinian Authority, due to the continued obstacles that they face from the Israeli government.<sup>300</sup> French consul-general in Jerusalem, Nicolas Kassianides, explained that the funds would go towards the most pressing needs of the Palestinian population, building upon France's commitment to help establish a sovereign Palestinian State.

On 11 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement strongly condemning Israeli strikes against shelter zones for displaced persons in Gaza, also criticizing Israeli evacuation orders that would displace civilian populations in Northern Gaza.<sup>301</sup> The Ministry recalled Israel's responsibility to protect Palestinian civilians under international law and called for the immediate execution of necessary procedures to achieve a diplomatic solution.

On 11 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a statement calling on Israel to urgently renew its correspondent banking services with the Palestinian Authority for at least one year.<sup>302</sup> If not renewed, it would halt cross-border trade, causing severe economic damage to the Palestinian economy and undermining regional security.

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<sup>297</sup> We strongly call upon Israel to stop escalation underway in Lebanon, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/we-strongly-call-upon-israel-to-stop-the-escalation-underway-in-lebanon>

<sup>298</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (02.10.24), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/article/israel-palestinian-territories-october-2-2024>

<sup>299</sup> Gaza: the scale of the humanitarian disaster has reached unprecedented levels, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-the-scale-of-the-humanitarian-disaster-has-reached-unprecedented-levels>

<sup>300</sup> France, Britain grant Palestinian Authority €18 million in aid, Le Monde (Paris) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2024/10/10/france-britain-grant-palestinian-authority-nearly-20-million-in-aid\\_6728998\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2024/10/10/france-britain-grant-palestinian-authority-nearly-20-million-in-aid_6728998_4.html)

<sup>301</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories (11 October 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-11-oct-2024>

<sup>302</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/e3-2682498>

On 15 October 2024, President Macron and Prime Minister Netanyahu engaged in diplomatic discussions with President Macron stating France's commitment to Israeli security while also calling for a 21-day ceasefire.<sup>303</sup> President Macron expressed concern over the worsening settler violence in the West Bank and condemned the barrage of Israeli strikes in Gaza and Lebanon.

On 16 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivi re addressed the UN Security Council, denouncing the increasingly deadly Israeli military operation in northern Gaza and emphasizing the importance of an immediate ceasefire, release of all hostages and distribution of humanitarian aid.<sup>304</sup> He also stressed the necessity for a two-state solution, and condemned Israel's attempts to undermine the Palestinian Authority.

On 17 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement on the day of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar's death, strongly condemning his role in the 7 October attack.<sup>305</sup> The Ministry expressed hope that this event would be a turning point in the conflict, restating their calls for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire, and the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid.

On 21 October 2024, President Macron spoke with Prime Minister Netanyahu, restating France's continued commitment to maintaining Israel's security.<sup>306</sup> President Macron remarked that the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar would facilitate negotiations for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>307</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 27 October 2024, G7 foreign ministers issued a joint statement condemning legislation under consideration in the Israeli Knesset, which would add obstacles to the delivery of humanitarian aid to Palestine under UNRWA.<sup>308</sup> The foreign ministers expressed the importance of the UNRWA in addressing the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank and called for a reform of the organization in order to re-establish a civil working relationship with the Israeli government.

On 29 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivi re addressed the UN Security Council, reiterating France's support for the UNRWA as well as expressing France's condemnation of Israeli settlement policy, strikes on civilian infrastructure and the ongoing displacement of civilians in Northern Gaza.<sup>309</sup> He communicated France's

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<sup>303</sup> Middle East – Israel – Telephone conversation between M. Emmanuel Macron, President of the Republic, and Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of the State of Israel – Press release issued by the Presidency of the Republic, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrang res (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/middle-east-israel-telephone-conversation-between-m-emmanuel-macron-president>

<sup>304</sup> The war in Gaza must end without delay, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/the-war-in-gaza-must-end-without-delay>

<sup>305</sup> Gaza – Death of Yahya Sinwar, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrang res (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/gaza-death-of-yahya-sinwar-17-oct-2024>

<sup>306</sup> French President and Israeli leader discuss Gaza, Lebanon and Iran, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/President-and-Israeli-leader-discuss-Gaza-Lebanon-and-Iran>

<sup>307</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>308</sup> Foreign ministers' statement on legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrang res (Paris) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and>

<sup>309</sup> France calls on Israel not to criminalize UNRWA's activities, Permanent mission of France to the United Nation in New York (New York) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-calls-on-israel-not-to-criminalize-unrwa-s-activities>

demands for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages and the elimination of barriers to the free flow of humanitarian aid.

On 30 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning an Israeli strike on a building in Northern Gaza, as well as other recent strikes on hospitals in the same region.<sup>310</sup> The Ministry expressed the urgent need for an immediate diplomatic solution and the removal of barriers to humanitarian aid deliveries.

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a joint statement calling for the Israeli government to issue a one-year renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services.<sup>311</sup> They noted that the expiry of these services would result in the inability to execute cross-border trade, harming both the Palestinian economy and wider stability in the region.

On 6 November 2024, Ambassador Rivière delivered an address to the UN General Assembly, condemning Israel's adoption of laws against the UNRWA and emphasizing the importance of humanitarian aid to provide Palestinian civilians with essential resources and services.<sup>312</sup> He Rivière also reiterated France's continued commitment to achieve the release of hostages and an immediate ceasefire.

On 11 November 2024, Minister Barrot made a speech at the Paris Peace Forum regarding the conflict between Israel and Hamas.<sup>313</sup> He emphasized the importance of the release of hostages and the flow of humanitarian aid while calling for a two-state solution with peaceful coexistence.

On 12 November 2024, the Political Coordinator for France at the United Nations, Isis Jaraud Darnault, addressed the UN Security Council, highlighting the importance of massive and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza, especially considering the impending famine in the north of the region.<sup>314</sup> Coordinator Darnault expressed the essential role of UN agencies in delivering aid and restated France's support for the UNRWA.

On 13 November 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs strongly condemned comments made by Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, in which he expressed support for the annexation of the West Bank.<sup>315</sup> The Ministry affirmed that these remarks hindered de-escalation efforts, and reiterated France's commitment to achieving a two-state solution.

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<sup>310</sup> Israël / Territoires palestiniens - Frappe israélienne au nord de Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/israel-territoires-palestiniens/actualites-et-evenements/2024/article/israel-territoires-palestiniens-frappe-israelienne-au-nord-de-gaza-30-10-24>

<sup>311</sup> E3 foreign ministries calls for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/e3-foreign-ministries-calls-for-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian>

<sup>312</sup> France reaffirms its support for the UNRWA, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-its-support-for-unrwa>

<sup>313</sup> Forum de Paris sur la Paix - "Israël-Palestine: un plan pour deux États et pour la paix" - Interventions de Jean-Noël Barrot, ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (11 novembre 2024), Ministère de l'Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 November 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/societe-civile-et-volontariat/actualites/article/forum-de-paris-sur-la-paix-israel-palestine-un-plan-pour-deux-etats-et-pour-la>

<sup>314</sup> Only the end of the war can put a lasting end to the prospect of famine in Gaza, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/only-the-end-of-the-war-can-put-a-lasting-end-to-the-prospect-of-famine-in-gaza>

<sup>315</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (13.11.24), Ministère de l'Europe et de l'Étrangères (Paris) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-november-13-2024>

On 15 November 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs denounced Israel's demolition of a Palestinian activity centre in East Jerusalem, which provided essential services for youth in the area.<sup>316</sup> The Ministry identified this action as a part of Israel's illegal settlement plan and stated that this undermined the two-state solution.

On 20 November 2024, Ambassador Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, expressing France's regret for failing to adopt the draft resolution for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>317</sup> He called on the UN Security Council to take concrete measures to attain a two-state solution and establish a sovereign and contiguous Palestinian state.

On 24 November 2024, Minister Barrot met with the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Antonio Tajani, where the two conversed about the importance of solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>318</sup>

On 25 November 2024, Ambassador de Rivière delivered a statement to the UN Security Council, calling for a lasting resolution to the conflict in Gaza, and reaffirming France's commitment to maintaining Israel's security.<sup>319</sup> He also condemned the displacement of Gaza's population and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, calling for the unfettered distribution of humanitarian aid with the help of the UNRWA.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>320</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a joint statement reiterating their calls for Israel to renew Israeli-Palestinian reciprocal banking services for an additional one year period.<sup>321</sup> The ministers warned of the economic instability that would occur in Palestine if these arrangements were not renewed and commended the Palestinian Authority's management of these ongoing challenges.

On 2 December 2024, Minister Barrot attended the humanitarian conference for Gaza in Cairo. At the conference, Minister Barrot announced an additional EUR50 million for the UNRWA to provide necessary services for Palestinians.<sup>322</sup> Additionally, Minister Barrot also reiterated France's emphasis on a need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a two-state solution.

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<sup>316</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Demolition of the Al-Bustan Association centre in Jerusalem, Ministère de l'Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-demolition-of-the-al-bustan-association-centre>

<sup>317</sup> Gaza: France deeply regrets that the draft resolution prepared by elected members of the Security Council was not adopted, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 23 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-france-deeply-regrets-that-the-draft-resolution-prepared-by-the-elected>

<sup>318</sup> Italy – Meeting between M. Jean-Noël Barrot, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and his Italian counterpart (Rome, 24 November 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/italy/events/article/italy-meeting-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-minister-for-europe-and-foreign>

<sup>319</sup> Middle East: There is an urgent need for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip as well as in Lebanon, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/middle-east-there-is-an-urgent-need-for-an-immediate-and-permanent-ceasefire-in>

<sup>320</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>321</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services-e3-foreign-ministers-joint>

<sup>322</sup> M. Jean-Noël Barrot participates in the international humanitarian conference for Gaza's civilian population (Cairo, 2 December 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024.

On 30 December 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs conveyed France's condemnation of Israeli military attacks on several hospitals in Gaza.<sup>323</sup> The ministry called on Israel to adhere to international humanitarian law and emphasized the urgency of negotiating an immediate ceasefire.

On 3 January 2025, Representative de Rivi re articulated France's deep concern over the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza during his address to the UN Security Council.<sup>324</sup> Minister De Rivi re called for an immediate ceasefire and hostage release deal while condemning Israeli military operations targeting Palestinian hospitals as well as increasing settler activity in the West Bank. Representative De Rivi re stressed the Security Council's crucial role in working towards a two-state solution and called for the opening of all checkpoints to facilitate the free flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 6 January 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning a fatal attack on a bus carrying Israeli citizens in the West Bank, expressing France's opposition to all forms of terrorism.<sup>325</sup>

On 15 January 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs expressed its support for the ceasefire agreement and the mediation efforts of Egypt, Qatar and the United States and demanded the unconditional release of all hostages along with the uninhibited delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>326</sup> The Ministry stated that in June 2025, France and Saudi Arabia will co-chair an international conference on the realization of a two-state solution.

On 17 January 2025, President Macron and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>327</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 17 January 2025, Representative de Rivi re addressed the UN Security Council, conveying France's endorsement of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement reached by the United States, Qatar and Egypt.<sup>328</sup> Representative De Rivi re communicated France's calls for a long-term approach to conflict resolution, in which an eventual two-state solution remains the only viable option for the future of both Israel and Palestine as sovereign states.

On 20 January 2025, Representative de Rivi re delivered a statement during the UN Security Council's Open Debate on the Middle East in support of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement in Gaza and calling for the opening of all checkpoints to facilitate the distribution of humanitarian assistance.<sup>329</sup> Representative De

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<sup>323</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Military operations in Gaza hospitals, Minist re de l'Europe et des Affaires  trang res (Paris) 30 December 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-military-operations-in-gaza-hospitals-30-dec>

<sup>324</sup> France calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 3 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-calls-for-an-immediate-ceasefire-in-the-gaza-strip>

<sup>325</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Attack on a bus carrying Israeli citizens in the West Bank, Minist re de l'Europe et des Affaires  trang res (Paris) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 10 January 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-attack-on-a-bus-carrying-israeli-civilians-in>

<sup>326</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Ceasefire and hostage release agreement in Gaza, Minist re de l'Europe et des Affaires  trang res (Paris) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-ceasefire-and-hostage-release-agreement-in-gaza>

<sup>327</sup> G7 Leaders statement on ceasefire and hostage deal,  lys e (Paris) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>328</sup> France is working to put an end to the cycle of violence in the Middle East, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-is-working-to-put-an-end-to-the-cycle-of-violence-in-the-middle-east>

<sup>329</sup> France welcomes the entry into effect of the ceasefire agreement in Gaza, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-welcomes-the-entry-into-effect-of-the-ceasefire-agreement-in-gaza>



Rivière expressed France's hope that this agreement would begin the political process towards a two-state solution, in which the Palestinian Authority supplants Hamas as the primary political actor in the region.

On 22 January 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning settler activity in the West Bank, which could increase violence and instability in the region.<sup>330</sup> The ministry also raised concerns about Israel's operation in the Jenin refugee camp and called on Israeli officials to exercise moderation.

On 23 January 2025, Representative de Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, maintaining that the ceasefire and hostage release agreement in Gaza must serve as a first step toward a peaceful political settlement in line with the vision of a two-state solution.<sup>331</sup> France aims to collaborate with the UN and the Arab League to reach a peaceful humanitarian resolution in the region.

On 23 January 2025, Representative de Rivière delivered an address to the UN Security Council raising concerns over the humanitarian toll of the conflict in Gaza, specifically relating to increasing casualties among Palestinian children.<sup>332</sup> Representative de Rivière reaffirmed France's condemnation of Hamas and commitment to the release of hostages while also emphasizing the necessity of a two-state solution in which the Gaza Strip and the West Bank are united under the Palestinian Authority.

On 28 January 2025, Representative de Rivière delivered a speech to the UN Security Council, reiterating France's support for the UNRWA in its delivery of crucial humanitarian aid to Palestinian civilians.<sup>333</sup> Representative de Rivière stressed the importance of necessary reforms to the UNRWA and reaffirmed France's commitment to a two-state solution under which the Palestinian Authority returns to power.

On 31 January 2025, Minister Barrot and the foreign ministers of Germany, and the United Kingdom issued a joint statement condemning Israeli legislation that inhibits the functioning of the UNRWA within Israel and East Jerusalem.<sup>334</sup> The Foreign Ministers expressed support for the UNRWA's role in delivering vital humanitarian aid to Palestinian refugees and endorsed continued efforts by the US, Egypt, and Qatar to mediate the next steps of the ceasefire.

On 31 January 2025, the Government of France provided three gendarmes to serve the European Union Border Assistance Mission to the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah), which aims to facilitate the administration of medical aid and the evacuation of Palestinian civilians to Egypt.<sup>335</sup> The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs restated France's dedication to achieving a two-state solution, as well as its support for the Palestinian Authority.

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<sup>330</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Escalating tensions in the West Bank, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-escalating-tensions-in-the-west-bank-22-jan-2025>

<sup>331</sup> France states shoulder to shoulder with its Arab partners, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-stands-shoulder-to-shoulder-with-its-arab-partners>

<sup>332</sup> The conflict in Gaza has been particularly deadly for Palestinian children, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/the-conflict-in-gaza-has-been-particularly-deadly-for-palestinian-children>

<sup>333</sup> France reaffirms its full support to UNRWA, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-its-full-support-to-unrwa>

<sup>334</sup> E3 Foreign ministers' statement on the implementation of legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/e3-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-implementation-of-legislation-against>

<sup>335</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – France's contribution to the European EUBAM Rafah mission, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-france-s-contribution-to-the-european-eubam>

On 1 February 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs welcomed the release of French hostage Ofer Kalderon through the ceasefire deal reached between Hamas and Israel.<sup>336</sup> France reiterated its commitment towards securing the release of all hostages in Gaza.

On 5 February 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs conveyed their support for a two-state solution, in which Palestine is governed by a sovereign Palestinian authority and Hamas is dismantled.<sup>337</sup> France also condemned any calls to forcefully displace the population of Gaza and emphasized opposition to settler activity in the West Bank.

On 11 February 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs expressed France's deep concern regarding Israeli military operations in the West Bank, which has resulted in civilian casualties and forced displacement.<sup>338</sup> The Ministry called for Israel to adhere to international law by fulfilling their humanitarian obligations towards Palestinian civilians, particularly children.

On 13 February 2025, Minister Barrot spoke with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, consolidating their shared commitment to preserving the terms of the ceasefire and coordinating the release of hostages.<sup>339</sup> Both ministers opposed any solution involving the forced displacement of Palestinian civilians and reiterated their continued efforts to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 13 February 2025, Minister Barrot held a conversation with the Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud, where both agreed on the necessity of adhering to the ceasefire deal as well as facilitating the release of hostages and the delivery of humanitarian aid.<sup>340</sup> Both Ministers expressed the importance of the international conference that they will co-chair in the coming months, which will serve to revitalize efforts for a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine.

On 14 February 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs announced the delivery of 52 tonnes of humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza and called for the opening of all checkpoints to facilitate the unimpeded delivery of aid to the region.<sup>341</sup> This delivery, which was organized by the Ministry's Crisis and Support Centre in collaboration with Jordan, Qatar and the European Union, consisted of tents, blankets and medical aid, among other essential supplies.

On 14 February 2025, Minister Barrot spoke with Jordanian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Ayman Safadi about their shared commitment to a ceasefire in Gaza, along with the delivery of humanitarian aid and

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<sup>336</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Release of Ofer Kalderon, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 1 February 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-release-of-of-fer-kalderon-1-feb-2025>

<sup>337</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Support for the two-state solution, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/north-africa-and-middle-east/news/article/israel-palestinian-territories-support-for-the-two-state-solution-5-feb-2025>

<sup>338</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Situation in the West Bank, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 12 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-the-west-bank-11-feb-2025>

<sup>339</sup> Egypt – Conversation between Jean-Noël Barrot and his Egyptian counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/egypt/news/article/egypt-conversation-between-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-egyptian-counterpart-13-02>

<sup>340</sup> Saudi Arabia – Conversation between Jean-Noël Barrot and his Saudi counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/news/article/saudi-arabia-conversation-between-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-saudi-counterpart>

<sup>341</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Humanitarian freight bound for the Gaza Strip, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-humanitarian-freight-bound-for-the-gaza-strip-14>

the release of all hostages.<sup>342</sup> Both ministers reiterated the importance of a two-state solution and expressed their strong objection to any forced migration of the people of Gaza.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Barrot and the G7 foreign ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>343</sup> Among other topics, the Ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 25 February 2025, Representative de Rivière spoke before the UN Security Council to reaffirm France's dedication to the release of all hostages and its solidarity with the families affected by the aftermath of the October 7 attacks.<sup>344</sup> Representative de Rivière reiterated France's condemnation of settler activity in the West Bank and called on the UN Security Council to work towards the reconstruction of Gaza and the implementation of a lasting two-state solution.

On 5 March 2025, Minister Barrot and the foreign ministers of Germany and the United Kingdom urged all parties to uphold the terms of the ceasefire in Gaza to reach a peaceful end to the conflict and an eventual two-state solution.<sup>345</sup> The ministers condemned Hamas and called for the unconditional release of all hostages. The ministers also raised concerns over the Israeli government's decision to halt the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza, stressing that Israel must fulfill its humanitarian obligations under international law.

On 6 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs expressed support for the Arab League's Gaza reconstruction plan and its potential to pave the way for a sovereign Palestinian state in which Hamas is dismantled and removed from governance.<sup>346</sup> France will provide further assistance to this plan through its international conference with Saudi Arabia, in hopes of reaching a long-term solution in which Israel and Palestine peacefully coexist.

On 8 March 2025, Minister Barrot and the foreign ministers of Germany, Italy and the UK released a joint statement in support of the Arab-led Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza, recognizing its potential to significantly improve the living conditions of Palestinians.<sup>347</sup> They emphasized that any reconstruction efforts must be grounded in a solid political and security framework that is acceptable to both Israelis and Palestinians, ensuring long-term peace and stability, and affirmed that Hamas must no longer govern Gaza or present a threat to Israel.

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<sup>342</sup> Jordan – Conversation between Jean-Noël Barrot and his Jordanian counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/jordan/events/article/jordan-conversation-between-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-jordanian-counterpart-14>

<sup>343</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>344</sup> France reaffirms its solidarity with the families of the Israeli hostages, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-its-solidarity-with-the-families-of-the-israeli-hostages>

<sup>345</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Humanitarian access in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-humanitarian-access-in-gaza-5-mar-2025>

<sup>346</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Gaza reconstruction plan adopted by the Arab League, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-gaza-reconstruction-plan-adopted-by-the-arab>

<sup>347</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Joint Statement by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Italy and the UK : Arab plan for the reconstruction of Gaza (8 March 2025), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-joint-statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-of>

On 11 March 2025, Minister Barrot held a meeting with Emirati Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan to discuss their cooperation on pressing international issues.<sup>348</sup> The Ministers agreed on the importance of maintaining the ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages to work towards a future two-state solution.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Barrot and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting reaffirming support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>349</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 17 March 2025, Minister Barrot participated in the EU Foreign Affairs Council in Brussels, in which he discussed the situation in the Middle East.<sup>350</sup> EU Member States agreed that maintaining the ceasefire in Gaza, ensuring the release of hostages and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid were primary concerns. Minister Barrot also emphasized the importance of the Gaza reconstruction plan proposed by the Arab League, and all parties reiterated their opposition to the forced displacement of Palestinians and their support for the two-state solution.

On 18 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement in opposition to Israeli air strikes in Gaza, emphasizing the risk that they pose for the safety of Palestinian civilians and the release of hostages.<sup>351</sup> They called for the Israeli government to fulfill its humanitarian duties towards civilians and allow for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid, stressing the importance of adhering to the terms of the ceasefire.

On 18 March 2025, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Jerome Bonnafont delivered a speech to the UN Security Council to address the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza and to condemn the resumption of Israeli airstrikes.<sup>352</sup> France demanded that all parties resume negotiations towards a permanent ceasefire and the release of hostages, calling on Israeli officials to guarantee the protection of Palestinian civilians. Permanent Representative Bonnafont also conveyed France's concern over the situation in the West Bank and underscored the critical importance of working towards a long-term settlement in the form of a two-state solution.

On 19 March 2025, the Government of France collaborated with the EU and the World Health Organization in evacuating 22 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip to receive medical treatment, three of whom received treatment in French hospitals.<sup>353</sup> France also called for Israel to open all checkpoints to allow for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

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<sup>348</sup> United Arab Emirates — Conversation between Jean-Noël Barrot and his Emirati counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/united-arab-emirates/events/article/united-arab-emirates-conversation-between-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-emirati>

<sup>349</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 14 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>350</sup> European Union — Main results of the Foreign Affairs Council, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/france-and-europe/events-and-news-relating-to-france-s-european-policy/general-affairs-and-foreign-affairs-councils/article/european-union-main-results-of-the-foreign-affairs-council-17-mar-2025>

<sup>351</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Israeli strikes on Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-israeli-strikes-on-gaza-18-mar-2025>

<sup>352</sup> France condemns Israeli strikes on the Gaza Strip, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-condemns-israeli-strikes-on-the-gaza-strip>

<sup>353</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — French hospitals welcome Palestinian patients, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-french-hospitals-welcome-palestinian-patients-20>

On 20 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs condemned an Israeli airstrike on a UN building in Gaza the day prior, which had left one employee dead and many others wounded.<sup>354</sup> The ministry called for the protection of humanitarian personnel under international law, demanded the release of all hostages and urged Israeli officials to remove barriers impeding the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 20 March 2025, Permanent Representative Bonnafont expressed France's continuous commitment to ensuring the release of all hostages and its unequivocal denouncement of Hamas during a speech given to the UN Security Council.<sup>355</sup> While acknowledging Israel's right to self-defence, Representative Bonnafont also stressed that the humanitarian toll in Gaza is unacceptable and that the two-state solution remains the only viable political path towards peaceful coexistence for Israelis and Palestinians.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Barrot and the foreign ministers of Germany and the United Kingdom released a joint statement condemning Israeli air strikes in Gaza and calling for ceasefire negotiations to resume.<sup>356</sup> The ministers agreed that Hamas must release all hostages and called for Israel to restore the free flow of humanitarian aid to Palestinian civilians. The ministers also emphasized that a long-term ceasefire is the first step towards a two-state solution and the peaceful coexistence of both nations.

On 21 March 2025, Permanent Representative Bonnafont delivered an address to the UN Security Council to reaffirm France's position on the situation in Gaza.<sup>357</sup> Permanent Representative Bonnafont asserted that France condemns the October 7 attacks, acknowledges Israel's right to self-defence and remains committed to securing the release of all hostages. However, France also remains opposed to violence against Palestinian civilians, calling on Israel to allow the delivery of humanitarian aid and cease all military operations targeting UN buildings. France strongly denounces the ongoing settlement of the West Bank and East Jerusalem, urging Israeli authorities to prevent the potential annexation of Palestinian territories and calling for negotiations towards a two-state solution.

On 25 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning increased settler violence against Palestinian civilians in the West Bank, particularly noting the attack against filmmaker Hamdan Ballal.<sup>358</sup> The ministry restated France's complete opposition to settlement activity and called on Israeli officials to protect Palestinian civilians by taking action against these violent acts.

On 1 April 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs condemned Israeli military operations that had resulted in the deaths of 15 first responders from the Palestinian Civil Defense and the Palestinian Red Crescent

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<sup>354</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Death of a UN employee in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-death-of-a-un-employee-in-gaza-20-mar-2025>

<sup>355</sup> France calls for the unconditional release of hostages in Gaza, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-calls-for-the-unconditional-release-of-hostages-in-gaza>

<sup>356</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Joint Statement of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of France, Germany and the United Kingdom on the situation in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-joint-statement-of-the-ministers-of-foreign>

<sup>357</sup> France opposes all forms of colonization and annexation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-opposes-all-forms-of-colonization-and-annexation-in-the-occupied>

<sup>358</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Situation in the West Bank, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-the-west-bank-25-mar-2025>

Society.<sup>359</sup> France urgently demanded the unconditional protection of humanitarian workers in Gaza and expressed its condolences to the families of those affected.

On 3 April 2025, Minister Barrot spoke with Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar to discuss the ongoing situation in Gaza.<sup>360</sup> Minister Barrot conveyed France's concerns over recent Israeli air strikes in Gaza which have affected civilians and humanitarian staff. Minister Barrot expressed the importance of a renewed ceasefire and hostage release negotiations as the only way to reach an eventual two-state solution, which will be supported by France and Saudi Arabia's upcoming international conference.

On 3 April 2025, Minister Barrot held a meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan about current international concerns.<sup>361</sup> Both ministers agreed on the importance of a continued ceasefire in Gaza and the release of all hostages as a way to ensure sustainable peace in the image of the two-state solution.

On 3 April 2025, Permanent Representative Bonnafont gave a speech to the UN Security Council, expressing concern over the breakdown of the ceasefire deal in Gaza and emphasizing France's position that the conflict cannot be resolved through military means.<sup>362</sup> Permanent Representative Bonnafont noted that France is committed to ensuring the delivery of humanitarian aid and aims to collaborate with Arab partners during the reconstruction phase in Gaza. France also maintains that the two-state solution is the only credible plan that guarantees a long-term peaceful settlement and denounces settler activity in the West Bank that compromises the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state.

On 22 April 2025, Minister Barrot and the foreign ministers of Germany, and the United Kingdom issued a joint statement condemning Israel's continued blockade of humanitarian aid to Gaza, which has persisted for over fifty days.<sup>363</sup> The ministers urged Israel to immediately allow a rapid and unimpeded flow of aid to prevent mass starvation and disease, especially among children. The statement emphasized Israel's legal obligation to permit aid, called for protection of humanitarian workers and medical infrastructure and reiterated support for a ceasefire and a two-state solution as the only path to lasting peace.

France has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. France advanced strong action in all three commitment dimensions, by issuing joint statements condemning violence, calling for a ceasefire and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. France has also given funding to the Palestinian Authority, supported a proposed resolution to delegitimize illegal settlements in the West Bank and initiated talks with regional leaders to mediate the conflict.

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<sup>359</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories — Attack on the Palestinian Red Crescent and Palestinian Civil Defense first responders, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/israel-palestinian-territories-attack-on-palestinian-red-crescent-and>

<sup>360</sup> Meeting between M. Jean-Noël Barrot and his Israeli counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/meeting-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-israeli-counterpart-3-apr-2025>

<sup>361</sup> Turkey — M. Jean-Noël Barrot's meeting with his Turkish counterpart, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/turkey/news/article/turkey-m-jean-noel-barrot-s-meeting-with-his-turkish-counterpart-3-apr-2025>

<sup>362</sup> France reaffirms that there will be no military solution in Gaza, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-that-there-will-be-no-military-solution-in-gaza>

<sup>363</sup> On 50 days of the aid block in Gaza - Joint statement on behalf of the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the UK (E3) (22 April 2025), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 22 April 2025. Access Date: 24 May 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2025/article/on-50-days-of-the-aid-block-in-gaza-joint-statement-on-behalf-of-the-foreign>

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isra Omar*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 24 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock, delivered a speech emphasizing Israel's right to self-defence and stated the importance of the two-state solution in creating peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians, as well as the need for an immediate ceasefire and release of hostages.<sup>364</sup>

On 27 June 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>365</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 28 June 2024, Minister Baerbock met with the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs Nasser Bourita to discuss bilateral cooperation and relations between Germany and Morocco.<sup>366</sup> The Ministers voiced their concern regarding the situation in Gaza and reached an agreement on continuing their efforts to achieve an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages and prisoners, and use the two-state solution as a groundwork for sustained peace. They also recognized the importance of the Palestinian Authority in bringing peace to the West Bank and Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>367</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister Baerbock and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>368</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and

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<sup>364</sup> Speech of Foreign Minister Baerbock at the Herzliya Conference 2024, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/herzliya-conference/2664674>

<sup>365</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

<sup>366</sup> Joint statement on the Moroccan-German Strategic Dialogue, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2665270>

<sup>367</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>368</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 19 July 2024, Minister Baerbock issued a statement on the situation in Gaza, where she called for a humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza and urged the Israeli military to uphold international humanitarian law in response to the displacement of the Palestinian civilian population.<sup>369</sup>

On 22 July 2024, the EU foreign ministers, including Minister Baerbock, met in Brussels to discuss the conflict in the Middle East.<sup>370</sup> Minister Baerbock shared her remarks on her recent visit to Israel, and the Foreign Affairs Council continued to discuss delivering aid to Gaza and recognized the importance of a sustainable ceasefire.

On 11 August 2024, Chancellor Scholz called for a ceasefire in Gaza, and the release of hostages.<sup>371</sup> The Chancellor urged a solution and called upon the involved parties to negotiate and work towards a ceasefire.

On 12 August 2024 Chancellor Scholz, French President Emmanuel Macron, United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>372</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 14 August 2024, the German government condemned the actions of Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir during his visit to Al-Aqsa.<sup>373</sup> The German government spoke against the actions, viewing it as a further provocation in already tense circumstances. This demonstrates an effort and commitment to navigating a peaceful solution to the conflict.

On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock made a statement reiterating the importance of a two-state solution.<sup>374</sup> The Minister advocated for the release of hostages and discussed the necessity of a ceasefire in order to attain the goal of a two-state solution and stated that a two-state solution is the way to end the violence and destruction occurring.

On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock departed for the Middle East to engage in political discussion with involved parties to work toward a humanitarian ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>375</sup> The minister, prior to her departure, made a statement reiterating that the purpose of the visit would be to promote peace through engaging in political conversations with surrounding regional actors, hoping to achieve mediation and the release of hostages.

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<sup>369</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock on the situation in Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2667428>

<sup>370</sup> Final EU Foreign Affairs Council before the summer focuses on Ukraine and the Middle East, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/-/2667446>

<sup>371</sup> Scholz calls for cease-fire in talks with Netanyahu, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 11 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/scholz-calls-for-cess-fire-in-talks-with-netanyahu/a-69913368>

<sup>372</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>373</sup> Berlin condemns 'provocation' after Ben-Gvir's Al-Aqsa visit, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-condemns-provocation-after-ben-gvirs-al-aqsa-visit/a-69943216>

<sup>374</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock prior to her departure for Saudi Arabia, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2674402>

<sup>375</sup> For a humanitarian ceasefire and the release of all hostages: Foreign Minister Baerbock travels to the Middle East once again, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/-/2674392>



On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock departed for the Middle East to meet with regional officials to discuss further supply of humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and facilitate discussion regarding a ceasefire.<sup>376</sup> Through regional partnership building, the minister aims to achieve goals that have been discussed, to achieve peace and to come to a solution through diplomatic means. These talks will aid in the progression of peace in the conflict while supplying aid and facilitating humanitarian pursuits.

On 19 September 2024, a Federal Foreign Spokesperson made a statement addressing the UN General Assembly's resolution regarding the International Court of Justice.<sup>377</sup> In addressing the resolution, the spokesperson reiterated the necessity of a two-state solution required for long lasting peace, and called for assistance from other bodies and organizations to aid in the establishment of a two-state solution. The spokesperson emphasized that the solution must come from Germany, as well as other organizations and states to bring about peace.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed the efforts of mediation and the work towards a ceasefire.<sup>378</sup> The statement expressed concern regarding the current situation, and firmly re-established their commitment to working to create a two-state solution. Unification of the Gaza strip under Palestinian authority was also emphasized as a point of urgency for all G7 members, and the members demonstrated support for the European Union's EUR40 million emergency package to Palestinian authorities, urging that multilateral action is crucial to achieving the two-state solution.

On 6 October 2024, Minister Baerbock wrote an article establishing Germany's commitment to bringing about a hostage release and bringing peace to the Middle East.<sup>379</sup> The Minister affirmed Germany's continuous efforts over the past year to release hostages, provide aid to the people suffering from the situation, and ultimately achieve peace in the Middle East.

On 10 October 2024, Minister Baerbock delivered a speech, during which she outlined the efforts to hold and maintain peace in the Middle East.<sup>380</sup> The Minister also outlined German policy goals were also outlined, emphasizing the goal of achieving long lasting peace and security in the region through multilateral discussion.

On 11 October 2024, the foreign ministries of Germany, France and the United Kingdom released a statement calling on Israel to urgently renew its correspondent banking services with the Palestinian Authority for at least one year.<sup>381</sup> If not renewed, it would halt cross-border trade, causing severe economic damage to the Palestinian economy and undermining regional security.

On 16 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz made a statement emphasizing the need for more humanitarian aid supplied to Gaza, as well as continued promotion of a two-state solution.<sup>382</sup> In the statement, the Chancellor

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<sup>376</sup> Germany's Baerbock to visit Middle East in cease-fire push, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024 <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-baerbock-to-visit-middle-east-in-push-to-end-gaza-war/a-70135085>

<sup>377</sup> Statement on the resolution of the UN General Assembly on the ICJ's advisory opinion regarding the legal consequences of Israel's policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territories, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2676262>

<sup>378</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting - Chair's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>379</sup> "7 October 2023 marked a rupture" – Article by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock in Bild am Sonntag, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 6 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/baerbock-bams/2679438>

<sup>380</sup> Speech by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock during the agreed debate in the German Bundestag on the first anniversary of the terrorist attack on Israel on 7 October, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2679832>

<sup>381</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 October 2023. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/e3-2682498>

<sup>382</sup> Government statement issued by the Federal Chancellor "We must fight for every job in the industrial sector", German Federal Government (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/government-statement-federal-chancellor-oct24-2315592>

assured that the German government remains determined in providing humanitarian aid, as well as reaching a two-state solution diplomatically and lawfully.

On 16 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz delivered a speech reaffirming a two-state solution and called for a ceasefire.<sup>383</sup> The speech touched base on the ultimate means of achieving peace, advocacy for a two-state solution, aiding in the advocacy and support for a two-state solution to bring peace to the region.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>384</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom, released a statement advocating for the reinstatement of Israeli-Palestinian banking services.<sup>385</sup> The Ministers recognized the harm the lack of renewal would bring to the Palestinian economy and the West Bank.

On 18 November 2024, the German government opposed the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell's proposal that EU member states suspend their dialogue with Israel regarding the free trade agreement between them.<sup>386</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>387</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministers of Germany, France, and United Kingdom issued a joint statement calling on Israel to extend banking arrangements between Israeli and Palestinian banks for at least an additional year.<sup>388</sup> The ministers stated that ending banking ties would jeopardize economic stability and security in the West Bank, Israel, and the wider region.

On 30 December 2024, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement calling on Israeli authorities to allow humanitarian aid, acknowledging the need for humanitarian aid in Gaza.<sup>389</sup>

On 3 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office restated its position on the Middle East conflict, advocating for a ceasefire.<sup>390</sup>

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<sup>383</sup> Scholz affirms Israel weapons exports in wide-ranging speech, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-scholz-affirms-israel-weapons-exports-in-wide-ranging-speech/a-70514053>

<sup>384</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>385</sup> E3 foreign ministries calls for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 Octobre 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/e3-foreign-ministries-calls-for-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian>

<sup>386</sup> EU ministers reject suspending dialogue with Israel, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-ministers-reject-suspending-dialogue-with-israel/a-70807176>

<sup>387</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>388</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (Berlin) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2687806-2687806>

<sup>389</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 30.12.2024, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 December 2024. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2692126#content\\_0](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2692126#content_0)

<sup>390</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on January 3, 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2692658#content\\_1](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2692658#content_1)

On 6 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office urged a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>391</sup> The office recognized the need for humanitarian aid and stated its continued efforts to aid the humanitarian situation in Gaza, noting Germany's involvement in the West Bank Protection Consortium, which protects Palestinian rights in the West Bank.

On 8 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office called for action to de-escalate the situation in the West Bank and recognized the Palestinian authority in the West Bank, emphasizing dedication to achieving peace.<sup>392</sup>

On 10 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement reiterating its commitment to a two-state solution.<sup>393</sup> The release of hostages and a ceasefire were emphasized as the current priority.

On 13 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement advocating for the urgent need for a ceasefire.<sup>394</sup> The office emphasized the importance of releasing hostages and ending the violence.

On 15 January 2025, Minister Baerbock urged both sides to adhere to the ceasefire agreement, urging the release of hostages.<sup>395</sup> The minister also highlighted the continued aid Germany will be providing through the UN organizations on site. The minister stated that a two-state solution is the only way to achieve peace.

On 17 January 2025, Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>396</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 17 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office restated Germany's position on the conflict, advocating for a ceasefire and the release of hostages while also emphasizing Germany's contribution to humanitarian aid.<sup>397</sup>

On 20 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office recognized the importance of the Palestinian authority in the reconstruction and development of administrative systems in Gaza.<sup>398</sup> It also discussed the prioritization of humanitarian aid, hostage release, and the stabilization of the ceasefire moving forward.

On 21 January 2025, the Government of Germany provided humanitarian aid to Gaza following the ceasefire agreement.<sup>399</sup> Germany has worked with the United Nations Children Fund and the United Nations World

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<sup>391</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 6 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025.

<sup>392</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 8 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2693272>

<sup>393</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 10 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2693886#content\\_1](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2693886#content_1)

<sup>394</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 13 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2694008#content\\_6](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2694008#content_6)

<sup>395</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock on the ceasefire in Gaza between Israel and Hamas, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/baerbock-waffenstillstand-gaza-2694636>

<sup>396</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on Ceasefire and Hostage Deal, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>397</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 17 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2695968>

<sup>398</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 20 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2696426>

<sup>399</sup> Ceasefire in Gaza – Germany continues its aid, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/nahermittlererosten/2627842-2627842>

Food Programme to provide food. Additionally, the German Red Cross provided medical supplies along with various organizations. Germany's donations to the Palestinian territories have increased by over EUR300 million since the beginning of the conflict.

On 22 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office reiterated its efforts to work toward the further release of hostages.<sup>400</sup> Additionally, the office advocated for the respect of the legitimacy of Palestinian security forces. This continued advocacy of both hostage release and recognition of Palestinian authority displays Germany's commitment to developing regional peace.

On 23 January 2025, Human Rights Commissioner Luise Amtsberg made a statement confirming Germany's support for rebuilding Gaza.<sup>401</sup> The commissioner emphasized that actions will be taken to ensure that the ceasefire promotes long-lasting peace.

On 24 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement calling on both sides to comply with the ceasefire agreement.<sup>402</sup> The office acknowledged the positive feedback being received from Gaza and urged both sides to respect the ceasefire agreements.

On 27 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office restated the G7's unified position advocating for a two-state solution and standing against the expulsion of the Palestinian population from Gaza.<sup>403</sup>

On 28 January 2025, Chancellor Scholz emphasized the importance of maintaining the ceasefire and supporting Gaza.<sup>404</sup> He expressed satisfaction with the release of hostages by Hamas and stated that attention should be paid to political and economic development.

On 29 January 2025, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement supporting the reinstatement of EUBAM Rafah.<sup>405</sup> The office promoted the reinstating of this mission to aid in the ceasefire's implementation, emphasizing its importance.

On 31 January 2025, Minister Baerbock and the foreign ministers of France and Britain expressed concern about Israel's law implementation banning contact with UNRWA.<sup>406</sup> The ministers called on Israel to ensure continuous aid, and reiterated support for the ceasefire agreement.

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<sup>400</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 22 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2697054>

<sup>401</sup> Human Rights Commissioner Luise Amtsberg on the ceasefire agreement in Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2697190-2697190>

<sup>402</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 24 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2697628>

<sup>403</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 27 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2697950#content\\_2](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2697950#content_2)

<sup>404</sup> "Standing up for a strong Europe and a strong NATO", Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/statement-scholz-frederiksen-2332552>

<sup>405</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 29 January 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2698458>

<sup>406</sup> E3 Foreign Ministers' statement on the implementation of legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/unrwa-2698548>

On 5 February 2025, Minister Baerbock made a joint statement with the other members of the G7, highlighting that the two-state solution remains the ultimate goal.<sup>407</sup> The minister added that freeing hostages remains a priority as movement into the second phase of the ceasefire agreement occurs.

On 5 February 2025, the Federal Foreign Office reemphasized their recognition of the Palestinian authority and the necessity of a negotiated two-state solution.<sup>408</sup> Furthermore, it also recognized Palestine's full security responsibility of Jenin and advocated against the movement of the Israeli army into Jenin.

On 8 February 2025, Minister Baerbock welcomed the release of more hostages, achieved in collaboration with Qatar, Egypt and the USA.<sup>409</sup> She followed by reaffirming efforts to release more hostages and bring peace to the region.

On 12 February 2025, the Federal Foreign Office emphasized its goal of a peaceful coexistence within a two-state solution.<sup>410</sup> While discussing the Palestinian authority, the office encouraged and regulated relations between Palestine and Israel, promoting the two-state solution.

On 12 February 2025, the Federal Foreign Office expressed concern regarding the current situation.<sup>411</sup> Moreover, the office emphasized the importance of hostage release, continued humanitarian aid and a sustained and stabilized ceasefire. The office also discussed the transition to phase two of the ceasefire and advocated for a two-state solution.

On 12 February 2025, the Government of Germany revealed its intentions to partake in an EU police operation in Gaza.<sup>412</sup> The operation aims to secure the border as well as administer humanitarian aid. This operation is a part of the EU mission EUBAM Rafah.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Baerbock and the G7 foreign ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>413</sup> Among other topics, the Ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 17 February 2025, the Federal Foreign Office outlined the G7 framework for approaching the administration and reconstruction of Gaza, as well as humanitarian aid.<sup>414</sup> The office emphasized the release of hostages and the stabilization of the ceasefire.

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<sup>407</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock on the future of the Gaza Strip, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2699054-2699054>

<sup>408</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on February 5, 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2699236#content\\_1](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2699236#content_1)

<sup>409</sup> Baerbock: release of hostages is grounds for hope, Federal Foreign Office Deutschland (Berlin) 9 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/news/baerbock-release-of-hostages-is-grounds-for-hope>

<sup>410</sup> Federal Foreign Office on the decision of the Palestinian Authority to abolish the martyr payment system, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2700202-2700202>

<sup>411</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 12 February 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2700238#content\\_4](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2700238#content_4)

<sup>412</sup> Federal Foreign Office on the Cabinet decision regarding the EU Mission EUBAM Rafah, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2700186-2700186>

<sup>413</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>414</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 17 February 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2701064#content\\_1](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2701064#content_1)

On 28 February 2025, the Federal Foreign Office made a statement regarding Israel's "Iron Wall" operation in the West Bank.<sup>415</sup> It urged the Israeli government to better protect civilians and acknowledged the Palestinian authority and their responsibility to combat terrorism in their area, promoting regional peace.

On 3 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office expressed concern about the decision of Israel to restrict humanitarian supplies.<sup>416</sup> It called on the government to allow humanitarian aid and emphasized the importance of a ceasefire and hostage release.

On 6 March 2025, Minister Baerbock and the Foreign Ministers of France and the United Kingdom stated continued support for the maintenance of the ceasefire, release of hostages and humanitarian aid deliveries to Gaza.<sup>417</sup> It urged negotiations to ensure lasting peace and welcomed international actors to support negotiations.

On 7 March 2025, Ambassador to Israel Steffen Seibert criticized Israel's halt to delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>418</sup> He added that the ceasefire must be maintained and that hostages must be released to achieve a solution.

On 7 March 2025, the Government of Germany welcomed the Arab League's reconstruction plan for Gaza.<sup>419</sup> The government also agreed that humanitarian aid and hostage release are crucial to long lasting peace.

On 8 March 2025, Minister Baerbock and the foreign ministers of France, Italy and the UK released a joint statement in support of the Arab-led Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza, recognizing its potential to significantly improve the living conditions of Palestinians.<sup>420</sup> They emphasized that any reconstruction efforts must be grounded in a solid political and security framework that is acceptable to both Israelis and Palestinians, ensuring long-term peace and stability, and affirmed that Hamas must no longer govern Gaza or present a threat to Israel.

On 10 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office expressed concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>421</sup> It called on Israel to allow the proper delivery of humanitarian aid. Further, it welcomed negotiations of a ceasefire and hostage release.

On 12 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office emphasized the importance of providing humanitarian support to Gaza.<sup>422</sup> The office called on Israel to make this possible, so that proper aid can be delivered.

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<sup>415</sup> Federal Foreign Office on the Israeli military operation "Iron Wall", Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2702604-2702604>

<sup>416</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 3 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2703064>

<sup>417</sup> E3 Foreign Ministers' Statement on Humanitarian Access to Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2704096-2704096>

<sup>418</sup> Seibert criticizes Israel's halt to aid deliveries to Gaza, Frankfurter Allgemeine (Frankfurt) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/ausland/steffen-seibert-gegen-stopp-der-gaza-hilfslieferungen-110341083.html>

<sup>419</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 7 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2704344#content\\_2](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2704344#content_2)

<sup>420</sup> Foreign Ministers' Statement: Arab Plan for Reconstruction of Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/arab-plan-2704386>

<sup>421</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 10 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2704758#content\\_0](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2704758#content_0)

<sup>422</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 12 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2705428#content\\_2](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2705428#content_2)

On 12 March 2025, Minister Baerbock outlined her plans to discuss the situation in Gaza with other G7 members at Charlevoix.<sup>423</sup> She emphasized the focus on humanitarian aid and long-term rebuilding of the Gaza Strip. She urged support for regional actors to support the reconstruction of Gaza.

On 13 March 2025, the Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid Luise Amtsberg commented on the suspension of Israeli electricity supplies to Gaza.<sup>424</sup> Commissioner Amtsberg stated the importance of humanitarian aid to the situation in Gaza. He furthered that a ceasefire, a hostage release agreement and humanitarian aid remain essential to peace and the two-state solution.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Baerbock and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed their support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>425</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 22 March 2025, Minister Baerbock issued a joint statement with the UK and French foreign ministers urging a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>426</sup> This joint statement reiterates their commitment to a ceasefire.

On 24 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office urged Israel to allow humanitarian aid to enter the region.<sup>427</sup> It stated that actions violating the advancement of a two-state solution should not be pursued.

On 26 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office called on the Israeli government and involved parties to negotiate a political solution and return to a ceasefire.<sup>428</sup> It emphasized its commitment to supporting humanitarian aid.

On 28 March 2025, the Government of Germany reaffirmed its continued commitment to humanitarian support for Gaza.<sup>429</sup> Germany increased its humanitarian assistance by over EUR 300 million since the beginning of the conflict, funding food baskets, emergency medical services and other humanitarian support items.

On 2 April 2025, the Federal Foreign Office called on both sides to restore the ceasefire and move into Phase 2 of peace talks.<sup>430</sup> They emphasized that long lasting peace will be achieved once a two-state solution is achieved.

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<sup>423</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock travels to Charlevoix for the meeting of G7 foreign ministers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/regelbasierte-internationale-ordnung/g7-g20/g7/2705164-2705164>

<sup>424</sup> Luise Amtsberg, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, on the suspension of Israeli electricity supplies to Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2705562-2705562>

<sup>425</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>426</sup> Joint statement by the Foreign Minister of Germany and the Foreign Ministers of France and the United Kingdom (E3) on Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2706822-2706822>

<sup>427</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 24 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2707220#content\\_0](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2707220#content_0)

<sup>428</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 26 March 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2707402#content\\_1](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2707402#content_1)

<sup>429</sup> Resumption of fighting in Gaza – Germany continues its assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2627918-2627918>

<sup>430</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 02.04.2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2711342#content\\_3](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2711342#content_3)

On 4 April 2025, the Federal Foreign Office expressed its concern about the violation of the ceasefire.<sup>431</sup> It reiterated efforts to provide humanitarian supplies and achieve another ceasefire, emphasizing its commitment to a two-state solution.

On 7 April 2025, the Government of Germany expressed significant concern about the re-escalation of the situation in Gaza.<sup>432</sup> Chancellor Scholz advocated for the release of all hostages and emphasized the need for humanitarian aid. He noted the urgency of the second phase of the ceasefire and warned against renewed escalation. These sentiments were furthered by Minister Baerbock, who welcomed the ceasefire and emphasized the need for a two-state solution.

On 7 April 2025, the Federal Foreign Office reiterated its commitment to finding a solution to the conflict in the Middle East.<sup>433</sup> It expressed concern over the hostages in Gaza and the humanitarian conditions people are facing.

On 22 April 2025, Minister Baerbock and the foreign ministers of France and the United Kingdom issued a joint statement condemning Israel's continued blockade of humanitarian aid to Gaza, which had persisted for over fifty days.<sup>434</sup> The ministers urged Israel to immediately allow a rapid and unimpeded flow of aid to prevent mass starvation and disease, especially among children. The statement emphasized Israel's legal obligation to permit aid, called for protection of humanitarian workers and medical infrastructure and reiterated support for a ceasefire and a two-state solution as the only path to lasting peace.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Germany advanced strong actions in all three dimensions by attending and hosting multilateral discussions supporting and advocating for the two-state solution, aiming to ensure the Palestinian Authority remains adequately funded and engaging in discussions to supply humanitarian aid and achieve a ceasefire.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Addrita Yousuf*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 27 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger

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<sup>431</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 4 April 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2711834>

<sup>432</sup> Germany stands by Israel – and is seeking to bring about a de-escalation, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/germany-stands-by-israel-and-is-seeking-to-bring-about-a-de-escalation-2228294>

<sup>433</sup> Statements by the Federal Foreign Office at the government press conference on 7 April 2025, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2712220#content\\_3](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/regierungspressekonferenz-2712220#content_3)

<sup>434</sup> Joint statement on behalf of the Foreign Minister of Germany and the Foreign Ministers of France and the United Kingdom (E3) on Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/e3-gaza-2714932>



crisis in Gaza.<sup>435</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 8 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss the ongoing situation in Gaza and the broader region.<sup>436</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reaffirmed Israel's right to self-defence and conveyed her hope for a sustained ceasefire and the release of hostages. Both Ministers concurred on the importance of increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>437</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>438</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 18 July 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the landing of the aircraft carrying over 60 tons of humanitarian aid in the form of non-perishable food, health and hygiene kits, medical supplies and tents in Amman, Jordan as part of its "Food for Gaza" program.<sup>439</sup>

On 18 July 2024, Minister Tajani wrote a letter to Israel's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Israel Katz, the Palestinian National Authority, Mohammed Mustafa, and Jordan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ayman Safadi.<sup>440</sup> Minister Tajani brought attention to the importance of achieving a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and aid for Gaza,

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<sup>435</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

<sup>436</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with the Prime Minister of Israel, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-prime-minister-israel/26193>

<sup>437</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>438</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

<sup>439</sup> Food for Gaza Initiative. Flight carrying 60 tons of humanitarian aid lands in Amman, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/iniziativa-food-for-gaza-arrivo-ad-amman-di-un-volo-umanitario-con-60-tonnellate-di-aiuti/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/iniziativa-food-for-gaza-arrivo-ad-amman-di-un-volo-umanitario-con-60-tonnellate-di-aiuti/)

<sup>440</sup> Middle East, Tajani writes to his three colleagues in the region: "Gaza cannot wait, the war must end", Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/medio-orient-tajani-scrive-ai-tre-colleghi-nella-regione-gaza-non-puo-attendere-la-guerra-deve-finire/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/medio-orient-tajani-scrive-ai-tre-colleghi-nella-regione-gaza-non-puo-attendere-la-guerra-deve-finire/)

as well as highlighted the cooperation between Italy, the Israeli government and Palestinian authorities to deliver the “Food for Gaza” initiative.

On 21 July 2024, Minister Tajani visited Brussels to attend the meeting held by the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union, to discuss the situation in the Middle East.<sup>441</sup> Italy confirmed its willingness to collaborate with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and the UN to continue advancing the “Food for Gaza” initiative.

On 25 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, where she affirmed Italy’s commitment to reducing regional tensions and expressed concern over the situation in Gaza.<sup>442</sup> Minister Meloni also emphasized the urgency of achieving a ceasefire along with the release of hostages and underscored Italy’s support towards the two-state solution through continuing US mediation efforts.

On 25 July 2024, the United Nations World Food Programme announced the funding of EUR12 million granted by the Government of Italy, to be provided to Palestinian populations in Gaza in need of food supply.<sup>443</sup>

On 6 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke over the phone with King Abdullah II of Jordan to discuss the importance of a peaceful resolution in the Middle East.<sup>444</sup> Both leaders reaffirmed their joint commitment to providing humanitarian aid through the “Food for Gaza” initiative and underscored the necessity of a ceasefire in Gaza as well as the release of all hostages.

On 6 August 2024, Minister Tajani signed an agreement with the World Food Program, through which his ministry would fund fifteen trucks worth over EUR2 million to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>445</sup>

On 8 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian engaged in diplomatic discussions working to prevent the escalation of regional tensions.<sup>446</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reiterated Italy’s support for a ceasefire in Gaza, as well as the necessity of humanitarian aid and the release of hostages as measures to attain lasting peace in the region.

On 12 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United States Prime Minister Joe Biden and United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer released a joint statement supporting negotiation efforts led by Qatar, Egypt and the United States to achieve a ceasefire

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<sup>441</sup> Partecipazione del Ministro Antonio Tajani al Consiglio Affari Esteri dell’Unione Europea, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 21 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/partecipazione-del-ministro-antonio-tajani-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-dellunione-europea-5/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/partecipazione-del-ministro-antonio-tajani-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-dellunione-europea-5/)

<sup>442</sup> Meeting with the President of the State of Israel, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-state-israel/26297>

<sup>443</sup> Italy’s humanitarian initiative Food For Gaza supports efforts to alleviate hunger in the Strip – WFP Press Release, United Nations World Food Programme (Rome) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/wfp-press-release-25jul24/>

<sup>444</sup> President Meloni’s Telephone Conversation with the King of Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-king-jordan/26432>

<sup>445</sup> “Food for Gaza”: Italy donates 15 trucks to the World Food Programme for the distribution of food aid to Gaza thanks to funding from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/food-for-gaza-litalia-dona-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-15-camion-per-la-distribuzione-di-aiuti-alimentari-a-gaza-grazie-a-un-finanziamento-del-maeci/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/food-for-gaza-litalia-dona-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-15-camion-per-la-distribuzione-di-aiuti-alimentari-a-gaza-grazie-a-un-finanziamento-del-maeci/)

<sup>446</sup> President Meloni’s telephone conversation with President Pezeshkian, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-president-pezeshkian/26450>

and hostage release deal.<sup>447</sup> The leaders stressed the importance of humanitarian aid and the necessity of maintaining peaceful and flexible mediation.<sup>448</sup>

On 13 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with Prime Minister Netanyahu over the phone to convey her support for sustainable peace negotiations.<sup>449</sup> Prime Minister Meloni endorsed Israel's right to defend itself, while also restating the importance of de-escalation efforts led by Egypt, Qatar and the United States.

On 6 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address at the 22nd G7 speakers' meeting, further emphasizing the need for humanitarian aid, the release of Israeli hostages, and a ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>450</sup> Prime Minister Meloni specified that a two-state solution remains a crucial step to achieving lasting peace in the region.

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a joint statement with Prime Minister Starmer, detailing their discussions about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and surrounding regions.<sup>451</sup> They agreed on the urgent need for political and humanitarian solutions, and Prime Minister Meloni highlighted the value of achieving a two-state solution.

On 20 September 2024, Italian food aid under the "Food for Gaza" initiative delivered two trucks of aid containing 49 tons of food to Gaza.<sup>452</sup> Minister Tajani emphasized that this initiative must ultimately be accompanied by military de-escalation and the release of hostages in order to achieve a lasting humanitarian solution.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement communicating joint support for efforts to achieve a ceasefire, the release of hostages in Gaza and increased humanitarian aid.<sup>453</sup> The foreign ministers restated their continued support for a two-state solution and their condemnation of extremist settler violence in the West Bank. They also stressed the importance of a contiguous state under the Palestinian Authority, in which the West Bank unites with the Gaza Strip.

On 24 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address at the 79th UN General Assembly, demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the release of all Israeli hostages.<sup>454</sup> Prime Minister Meloni

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<sup>447</sup> Joint Statement from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Italy on the Middle East, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024.

<https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-statement-united-states-united-kingdom-france-germany-and-italy-middle-east/26458>

<sup>448</sup> Joint Statement from the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 17 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/dichiarazione-congiunta-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-regno-unito-francia-germania-e-italia/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/dichiarazione-congiunta-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-regno-unito-francia-germania-e-italia/)

<sup>449</sup> Middle East crisis: President Meloni's telephone conversation with Prime Minister Netanyahu, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/middle-east-crisis-president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-prime-minister-netanyahu/26460>

<sup>450</sup> President Meloni's address at 22nd G7 Speakers' Meeting, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-22nd-g7-speakers-meeting/26522>

<sup>451</sup> President Meloni's press statement with Prime Minister Starmer, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-prime-minister-starmer/26571>

<sup>452</sup> Medio Oriente, altri aiuti italiani entrano a Gaza dalla Giordania, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/medio-oriente-altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-a-gaza-dalla-giordania/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/medio-oriente-altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-a-gaza-dalla-giordania/)

<sup>453</sup> Statement by Antonio Tajani, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy in his capacity as Chair of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting at the High-Level Week of the UN General Assembly, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/)

<sup>454</sup> President Meloni's address at 79th United Nations General Assembly, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-79th-united-nations-general-assembly/26659>

upheld Israel's right to defend itself, while also reaffirming Italy's support for the existence of a Palestinian State. Prime Minister Meloni also called for Israel to respect international law and advocated for the possibility of peaceful coexistence in the region.

On 2 October 2024, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations Maurizio Massari, addressed the UN Security Council, restating the urgent need for a ceasefire and the release of all hostages.<sup>455</sup> Ambassador Massari conveyed Italy's call for a two-state solution, in which Israel and Palestine can coexist peacefully within recognized borders.

On 7 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a statement commemorating the anniversary of the October 7th attack perpetrated by Hamas, condemning the massacre, and underscoring the importance of restoring peace in the region.<sup>456</sup> Prime Minister Meloni called for Israel to act in accordance with international law and expressed support for a peaceful resolution in line with the two-state solution.

On 11 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered a press statement at the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the nine Southern EU countries, or Med9 conference in Paphos, addressing the need for regional collaboration to coordinate humanitarian initiatives, as well as the importance of a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>457</sup> At this conference, Prime Minister Meloni met with King Abdullah II, where both leaders consolidated their partnership in providing humanitarian aid through the "Food for Gaza" initiative and discussed plans to improve the efficiency of aid deliveries.<sup>458</sup>

On 15 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address in the days preceding the European Council meeting, expressing concern for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and calling for a ceasefire and the release of all hostages.<sup>459</sup> Prime Minister Meloni condemned the regional instability brought about by Hamas and stressed that a two-state solution, in which both Israel and Palestine coexist peacefully, is Italy's priority.

On 17 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a press statement following the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, affirming the urgent need for a diplomatic solution.<sup>460</sup> Prime Minister Meloni maintained Italy's commitment to achieving a two-state solution, in order to begin a new phase of reconstruction in Gaza.

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni visited Jordan and met with King Abdullah II to discuss their continued collaboration in coordinating humanitarian efforts through the "Food for Gaza" initiative.<sup>461</sup> Both leaders agreed to continue collaborating with the aim of facilitating a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine.

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<sup>455</sup> Statement by Italy's Permanent Representative to the UN Amb. Maurizio Massari UN Security Council Plenary Meeting on "the Situation in the Middle East", Rappresentanza permanente d'Italia presso le Nazioni Unite New York (New York) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. [https://italyun.esteri.it/en/news/dalla\\_rappresentanza/2024/10/statement-by-italys-permanent-representative-to-the-un-amb-maurizio-massari-un-security-council-plenary-meeting-on-the-situation-in-the-middle-east/](https://italyun.esteri.it/en/news/dalla_rappresentanza/2024/10/statement-by-italys-permanent-representative-to-the-un-amb-maurizio-massari-un-security-council-plenary-meeting-on-the-situation-in-the-middle-east/)

<sup>456</sup> President Meloni's statement on first anniversary of Hamas's attack on the Israeli people, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-statement-first-anniversary-hamas-s-attack-israeli-people/26734>

<sup>457</sup> President Meloni's press statement at the Med9 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-med9-summit/26806>

<sup>458</sup> Med9 Summit: President Meloni meets with King Abdullah II of Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/med9-summit-president-meloni-meets-king-abdullah-ii-jordan/26779>

<sup>459</sup> President Meloni's address to the Senate ahead of the European Council meeting on 17-18 October, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-senate-ahead-european-council-meeting-17-18-october/26840>

<sup>460</sup> Statement by President of the Council of Ministers Giorgia Meloni, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/dichiarazione-del-presidente-giorgia-meloni/26848>

<sup>461</sup> President Meloni visits Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-visits-jordan/26854>

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a joint press statement with Prime Minister of Lebanon Najib Mikati supporting negotiations for the release of Israeli hostages, and expressing both leaders' demand for a 21-day ceasefire.<sup>462</sup> Prime Minister Meloni stood in solidarity with civilians affected by regional instability and reiterated Italy's commitment to providing humanitarian relief in Gaza and Lebanon.

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a press statement following her visit to Lebanon and Jordan, reaffirming the importance of working with regional actors to stabilize the ongoing crisis in the Middle East.<sup>463</sup> Prime Minister Meloni restated Italy's commitment to negotiating a ceasefire and the release of all hostages, in line with its continued support for a two-state solution.

On 20 October 2024, Minister Tajani travelled to Israel and Palestine to discuss diplomatic solutions in the region, meeting with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Mustafa, Prime Minister Netanyahu and Minister Katz.<sup>464</sup> Minister Tajani commented that the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar could lead to a restoration of peace, allowing for Italy to facilitate negotiations for a two-state solution.

On 21 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the Emir of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, as a continuation of meetings with other key regional leaders of the Middle East.<sup>465</sup> Both leaders discussed the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, and Prime Minister Meloni expressed support for the mediation efforts led by Qatar, along with Egypt and the United States.

On 22 October 2024, Italy hosted a Humanitarian Conference on the Middle East during the meeting for G7 Development Ministers in Pescara, where representatives from Israel, Lebanon and Palestine were brought together to discuss humanitarian assistance in the region.<sup>466</sup> Minister Tajani, who chaired the meeting, announced a contribution of EUR5 million in assistance to the Palestinian National Authority and EUR10 million towards humanitarian aid in Gaza.<sup>467</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>468</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

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<sup>462</sup> President Meloni's press statement with Prime Minister Mikati, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-statements-president-meloni-and-prime-minister-mikati/26862>

<sup>463</sup> President Meloni's press point following her visit to Jordan and Lebanon, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-point-following-her-visit-jordan-and-lebanon/26894>

<sup>464</sup> Minister Tajani's mission to Israel and Palestine, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/missione-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/missione-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/)

<sup>465</sup> President Meloni meets with the Emir of the State of Qatar, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-emir-state-qatar/26882>

<sup>466</sup> Lebanon, Palestine and Israel meet for the first time at the Humanitarian Conference on the Middle East, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/alla-conferenza-umanitaria-sul-medio-oriente-riuniti-per-la-prima-volta-libano-palestina-e-israele/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/alla-conferenza-umanitaria-sul-medio-oriente-riuniti-per-la-prima-volta-libano-palestina-e-israele/)

<sup>467</sup> Today in Genoa, Tajani delivers Italy's first donated truck to the World Food Programme for "Food for Gaza", Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/)

<sup>468</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

On 22 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with the President of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to discuss the need for regional de-escalation in the Middle East.<sup>469</sup> Prime Minister Meloni emphasized the need for large-scale distribution of humanitarian aid and both leaders affirmed their joint commitment to reaching a ceasefire in Gaza.

On 15 November 2024, Minister Tajani and Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs Gideon Saar engaged in diplomatic discussions where Minister Tajani condemned the October 7 attacks and emphasized Italy's commitment to Israel's security.<sup>470</sup> Minister Tajani expressed hope for facilitating peace negotiations and the release of hostages.

On 24 November 2024, Minister Tajani and French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot discussed efforts to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>471</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers, released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>472</sup>

On 27 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke at the Tenth Rome Mediterranean Dialogues conference, stating that Italy remains dedicated to military de-escalation and reaching a lasting resolution to the ongoing refugee and humanitarian crises in Gaza and surrounding regions.<sup>473</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reaffirmed the importance of a two-state solution, under which Israel and Palestine can peacefully coexist.

On 28 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered a virtual address to the 32nd Pontignano Conference between Italy and the United Kingdom, affirming both nations' shared commitment to de-escalating the conflict in the Middle East through international diplomacy.<sup>474</sup> Prime Minister Meloni specified that a two-state solution remains the key to achieving a peaceful and lasting resolution in the region.

On 13 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and reiterated Italy's support for efforts to end the conflict in Gaza and secure the release of hostages held by Hamas as well as the commitment to providing humanitarian aid, such as through the "Food for Gaza" initiative.<sup>475</sup> Finally,

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<sup>469</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with President Erdoğan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-president-erdo/26902>

<sup>470</sup> Telephone conversation between Minister Tajani and the Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs Gideon Saar, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/telefonata-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-israeliano-gideon-saar/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/telefonata-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-israeliano-gideon-saar/)

<sup>471</sup> Italy – Meeting between M. Jean-Noël Barrot, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and his Italian counterpart (Rome, 24 November 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/italy/events/article/italy-meeting-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-minister-for-europe-and-foreign>

<sup>472</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>473</sup> Rome Med Dialogues 2024, l'intervento del Presidente Meloni, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/27136>

<sup>474</sup> President Meloni's video message to the XXXII Pontignano Conference, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-video-message-xxxii-pontignano-conference/27156>

<sup>475</sup> President Meloni meets with the President of Palestine, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-president-palestine/27266>

Prime Minister Meloni also reaffirmed Italy's dedication to a two-state solution for peace between Israel and Palestine.

On 24 December 2024, Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani announced the entry of additional Italian humanitarian aid into Gaza under the "Food for Gaza" initiative, including food and medical supplies, with further aid shipments planned.<sup>476</sup> Minister Tajani also reaffirmed Italy's commitment to promoting peaceful coexistence within the area by supporting civilian populations and protecting minorities in Gaza

On 29 December 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced that the "Food for Gaza" initiative arranged for the delivery of 19 tonnes of food aid to the population of Gaza.<sup>477</sup> Minister Tajani emphasized Italy's commitment to providing relief to Palestinian civilians impacted by the humanitarian crisis and called for the implementation of a ceasefire deal that guarantees the release of all hostages.

On 15 January 2025, the Government of Italy announced its support for the ceasefire and hostage release agreement mediated by the United States, Qatar and Egypt, calling for this deal to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and the unconditional release of all hostages.<sup>478</sup> Italy asserted its intention to participate in the next stage of reconstruction in Gaza and expressed its desire to implement a phase of long-term political stability in line with the vision of a two-state solution.

On 17 January 2025, Prime Minister Meloni and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>479</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 20 January 2025, Minister Tajani visited Israel and Palestine to meet with Israeli President Isaac Herzog, Israeli Foreign Affairs Minister Gideon Sa'ar and Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Mustafa.<sup>480</sup> During this visit, Minister Tajani reaffirmed Italy's commitment to providing humanitarian assistance to Gaza during this period of reconstruction, as well as its aim to facilitate dialogue and mediation efforts towards a peaceful settlement.

On 22 January 2025, Minister Tajani chaired a meeting about Italy's "Food for Gaza" initiative to coordinate the next phases of urgent humanitarian aid to Palestinian civilians, which was attended by representatives of the Italian Red Cross, the UN World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization, among

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<sup>476</sup> More Italian aid enters the Strip with "Food for Gaza". Tajani to Cardinal Pizzaballa: "Support for civilian populations in Gaza and throughout the region, protection of minorities and Christians," Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 24 December 2024, Access Date: 9 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-nella-striscia-con-food-for-gaza-tajani-al-cardinale-pizzaballa-sostegno-alle-popolazioni-civili-a-gaza-e-in-tutta-la-regione-protezione-dell/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-nella-striscia-con-food-for-gaza-tajani-al-cardinale-pizzaballa-sostegno-alle-popolazioni-civili-a-gaza-e-in-tutta-la-regione-protezione-dell/)

<sup>477</sup> "Food for Gaza": Italian aid distributed again in the Strip, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 29 December 2024. Access Date: 9 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/food-for-gaza-nuova-distribuzione-di-aiuti-italiani-nella-striscia/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/food-for-gaza-nuova-distribuzione-di-aiuti-italiani-nella-striscia/)

<sup>478</sup> Statement by Palazzo Chigi on the agreement for a ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages held by Hamas, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/statement-palazzo-chigi-agreement-ceasefire-gaza-and-release-hostages-held-hamas/27496>

<sup>479</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on Ceasefire and Hostage Deal, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 17 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>480</sup> Minister Tajani's mission to Israel and Palestine, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/missione-del-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/missione-del-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/)

others.<sup>481</sup> This meeting follows Minister Tajani's mission to Israel and Palestine, in which he announced Italy's contribution of an emergency funding package worth EUR10 million to Gaza.

On 24 January 2025, Minister Tajani met with Portuguese Foreign Minister Paulo Rangel in Rome to discuss strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation.<sup>482</sup> There, both parties agreed on the importance of upholding the ceasefire and promoting reconstruction efforts, with the Food for Gaza initiative playing a key role.

On 27 January 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Saudi Arabian Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud in an effort to consolidate Italy's diplomatic relations with the Persian Gulf nations.<sup>483</sup> Both leaders discussed the ceasefire agreement in Gaza and the political efforts to implement a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine.

On 27 January 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced that the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union announced the reinstatement of EUBAM-RAFAH.<sup>484</sup> As part of this initiative, Minister Tajani, along with Defence Minister Guido Crosetto, deployed seven Italian *Carabinieri* to assist with the mission. This mission facilitates the transport of ill and wounded refugees out of Gaza and contributes to the wider effort to increase humanitarian aid to the region following the ceasefire agreement.

On 28 January 2025, the Government of Italy released a statement reaffirming Italy's continued efforts to provide humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip.<sup>485</sup> In addition to the "Food for Gaza" initiative, the Palazzo Chigi announced their collaboration with the Jordanian armed forces to provide humanitarian aid and the delivery of additional aid to the Port of Ashdod in the coming days.

On 6 February 2025, Minister Tajani, along with Minister of University and Research Anna Maria Bernini, visited Ashdod, Israel, to participate in the donation of 15 trucks of aid to the World Food Programme and 15 tonnes of emergency supplies to Gaza.<sup>486</sup> These deliveries, including water distribution tanks and winter supplies, highlight Italy's continued commitment to coordinating humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian population. During this visit, Minister Tajani also met with Israeli Foreign Affairs Minister Gideon Sa'ar to discuss the next steps of the ceasefire and hostage release deal.

On 13 February 2025, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced that fourteen Palestinian children with cancer had arrived in Rome to receive medical treatment as part of the wider "Food

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<sup>481</sup> Italian hospitals to host the first 21 Palestinian children with cancer. Tajani and Bernini chair meeting with Regional Authorities, FAO, UN World Food Programme, and Italian Red Cross, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/ospedali-italiani-accoglieranno-i-primi-21-bambini-palestinesi-malati-oncologici-tajani-e-bernini-presiedono-riunione-con-regioni-fao-programma-alimentare-mondiale-onu-e-croce-rossa/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/ospedali-italiani-accoglieranno-i-primi-21-bambini-palestinesi-malati-oncologici-tajani-e-bernini-presiedono-riunione-con-regioni-fao-programma-alimentare-mondiale-onu-e-croce-rossa/)

<sup>482</sup> Joint press release Italy-Portugal – Meeting of the Foreign Affairs Ministers of Italy and Portugal, Antonio Tajani and Paulo Rangel, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/comunicato-congiunto-italia-portogallo-incontro-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-italia-e-portogallo-antonio-tajani-e-paulo-rangel-alla-farnesina/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/comunicato-congiunto-italia-portogallo-incontro-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-italia-e-portogallo-antonio-tajani-e-paulo-rangel-alla-farnesina/)

<sup>483</sup> President Meloni visits Saudi Arabia, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-visits-saudi-arabia/27547>

<sup>484</sup> Foreign and Defence Ministers' Joint Communiqué – Italy participates in the EUBAM-RAFAH mission for humanitarian support at the Rafah Crossing Point, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 27 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/comunicato-congiunto-esteri-difesa-litalia-partecipa-alla-missione-eubam-rafah-per-il-sostegno-umanitario-al-valico-di-rafah/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/comunicato-congiunto-esteri-difesa-litalia-partecipa-alla-missione-eubam-rafah-per-il-sostegno-umanitario-al-valico-di-rafah/)

<sup>485</sup> Statement by the Palazzo Chigi on aid for the people of the Gaza Strip, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/statement-palazzo-chigi-aid-people-gaza-strip/27573>

<sup>486</sup> 15 Italian trucks delivered to WFP for humanitarian operations in Gaza, World Food Programme (Rome) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/15-italian-trucks-delivered-wfp-humanitarian-operations-gaza>



for Gaza” initiative to provide relief to sick children and their families.<sup>487</sup> The Government of Italy collaborated with Israeli officials to ensure the evacuation of these patients out of Gaza, and it remains engaged in cooperation with university hospitals to expand the scope of urgent healthcare treatments for Palestinian civilians.

On 14 February 2025, Minister Tajani attended the 61st Munich Security Conference, where he attended a meeting of the Quintet and Arab partners to discuss the situation in Gaza and the importance of consolidating the ceasefire and advancing reconstruction efforts.<sup>488</sup> Minister Tajani reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to humanitarian aid, highlighting the recent evacuation of Palestinian children with cancer for treatment in Italian hospitals.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Tajani and the G7 foreign ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>489</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 19 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Israeli President Herzog to discuss the importance of upholding the ceasefire and hostage release agreement, as well as Italy’s delivery of humanitarian aid through its “Food for Gaza” initiative.<sup>490</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reiterated Italy’s aim to contribute to the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip, and its commitment to reaching a long-term peaceful resolution in the region.

On 21 February 2025, Undersecretary Maria Tripodi emphasized Italy’s support for a ceasefire in Gaza and long-term reconstruction efforts, at the G20 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting.<sup>491</sup> Undersecretary Tripodi highlighted Italy’s humanitarian contributions, including the “Food for Gaza” initiative and medical treatment for Palestinian children.

On 21 February 2025, Minister Tajani visited four Palestinian children receiving treatment at the Regina Margherita Hospital, after being evacuated from Gaza as part of Italy’s “Food for Gaza” initiative.<sup>492</sup> Minister Tajani discussed including other kinds of medical care, such as prosthetic treatments, in the range of available treatments for Palestinian children through this program.

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<sup>487</sup> Palestinian children evacuated from Gaza arriving in Rome for medical treatment in Italy, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/in-arrivo-a-roma-minori-palestinesi-evacuati-da-gaza-per-essere-curati-in-italia/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/in-arrivo-a-roma-minori-palestinesi-evacuati-da-gaza-per-essere-curati-in-italia/)

<sup>488</sup> Minister Tajani’s mission to Munich for the Security Conference, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/missione-del-ministro-tajani-a-monaco-per-la-conferenza-sulla-sicurezza/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/missione-del-ministro-tajani-a-monaco-per-la-conferenza-sulla-sicurezza/)

<sup>489</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement>

<sup>490</sup> President Meloni meets with the President of the State of Israel, Isaac Herzog, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-president-state-israel-isaac-herzog/27709>

<sup>491</sup> G20 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Johannesburg under South African Presidency, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/riunione-ministeriale-affari-esteri-g20-a-johannesburg-sotto-presidenza-del-sud-africa/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/riunione-ministeriale-affari-esteri-g20-a-johannesburg-sotto-presidenza-del-sud-africa/)

<sup>492</sup> Minister Tajani visits Palestinian children at Regina Margherita Hospital in Turin, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/il-ministro-tajani-visita-i-bambini-palestinesi-al-policlinico-regina-margherita-di-torino/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/il-ministro-tajani-visita-i-bambini-palestinesi-al-policlinico-regina-margherita-di-torino/)

On 27 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi over the phone.<sup>493</sup> Both leaders discussed their desire to work towards de-escalation in the Middle East and the importance of beginning a new phase of reconstruction in Gaza that will create a long-lasting peaceful resolution.

On 8 March 2025, Minister Tajani and the foreign ministers of France, Germany and the UK released a joint statement in support of the Arab-led Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza, recognizing its potential to significantly improve the living conditions of Palestinians.<sup>494</sup> They emphasized that any reconstruction efforts must be grounded in a solid political and security framework that is acceptable to both Israelis and Palestinians, ensuring long-term peace and stability and affirmed that Hamas must no longer govern Gaza or present a threat to Israel.

On 14 March 2025, the Minister Tajani and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>495</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 17 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with King Abdullah II of Jordan to discuss their collaboration on humanitarian initiatives in Gaza.<sup>496</sup> Prime Minister Meloni noted Italy's appreciation for Jordan's role as a key partner and mediator in the Middle East, and both leaders acknowledged the importance of their collaboration on humanitarian projects such as the "Food for Gaza" initiative.

On 19 March 2025, the Government of Italy began an operation to evacuate a total of 18 Palestinian patients from Gaza to Italy in order to receive medical treatment in collaboration with the WHO and Israeli authorities.<sup>497</sup> This initiative places Italy as the fourth country in the world to have coordinated the evacuation of Palestinian children into specialized hospitals, which contributes to their goal of providing civilians in Gaza with access to humanitarian assistance.

On 27 March 2025, Minister Tajani held a meeting with Cypriot Foreign Minister Constantinos Kombos, where they discussed their collaboration on political issues in the Mediterranean.<sup>498</sup> Minister Tajani reiterated Italy's endorsement of the Arab reconstruction plan in Gaza and stressed the importance of a renewed ceasefire to promote peace and stability in the region.

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<sup>493</sup> Telephone conversation with President El-Sisi of Egypt, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/telephone-conversation-president-el-sisi-egypt/27764>

<sup>494</sup> Foreign Ministers' Statement: Arab plan for reconstruction of Gaza, , Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/dichiarazione-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-piano-arabo-per-la-ricostruzione-di-gaza/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/dichiarazione-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-piano-arabo-per-la-ricostruzione-di-gaza/)

<sup>495</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>496</sup> President Meloni meets with King Abdullah II of Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-king-abdullah-ii-jordan/27982>

<sup>497</sup> Another group of sick Palestinian children arrives in Italy from Gaza, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/da-gaza-un-altro-gruppo-di-bambini-palestinesi-malati-arriva-in-italia/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/da-gaza-un-altro-gruppo-di-bambini-palestinesi-malati-arriva-in-italia/)

<sup>498</sup> Meeting between Minister Tajani and Cypriot Foreign Minister, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/incontro-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-esteri-cipriota/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/03/incontro-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-esteri-cipriota/)

On 9 April 2025, Prime Minister Meloni had a meeting with Queen Rania of Jordan, where they discussed Italy and Jordan's cooperation in several areas, one of which was regarding the humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>499</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Queen Rania emphasized the importance of aid, citing their collaboration in the Food for Gaza and Sky Hope initiatives.

On 24 April 2025, Minister Tajani visited Egypt to meet with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty.<sup>500</sup> There, he reaffirmed Italy's support for Egypt's mediation between Israel and Hamas and endorsed the Arab Plan for Gaza's reconstruction. Additionally, Minister Tajani emphasized the urgent need for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Italy advanced strong action in all three commitment dimensions, by issuing joint statements calling for a peaceful resolution, hosting and attending multilateral conferences, engaging with key regional actors to promote de-escalation, providing financial contributions to the Palestinian Authority, and delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isra Omar*

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

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 3 July 2024, Japan released a statement regarding Israel's decision to legalize the five outposts in the West Bank, voicing Japan's concern over Israel's repeated settlement activities in the region.<sup>501</sup> The Government of Japan acknowledged how settlement activities jeopardize the feasibility of the two-state solution and urged Israel to implement measures to counter extremist settler violence.

On 10 July 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Kamikawa Yoko, met with Secretary General of the League of Arab States Aboul Gheit to discuss the cooperation between Japan and the League of Arab States.<sup>502</sup> Minister Kamikawa and Secretary General Gheit agreed to continue collaborating to promote peace and stability in the Middle East. Minister Kamikawa expressed her support for efforts to achieve a ceasefire and emphasized Japan's encouragement of Southeast Asian countries to support Palestine through the Conference on Cooperation Among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPD).

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<sup>499</sup> President Meloni meets with Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan, Italian Government (Rome) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-her-majesty-queen-rania-jordan/28163>

<sup>500</sup> Tajani in Egypt for Gaza, Libya, the Red Sea, and Economic Cooperation, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 24 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/04/tajani-in-egitto-per-gaza-libia-mar-rosso-e-collaborazione-economica/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/04/tajani-in-egitto-per-gaza-libia-mar-rosso-e-collaborazione-economica/)

<sup>501</sup> Announcement by the Government of Israel regarding settlements (Statement by Press Secretary KITAMURA Toshihiro), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00405.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00405.html)

<sup>502</sup> Meeting and Working Dinner between Minister for Foreign Affairs Kamikawa and H.E. Mr. Aboul Gheit, Secretary General of League of Arab States, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00420.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00420.html)

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>503</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 18 July 2024, Japan alongside the Palestinian Authority, hosted the working-level online meeting of the CEAPD.<sup>504</sup> The CEAPD aims to bolster Palestinian state-building by modelling East Asian countries' economic development and resources. Japan and the Palestinian authorities discussed the reconstruction of Gaza and the reformation of the Palestinian Authority and emphasized the importance of collaboration.

On 23 July 2024, the Government of Japan announced asset freeze measures per the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, on Israeli settlers exhibiting violence in the West Bank.<sup>505</sup> These measures aim to support wider and international efforts from other countries to bring peace to the region.

On 26 July 2024, Director-General of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau Toshihide Ando, attended the Japan-India Director-General Level Consultations on Middle East in New Delhi.<sup>506</sup> Mr. Ando and officials from India's Ministry of External Affairs discussed the situation in the Middle East, with a focus on the Israel-Palestine conflict. They voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and emphasized the need for facilitating diplomatic efforts in the release of hostages and aid to Gaza, agreeing to work towards bringing peace to the region.

On 15 August 2024, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, Yoichi Nakashima, signed notes to grant aid to Palestine through the World Food Programme.<sup>507</sup> The grant will provide JPY400 million to Ramallah to aid food scarcity in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Takeshi Iwaya issued a statement urging the release of hostages, reaffirming multilateral efforts to reach a ceasefire, and advocating for the supply of humanitarian aid from Japan.<sup>508</sup> The Minister also commented on Japan's commitment to the reconstruction of Gaza and reiterated its commitment to establishing a two-state solution, establishing long term peace in the region, providing humanitarian aid, and calling for a ceasefire.

On 9 October 2024, Minister Iwaya held a phone call with Minister Katz, reiterating the urgency for a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>509</sup> Minister Iwaya also expressed concern for the humanitarian situation and advocated for strengthening humanitarian support.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>510</sup> G7 ministers

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<sup>503</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on the situation in the West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>504</sup> Working Level Meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003348.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003348.html)

<sup>505</sup> Asset Freeze for Israeli settlers involved in violent acts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/me\\_a/me1/il/pressite\\_000001\\_00444.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me1/il/pressite_000001_00444.html)

<sup>506</sup> Japan-India Director-General Level Consultations on Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00450.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00450.html)

<sup>507</sup> Exchange of Notes concerning Grant Aid to Palestine "Food Assistance Programme (through WFP)", Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00485.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00485.html)

<sup>508</sup> On the Current Situation Surrounding the Gaza Strip (Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00630.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00630.html)

<sup>509</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00636.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00636.html)

<sup>510</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communiqué.html>

called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 24 October 2024, Minister Iwaya and Mohammad Mustafa, the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine, engaged in diplomatic discussions focused on the need for a ceasefire in Gaza, a two-state solution, and reforms of the Palestinian Authority.<sup>511</sup>

On 27 October 2024, G7 foreign ministers made a statement expressing concern regarding Israel's bill to ban activities by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in the region.<sup>512</sup> The statement highlighted that humanitarian aid at this point is crucial, and suspension of UNRWA activities would be detrimental to the conditions already being experienced in the region.

On 29 October 2024, Minister Iwaya issued a statement expressing concern about the Israeli legislation restricting UNRWA's activities in the region.<sup>513</sup> The minister expressed concern, stating that UNRWA remains vital to providing humanitarian aid, and fears the restriction will worsen the humanitarian conditions. He reiterated the urgency of providing humanitarian aid to the region, highlighting Japan's contributions to UNRWA.

On 25 November 2024, Minister Iwaya participated in a session on the Middle East at the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, where he voiced his concerns about the situation in Gaza and called for all parties involved to cooperate on bringing stability to the region.<sup>514</sup> He also emphasized the importance of assisting the Palestinian Authority.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>515</sup>

On 2 December 2024, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Fujii Hisayuki visited Egypt to attend the Cairo Ministerial Conference to Enhance Humanitarian Response in Gaza.<sup>516</sup> There, Minister Hisayuki called for a two-state solution, immediate humanitarian aid in Gaza, as well as plans highlighting long-term recovery, and expressed his support for the UNRWA in addressing humanitarian needs.

On 11 December 2024, Mr. Ando and Palestinian Authority Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Wael Zakout co-chaired an online meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development.<sup>517</sup> The discussion focused on efforts to address the necessary services and humanitarian needs in Gaza.

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<sup>511</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00671.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00671.html)

<sup>512</sup> Japan and others concerned over Israeli bill against UNRWA, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/10/28/japan/japan-unrwa-israel-bill-concern/>

<sup>513</sup> Legislation on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Adopted in the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) (Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00687.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00687.html)

<sup>514</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Overview of the "Middle East" session), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pc/pageite\\_000001\\_00676.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pc/pageite_000001_00676.html)

<sup>515</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>516</sup> State Minister for Foreign Affairs FUJII attended the Cairo Ministerial Conference to enhance the humanitarian response in Gaza, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Cairo) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00775.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00775.html)

<sup>517</sup> Working Level Online Meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00812.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00812.html)

On 26 December 2024, Minister Iwaya held a phone call with Israeli Minister Sa'ar, where he urged a ceasefire and the return of hostages.<sup>518</sup> Minister Iwaya continued to advocate for an environment receptive to humanitarian aid and expressed concern over Israel's interference with UNRWA's work.

On 16 January 2025, Minister Iwaya welcomed the ceasefire agreement, calling it a step toward improving the situation. He urged both parties to implement the agreement and expressed hope for lasting peace.<sup>519</sup> He reaffirmed Japan's commitment to humanitarian aid, reconstruction efforts in Gaza, and a two-state solution.

On 12 February 2025, Japan hosted an online session on Post-Ceasefire Gaza Rebuilding under the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development, which supports Palestinian state-building.<sup>520</sup> Co-chaired by Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ando Toshihide and Palestinian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Wael Zakout, the meeting included the World Bank, UNRWA and other international organizations. Discussions focused on Asian assistance for Palestinian reconstruction, reaffirming Japan's commitment to lasting peace.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Iwaya and the G7 Foreign Ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>521</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Iwaya and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>522</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 18 March 2025, the Government of Japan and the Government of Israel held a politico-military dialogue, where various government officials attended.<sup>523</sup> Japan expressed concern about the situation in Gaza, specifically regarding civilian casualties. Japanese officials re-emphasized agreements made during the ceasefire, which include hostage release and improvement of the humanitarian situation.

On 26 March 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Japan had received a medical patient who had been injured in Gaza.<sup>524</sup> Japan plans to receive more Palestinian individuals to provide treatment, as a response to a request from the World Health Organization and as a means of responding to the humanitarian situation. Further, Japan reiterated its diplomatic efforts to establish long term peace through a two-state solution.

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<sup>518</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 26 December 2024. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00881.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00881.html)

<sup>519</sup> Reaching an Agreement for the Release of Hostages and Ceasefire in the Gaza Strip (Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 1 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00926.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00926.html)

<sup>520</sup> Online Briefing Session on Post-Ceasefire Gaza Rebuilding for the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00987.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00987.html)

<sup>521</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement>

<sup>522</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement>

<sup>523</sup> Fourth Joint Foreign Affairs and Security Consultation (Pol-Mil Dialogue) between Japan and Israel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/me\\_a/me1/il/pageite\\_000001\\_00001.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me1/il/pageite_000001_00001.html)

<sup>524</sup> Medical evacuation from Gaza to Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01120.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01120.html)

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Japan advanced strong actions in all three dimensions by participating in multilateral discussions urging for the two-state solution while condemning violent actions and advocating for the release of hostages, providing and advocating for humanitarian aid, and urging discussion to achieve an immediate ceasefire.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Addrita Yousuf*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 June 2024, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Barbara Woodward at the UN Security Council, called on Israel to immediately allow humanitarian aid to enter Gaza through all crossing points.<sup>525</sup> Ambassador Woodward also urged Israel to ensure the protection of UN workers and facilities, emphasizing their critical role in supporting civilians. Additionally, she highlighted the need for a ceasefire to secure the hostages' release and scale up humanitarian aid, pushing for a two-state solution as the ultimate goal.

On 30 June 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office condemned Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>526</sup> The UK reiterated its opposition to illegal settlement expansion and urged Israel to hold accountable those responsible for settler violence. The UK emphasized the importance of achieving a lasting peace in the region through a two-state solution.

On 2 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward expressed concern over the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza at the UN Security Council.<sup>527</sup> The UK called on Israel to increase the flow of aid into Gaza, stressing the need for all crossing points to be reopened immediately. The UK called for a ceasefire to secure the release of hostages and scale up humanitarian aid efforts.

On 7 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer spoke with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, emphasizing his priorities of securing a ceasefire, facilitating the release of hostages, and increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>528</sup>

On 7 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu discussed regional security, with Prime Minister Starmer reaffirming the UK's commitment to collaborating with Israel to address

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<sup>525</sup> We urge Israel to let humanitarian aid enter Gaza through all crossing points: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-urge-israel-to-let-humanitarian-aid-enter-gaza-through-all-crossing-points-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>526</sup> Five outposts to be legalised in West Bank: FCDO statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/five-outposts-to-be-legalised-in-west-bank-fcdo-statement>

<sup>527</sup> Not enough aid is getting into Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/not-enough-aid-is-getting-into-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>528</sup> PM call with President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority: 7 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-president-abbas-of-the-palestinian-authority-7-july-2024>

threats in the region.<sup>529</sup> Prime Minister Starmer also reiterated his call for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid regarding the situation in Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and US President Joe Biden discussed their shared commitment to securing an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, focusing on the release of hostages and increasing humanitarian aid. Both leaders reaffirmed the need to make progress toward a two-state solution as a long-term goal for peace in the region.<sup>530</sup>

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and reaffirmed their support for the proposal advocating the release of hostages, an immediate ceasefire, increased aid to Gaza and a lasting resolution to the conflict.<sup>531</sup>

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>532</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 12 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Pledging Conference, reaffirming the UK's support for UNRWA's role in delivering aid and essential services to Palestinian refugees in Gaza.<sup>533</sup> She discussed the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid to address the ongoing crisis. Ambassador Woodward also acknowledged UNRWA's efforts in challenging circumstances and confirmed the UK's commitment to working with international partners to alleviate the suffering of civilians in Gaza.

On 14 July 2024, State Secretary for Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Affairs David Lammy visited Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories to advance diplomatic efforts for a ceasefire and peace in the region.<sup>534</sup> In meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, Secretary Lammy focused on the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase of aid into Gaza. During his visit, he also announced additional funding to support medical aid efforts in Gaza, aiming to treat civilians affected by the conflict. He reaffirmed the UK's commitment to a two-state solution.

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<sup>529</sup> PM call with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel: 7 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-7-july-2024>

<sup>530</sup> PM meeting with President Biden of the United States: 10 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-biden-of-the-united-states-10-july-2024>

<sup>531</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/07/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-united-kingdom-sir-keir>

<sup>532</sup> Israeli settlements in the West Bank: G7 joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g7-joint-statement-on-israeli-settlements-in-the-west-bank>

<sup>533</sup> The UK recognises the importance of UNRWA's mandate: UK statement at the UNRWA Pledging Conference, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-recognises-the-importance-of-unrwas-mandate-uk-statement-at-the-unrwa-pledging-conference>

<sup>534</sup> Foreign Secretary calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza on first visit to the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-calls-for-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-on-first-visit-to-the-middle-east>



On 17 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the UN Security Council, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>535</sup> She reiterated the need for the release of hostages and a rapid increase in humanitarian aid. She urged Israel to permit unrestricted aid into Gaza and reaffirmed the UK's support for UNRWA's work in the region. She condemned Israeli settlement expansions in the West Bank, stressing that such actions are illegal under international law and harm prospects for a two-state solution.

On 19 July 2024, Secretary Lammy announced the UK will lift its pause on funding to the UNRWA to expedite aid delivery in Gaza.<sup>536</sup> Secretary Lammy confirmed a GBP21 million allocation to support UNRWA's emergency relief efforts and essential services for Palestinian refugees. He reiterated the UK's commitment to a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a significant increase in humanitarian aid. He also emphasized the importance of addressing settler violence and illegal settlement expansion as part of a long-term solution for a viable two-state resolution.

On 19 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office issued a statement in response to the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion on Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>537</sup> A spokesperson confirmed that the UK is reviewing the Advisory Opinion. During his recent visit to the region, Secretary Lammy reaffirmed the UK's strong opposition to illegal settlement expansion and escalating settler violence. The UK remains committed to pursuing a negotiated two-state solution to ensure a safe and secure Israel alongside a viable Palestinian state.

On 26 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the UN Security Council, urging an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid.<sup>538</sup> She expressed concern over Israel's actions in Khan Younis and the Al Mawasi humanitarian zone, calling for compliance with International Humanitarian Law. Highlighting the UK's USD27 million support for UNRWA, she stressed the need for cooperation to ensure aid reaches civilians. Ambassador Woodward also condemned West Bank settlement expansion, reaffirming the UK's commitment to a two-state solution through diplomacy.

On 31 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward expressed deep concern at the UN Security Council over escalating tensions in the Middle East and their potential impact on regional stability.<sup>539</sup> She called for immediate restraint and emphasized that lasting peace can only be achieved through diplomatic negotiations. She reaffirmed the UK's commitment to Israel's security and reiterated calls for a ceasefire in Gaza to protect civilians, secure the release of hostages, and advance toward a two-state solution.

On 31 July 2024, Secretary Lammy and State Secretary for Defence John Healey arrived in Qatar to push for an end to the conflict in Gaza and advocate for regional de-escalation.<sup>540</sup> They met with Qatar's Prime Minister

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<sup>535</sup> The UK calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-calls-for-an-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>536</sup> UK to restart funding to UNRWA, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-restart-funding-to-unrwa>

<sup>537</sup> UK statement on the ICJ's Advisory Opinion on Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-statement-on-the-icjs-advisory-opinion-on-israel-and-the-occupied-palestinian-territories>

<sup>538</sup> Civilians in Gaza need much more aid: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/civilians-in-gaza-need-much-more-aid-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>539</sup> The UK is deeply concerned by the escalation of tensions in the Middle East: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-is-deeply-concerned-by-the-escalation-of-tensions-in-the-middle-east-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>540</sup> Regional de-escalation a priority as Foreign Secretary and Defence Secretary travel to the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regional-de-escalation-a-priority-as-foreign-secretary-and-defence-secretary-travel-to-the-middle-east>

and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, highlighting the UK's support for Qatar's mediation efforts and the need for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

On 2 August 2024, Secretary Lammy and Secretary Healey visited Israel to push for an immediate ceasefire and emphasized the importance of a two-state solution during meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, demonstrating the UK's commitment to de-escalation in the regions.<sup>541</sup>

On 9 August 2024, Secretary Lammy endorsed the joint efforts by Qatar, Egypt, and the US to resume ceasefire negotiations and secure the release of hostages between Israel and Hamas, aligning with the commitment to fostering conditions necessary for a two-state solution.<sup>542</sup>

On 12 August 2024, Prime Minister Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>543</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 15 August 2024, Secretary Lammy issued a statement on the restart of ceasefire negotiations and the release of hostages in Gaza, urging all parties to engage in good faith to protect civilians and promote de-escalation.<sup>544</sup> The UK committed to using diplomatic channels to achieve a ceasefire and create stability in the Middle East, reinforcing the two-state solution as the only viable path for peace.

On 16 August 2024, Secretary Lammy reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment by participating in a joint ministerial visit with the French Foreign Minister to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>545</sup> This participation emphasizes the need for a two-state solution and condemning settler violence in the West Bank.

On 18 August 2024, the United Kingdom joined diplomatic efforts with France to advocate for a ceasefire in Gaza and support negotiations aimed at securing the release of hostages held by Hamas, while also addressing the violence from Israeli extremist settlers.<sup>546</sup> This action highlights the UK's active role in facilitating talks between Israeli and Palestinian leaders, aiming to de-escalate tensions and create conditions for future peace talks.

On 22 August 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN James Kariuki called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, urgent humanitarian access, and the release of hostages, while condemning illegal settler

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<sup>541</sup> UK Foreign and Defence Secretaries push for peace and stability in the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 August 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-foreign-and-defence-secretaries-push-for-peace-and-stability-in-the-middle-east>

<sup>542</sup> Resumption of ceasefire negotiations between Israel and Hamas: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/resumption-of-ceasefire-negotiations-foreign-secretary-statement>

<sup>543</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>544</sup> Restart of negotiations on Gaza ceasefire: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-the-restart-of-negotiations-on-gaza-ceasefire>

<sup>545</sup> Ministerial visit to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories: UK and France foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-of-france-and-the-united-kingdom>

<sup>546</sup> It's never too late for peace in the Middle East – we must break the cycle of violence: article by David Lammy and Stéphane Séjourné, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/its-never-too-late-for-peace-in-the-middle-east-we-must-break-the-cycle-of-violence>

violence in the West Bank.<sup>547</sup> He advocated for the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of order, creating an environment conducive to peace talks.

On 29 August 2024, Mr. Kariuki called for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of aid workers in Gaza.<sup>548</sup> The UK ensured humanitarian access and de-escalation and advocated for conditions necessary to protect civilians and facilitate peace between Israel and Palestine.

On 30 August 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office expressed deep concern over the Israel Defense Forces military operation in the Occupied West Bank, calling for Israel to adhere to international law and de-escalate the situation.<sup>549</sup> The UK condemned settler violence and inciteful remarks, emphasizing the need for restraint.

On 2 September 2024, Secretary Lammy and Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds announced the suspension of around 30 arms export licences to Israel for use in Gaza due to concerns over potential violations of international humanitarian law.<sup>550</sup>

On 4 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and urged for a political solution to the ongoing conflict during a UN Security Council meeting.<sup>551</sup> This action emphasizes the UK's continued efforts to promote peace in the region and re-establish conditions conducive to advancing the two-state solution.

On 16 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for immediate humanitarian access in Gaza, condemned the killing of aid workers, and emphasized the importance of a ceasefire and political solutions during a UN Security Council meeting.<sup>552</sup> The UK dedicated to promoting peace and stability by actively supporting humanitarian efforts to alleviate suffering and advocating for a two-state solution as the only long-term path to peace between Israel and Palestine.

On 18 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward reaffirmed the UK's commitment by abstaining on the UN General Assembly resolution while calling for Israel to end its presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and stressing the need for the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority in line

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<sup>547</sup> Gaza has become the deadliest place in the world to be a child: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/gaza-has-become-the-deadliest-place-in-the-world-to-be-a-child-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>548</sup> The UN are running out of safe places for their staff: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-un-are-running-out-of-safe-places-for-their-staff-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>549</sup> UK statement in response to IDF military operation in the Occupied West Bank, August 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-statement-in-response-to-idf-military-operation-in-the-occupied-west-bank-august-2024>

<sup>550</sup> UK suspends around 30 arms export licences to Israel for use in Gaza over International Humanitarian Law concerns, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-suspends-around-30-arms-export-licences-to-israel-for-use-in-gaza-over-international-humanitarian-law-concerns>

<sup>551</sup> The parties must end the suffering by agreeing to a ceasefire now: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-parties-must-end-the-suffering-by-agreeing-to-a-ceasefire-now-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>552</sup> Humanitarian workers in Gaza must be allowed to carry out their work safely: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/humanitarian-workers-in-gaza-must-be-allowed-to-carry-out-their-work-safely-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

with 1967 borders.<sup>553</sup> The UK's ongoing efforts aim to promote a negotiated two-state solution and support for a sovereign, viable Palestine alongside a secure Israel.

On 19 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward delivered a statement at the UN Security Council, condemning the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, citing that such actions directly violate international law and undermine prospects for peace.<sup>554</sup> She specifically addressed how the UK views the settlement expansion as a barrier to achieving the two-state solution by altering the geographic and demographic makeup of the Occupied Palestinian Territories, which complicates the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank.

On 27 September 2024, Minister for Africa and Multilateralism Ray Collins addressed the UN Security Council, urging the release of hostages held in Gaza.<sup>555</sup> The UK emphasized the importance of fostering an environment conducive to peace talks and diplomatic resolutions, achieving long-term stability, and promoting a two-state solution in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer called for a ceasefire in Gaza and engaged in diplomatic discussions with leaders from Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, and the G7, advocating for a political solution to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.<sup>556</sup> The UK highlighted the need for a ceasefire to promote peace efforts, address the humanitarian crisis, and stressed the importance of international cooperation to support stability in the region.

On 9 October 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire between Hamas and Israel and urged Israel to take immediate action to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza and ensure the safety of aid workers.<sup>557</sup> Ambassador Woodward emphasized the importance of halting violence, ensuring civilian protection, and creating the necessary conditions for diplomatic negotiations between Israel and Palestine. Additionally, she reinforced the need for stability and humanitarian access, which are critical for long-term peace and the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 15 October 2024, Secretary Lammy announced sanctions targeting three illegal settler outposts and four organizations responsible for promoting violence against Palestinian communities in the West Bank.<sup>558</sup> By

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<sup>553</sup> The UK's explanation of vote on the UN General Assembly resolution on the ICJ's Advisory Opinion on Israel's presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uks-explanation-of-vote-on-the-un-general-assembly-resolution-on-the-icjs-advisory-opinion-on-israels-presence-in-the-occupied-palestinian-terr>

<sup>554</sup> The expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank is wholly unacceptable and illegal: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-expansion-of-israeli-settlements-in-the-west-bank-is-wholly-unacceptable-and-illegal-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>555</sup> PM United Nations General Assembly Speech: 26 September 2024, 10 Downing Street (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-united-nations-general-assembly-speech-26-september-2024>

<sup>556</sup> PM statement to the House of Commons on 7 October anniversary and the Middle East: 7 October 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-to-the-house-of-commons-on-7-october-anniversary-and-the-middle-east-7-october-2024>

<sup>557</sup> Israel must ensure that humanitarian workers can operate safely: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/israel-must-ensure-that-humanitarian-workers-can-operate-safely-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>558</sup> New UK sanctions target illegal outposts and organisations supporting extremist Israeli settlers in the West Bank, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-sanctions-target-illegal-outposts-and-organisations-supporting-extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-west-bank>

imposing these sanctions, the UK is directly addressing settler violence, which undermines peace efforts and the possibility of a viable Palestinian state.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>559</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 27 October 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement voicing their concerns about the potential revocation of the UNRWA's immunities, stating the harmful effects it would bring to the Palestinian populations in Gaza.<sup>560</sup>

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of the UK, France, and Germany released a statement calling for the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian banking services, outlining the harm the failure of renewal would bring to regional security.<sup>561</sup>

On 4 November 2024, Deputy Head of the UK Mission to International Organizations in Geneva Hema Kotecha, representing the UK at the 352nd International Labour Organization Governing Body, emphasized the importance of Palestinian economic recovery and urged Israel to remove trade barriers and reinstate work permits for Palestinians.<sup>562</sup> Ms Kotecha highlighted Palestinian economic stability as beneficial to both Israel and Palestine.

On 6 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer hosted King Abdullah II of Jordan at Downing Street to discuss the situation in the Middle East.<sup>563</sup> Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the need for ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon, reiterated support for UNRWA's essential humanitarian role and addressed concerns over settlement expansion and violence in the West Bank.

On 6 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward reaffirmed the UK's commitment to supporting UNRWA's critical role in delivering humanitarian aid and basic services to Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>564</sup> By urging Israel to meet its legal obligations as the Occupying Power and opposing actions that undermine UNRWA, the UK emphasized the necessity of safeguarding institutions vital to Palestinian welfare, fostering conditions conducive to a two-state solution.

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<sup>559</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>560</sup> Legislation against UNRWA under consideration by the Israeli Knesset: foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and-works-agency-for-palestine-refugees-in-the-near-east-under-consideration>

<sup>561</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for the urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-foreign-ministries-call-for-the-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services>

<sup>562</sup> ILO Governing Body 352: UK Statement on development cooperation in Palestine, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ilo-governing-body-352-uk-statement-on-development-cooperation-in-palestine>

<sup>563</sup> PM meeting with King Abdullah II of Jordan: 6 November 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-king-abdullah-ii-of-jordan-6-november-2024>

<sup>564</sup> We reject attempts to undermine or degrade UNRWA: UK statement at the UN General Assembly, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-reject-israels-attempts-to-undermine-unrwa-uk-statement-at-the-un-general-assembly>

On 12 November 2024, Minister Collins condemned Israel's restrictions on humanitarian aid to Gaza during a UN Security Council meeting, urging the immediate delivery of essential supplies and protection for civilians.<sup>565</sup> His statement addressed urgent humanitarian needs, advocating for de-escalation.

On 18 November 2024, Secretary Lammy condemned Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid to Gaza and announced the resumption of UK funding to UNRWA to address critical humanitarian needs.<sup>566</sup> He emphasized the importance of a strengthened and reformed Palestinian Authority in Gaza's future governance, reaffirming the UK's commitment to the two-state solution.

On 20 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward explained the UK's vote in favor of the E10 draft resolution on Gaza, calling for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and urgent humanitarian action to address the crisis.<sup>567</sup> By emphasizing the need to protect civilians and scale up aid, the UK demonstrated its commitment to creating conditions necessary for peace and stability, aligning with its vision for a two-state solution.

On 22 November 2024, Ambassador to the UN General Assembly Archie Young stated the UK's position on the illegality of Israeli settlements and condemned the expansion of settlements and settler violence in the West Bank.<sup>568</sup> He reiterated that altering the geographic or demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territories outside of a negotiated solution is unacceptable and called for a unified Gaza and West Bank under the effective control of the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire and criticized the UNRWA legislation passed by Israel's Knesset, which jeopardizes humanitarian aid in Gaza and health and education services in the West Bank.<sup>569</sup> She explicitly stated the UK's position against illegal settlement expansion and urged Israel to stop these activities, reaffirming the importance of a two-state solution.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>570</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministries of the UK, France and Germany issued a joint statement calling on Israel to extend correspondent banking arrangements for at least 12 months to ensure economic stability in

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<sup>565</sup> The worst case scenario is now playing out in northern Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-worst-case-scenario-is-now-playing-out-in-northern-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>566</sup> There is no excuse for Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/there-is-no-excuse-for-israeli-restrictions-on-humanitarian-aid-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>567</sup> We voted for this resolution as an expression of our determination to end this war, stop the suffering in Gaza and secure the immediate release of the hostages: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-voted-for-this-resolution-as-an-expression-of-our-determination-to-end-this-war-stop-the-suffering-in-gaza-and-secure-the-immediate-release-of-the>

<sup>568</sup> Expansion of settlements undermines peace and must cease immediately: UK Explanation of Vote at the UN Fourth Committee, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/expansion-of-settlements-undermines-peace-and-must-cess-immediately-uk-explanation-of-vote-at-the-un-fourth-committee>

<sup>569</sup> An immediate ceasefire and the immediate release of hostages is the best way to achieve peace: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/an-immediate-ceasefire-and-the-immediate-release-of-hostages-is-the-best-way-to-achieve-peace-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>570</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>571</sup> The UK emphasized the importance of maintaining financial ties to support the Palestinian economy and prevent regional instability, aligning with the UK's stated commitment to fostering conditions conducive to the two-state solution.

On 2 December 2024, Minister of State for Development Anneliese Dodds attended the Cairo Ministerial Conference to Enhance Humanitarian Response in Gaza.<sup>572</sup> There, she announced GBP19 million in funding for Gaza, including contributions to the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the World Food Programme. During her visit, Minister Dodds emphasized the UK's commitment to alleviating the humanitarian crisis, supporting Palestinian Authority reforms, and advocating for a ceasefire.

On 11 December 2024, Ambassador Woodward, delivered a statement at the UN General Assembly, emphasizing the UK's commitment to voting in favor of resolutions supporting a ceasefire in Gaza and backing UNRWA's efforts.<sup>573</sup> The speech called for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and advocated for a two-state solution.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Kariuki, addressed the UN Security Council, urging Israel to stop expanding settlements on Palestinian land, which is deemed illegal under international law.<sup>574</sup> He emphasized the UK's support for Palestinian civilians, calling for increased humanitarian aid, particularly through UNRWA. Finally, he emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire, and the release of all hostages.

On 3 January 2025, Ambassador Woodward emphasized the UK's USD16.5 million support for UNRWA to provide medical care in Gaza and called on Israel to protect civilians and medical staff in line with international humanitarian law.<sup>575</sup> These efforts aim to address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and support stability, a critical step toward advancing the two-state solution.

On 15 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer issued a statement welcoming the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas.<sup>576</sup> Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the urgent need for humanitarian aid in Gaza and the long-term goal of a two-state solution.

On 16 January 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy delivered a statement in the House of Commons affirming the UK's support for the ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas and highlighting the need for humanitarian assistance and reconstruction in Gaza.<sup>577</sup> Secretary Lammy emphasized the UK's role in diplomatic efforts to

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<sup>571</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services-e3-foreign-ministers-joint-statement>

<sup>572</sup> UK bolsters humanitarian funding for Gaza on minister's visit to the region, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-bolsters-humanitarian-funding-for-gaza-on-ministers-visit-to-the-region>

<sup>573</sup> We intend to vote in favour of these resolutions backing UNRWA and a ceasefire in Gaza: UK statement in the UN General Assembly, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-intend-to-vote-in-favour-of-these-resolutions-backing-unrwa-and-a-ceasefire-in-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-general-assembly>

<sup>574</sup> The UK calls on Israel to stop illegal settlement expansion on Palestinian land: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-calls-on-israel-to-stop-illegal-settlement-expansion-on-palestinian-land-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>575</sup> The deterioration of the healthcare situation in Gaza is completely unacceptable: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 3 January 2025. Access Date: 4 January 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-deterioration-of-the-healthcare-situation-in-gaza-is-completely-unacceptable-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>576</sup> PM statement on the Israel-Hamas ceasefire (London) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-statement-on-the-israel-hamas-ceasefire-15-january-2025>

<sup>577</sup> Middle East: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/middle-east-foreign-secretarys-statement-16-january-2025>

secure the release of hostages, increase aid delivery and support the Palestinian Authority in governance and recovery initiatives.

On 17 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>578</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 20 January 2025, Minister for the Middle East Hamish Falconer addressed the UN Security Council, calling for the full implementation of the Israel-Hamas ceasefire deal to sustain peace efforts.<sup>579</sup> He emphasized the UK's support for UNRWA, warning that impending Israeli legislation could undermine humanitarian aid in Gaza.

On 20 January 2025, Minister Falconer urged Israel to allow UNRWA to continue its operations, emphasizing its role in providing essential services to Palestinian refugees in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>580</sup> Minister Falconer highlighted the importance of sustaining the ceasefire and delivering humanitarian aid as necessary steps toward lasting peace.

On 21 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, emphasizing the importance of implementing the ceasefire agreement and ensuring uninterrupted humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>581</sup> Prime Minister Starmer reaffirmed the UK's readiness to support a political process leading to a viable and sovereign Palestinian state.

On 23 January 2025, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador James Kariuki reaffirmed the UK's support for UNRWA's essential services in Gaza, emphasizing its role in providing education and healthcare.<sup>582</sup> He reinforced the UK's commitment to regional stability, a necessary condition for achieving a two-state solution.

On 28 January 2025, Minister for Development Anneliese Dodds announced a EUR17 million humanitarian aid package to provide healthcare, food, and shelter for civilians across the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>583</sup> The funding supports critical infrastructure, including water and energy restoration, and reinforces the role of UN agencies, including UNRWA, in delivering essential services.

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<sup>578</sup> G7 Leaders' statement on ceasefire and hostage deal, Prime Minister's Office (London) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/g7-leaders-statement-on-ceasefire-and-hostage-deal>

<sup>579</sup> Gaza ceasefire "moment of hope", UK Minister to tell UN, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gaza-ceasefire-moment-of-hope-uk-minister-to-tell-un>

<sup>580</sup> We urge Israel not to endanger UNRWA's ability to operate: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-urge-israel-not-to-endanger-unrwas-ability-to-operate-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>581</sup> PM call with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel, Prime Minister's Office (London) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-21-january-2025>

<sup>582</sup> UNRWA plays a crucial role in delivering essential services like education and healthcare: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-urges-israel-to-ensure-that-unrwa-can-continue-its-lifesaving-operations-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>583</sup> New humanitarian support for Gaza as ceasefire allows operations to scale up, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-humanitarian-support-for-gaza-as-ceasefire-allows-operations-to-scale-up>



On 28 January 2025, Ambassador Kariuki urged Israel to ensure UNRWA's continued humanitarian operations and announced USD21 million in UK funding to support healthcare, food, and shelter in Gaza, aligning with the commitment to fostering conditions necessary for a two-state solution.<sup>584</sup>

On 31 January 2025, Secretary Lammy and the foreign ministers of France and Germany issued a joint statement urging Israel to uphold its international obligations and ensure humanitarian access by reversing legislation that restricts UNRWA operations.<sup>585</sup> Secretary Lammy reinforced its commitment to stability in Gaza by reaffirming support for UNRWA's role in providing essential services to Palestinian refugees and endorsing the ceasefire agreement.

On 2 February 2025, Prime Minister Starmer met with German Chancellor Scholz to discuss the importance of sustaining all phases of the Israel-Gaza ceasefire and reaffirming the necessity of a two-state solution.<sup>586</sup>

On 15 February 2025, Secretary Lammy and the G7 foreign ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>587</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 20 February 2025, Secretary Lammy, at the G20 Foreign Ministerial Meeting, reaffirmed the UK's support for a two-state solution by calling for the ceasefire in Gaza to hold, the release of remaining hostages, increased aid to civilians and a long-term governance and security plan centered on strengthening the Palestinian Authority.<sup>588</sup> Secretary Lammy reinforced the UK's commitment to regional stability through international law and the pursuit of peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

On 25 February 2025, the Ambassador Woodward addressed the United Nations Security Council.<sup>589</sup> She urged all parties to implement the January 16 ceasefire agreement in full and support the return of Palestinian civilians to their homes, and emphasized that reconstruction should be Palestinian-led with the Palestinian Authority at the forefront, advocating for sustainable peace, humanitarian access and Palestinian Authority led governance in Gaza.

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<sup>584</sup> The UK urges Israel to ensure that UNRWA can continue its lifesaving operations: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/unrwa-plays-a-crucial-role-in-delivering-essential-services-like-education-and-healthcare-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>585</sup> E3 Foreign Ministers' statement on the implementation of legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 11 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-implementation-of-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and-works-agency-for-palestine-refugees-in-the-near>

<sup>586</sup> PM meeting with Chancellor Scholz of Germany, Prime Minister's Office (London) 2 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-chancellor-scholz-of-germany-2-february-2025>

<sup>587</sup> Munich Security Conference: G7 foreign ministers' statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-g7-foreign-ministers-statement-february-2025>

<sup>588</sup> The Global Geopolitical Situation: Foreign Secretary's speech at the G20 in South Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-global-geopolitical-situation-foreign-secretary-speech-at-g20-south-africa>

<sup>589</sup> We urge all parties to sustain the ceasefire deal: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-urge-all-parties-to-sustain-the-ceasefire-deal-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

On 28 February 2025, Prime Minister Starmer spoke with Egyptian President El-Sisi to express support for turning the ceasefire in Gaza into lasting peace.<sup>590</sup> Prime Minister Starmer also emphasized that Palestinians must be allowed to return home, reflecting the UK's commitment to a two-state solution.

On 5 March 2025, Secretary Lammy joined France and Germany in calling on Israel to resume humanitarian access to Gaza and uphold its international obligations, affirming that humanitarian aid must never be used as a political tool.<sup>591</sup> This joint statement reinforces the UK's commitment to a two-state solution by promoting conditions necessary for peace and reconstruction.

On 8 March 2025, Secretary Lammy and the foreign ministers of France, Germany and Italy released a joint statement in support of the Arab-led Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza, recognizing its potential to significantly improve the living conditions of Palestinians.<sup>592</sup> They emphasized that any reconstruction efforts must be grounded in a solid political and security framework that is acceptable to both Israelis and Palestinians, ensuring long-term peace and stability, and affirmed that Hamas must no longer govern Gaza or present a threat to Israel.

On 13 March 2025, Deputy Head Kotecha delivered a statement at the ILO Governing Body supporting economic cooperation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>593</sup> Deputy Head Kotecha also urged Israel to reinstate revoked Palestinian work permits, reiterating support for the two-state solution.

On 14 March 2025, Secretary Lammy and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>594</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 18 March 2025, Deputy Representative Kariuki condemned Israel's obstruction of humanitarian aid into Gaza.<sup>595</sup> Deputy Representative Kariuki also urged a return to the ceasefire deal, reaffirming the UK's commitment to peace.

On 19 March 2025, Prime Minister Starmer spoke with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to commend Saudi Arabia's role in US-led ceasefire talks and urge the urgent reinstatement of the ceasefire.<sup>596</sup> Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the necessity of renewed negotiations, increased aid to Gaza and a two-state solution with a viable Palestinian state.

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<sup>590</sup> PM call with President of Egypt Abdel Fattah El-Sisi: 28 February 2025, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-president-of-egypt-abdel-fattah-el-sisi-28-february-2025>

<sup>591</sup> Humanitarian access in Gaza: E3 foreign ministers' statement, 5 March 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-foreign-ministers-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-gaza>

<sup>592</sup> Arab Plan For Reconstruction of Gaza: foreign ministers' joint statement, Prime Minister's Office (London) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-ministers-statement-arab-plan-for-reconstruction-of-gaza>

<sup>593</sup> ILO Governing Body: UK Statement on the occupied Arab territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/aid-should-never-be-used-as-a-political-tool-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>594</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement>

<sup>595</sup> Aid should never be used as a political tool: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ilo-governing-body-uk-statement-on-the-occupied-arab-territories>

<sup>596</sup> PM call with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia: 19 March 2025, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-crown-prince-mohammed-bin-salman-of-saudi-arabia-19-march-2025>

On 20 March 2025, Deputy Representative Kariuki reiterated at the Security Council that the January ceasefire agreement, supported by both Israel and Hamas, offered the best opportunity to secure the release of hostages and end civilian suffering.<sup>597</sup> By urging a return to that diplomatic deal, the UK reaffirmed its commitment to peace.

On 20 March 2025, Secretary Lammy addressed the House of Commons to condemn the breakdown of the January ceasefire and called for the immediate resumption of negotiations between Israel and Hamas.<sup>598</sup> Secretary Lammy reaffirmed that diplomacy and a two-state solution remain the only path to peace.

On 21 March 2025, Deputy Representative Kariuki reaffirmed the UK's opposition to any attempts to forcibly annex land in Gaza or expand illegal settlements in the West Bank during a UN Security Council statement.<sup>599</sup> This action rejects measures that undermine the two-state solution.

On 21 March 2025, Secretary Lammy joined his French and German counterparts in issuing a joint statement calling for an immediate return to a ceasefire and full implementation of a permanent peace agreement.<sup>600</sup> This joint declaration reaffirms that the conflict cannot be resolved militarily and emphasizes the need for a sustainable two-state solution.

On 22 March 2025, Prime Minister Starmer spoke with King Abdullah II of Jordan to commend Jordan's leadership and welcome the Arab Plan for Gaza as a step toward a political solution.<sup>601</sup> This bilateral engagement advances the two-state solution through regional partnership building.

On 2 April 2025, Ambassador Woodward reaffirmed the UK's participation in the Australian-led Ministers Group to develop a political declaration aimed at enhancing protection and security for humanitarian aid workers operating in Gaza and conflict zones.<sup>602</sup> This action aims to facilitate an environment conducive to achieving the UK's stated commitment to the two-state solution.

On 3 April 2025, Ambassador Woodward issued a statement at the UN Security Council condemning Israeli military escalations in Gaza and the blockade of humanitarian aid, urging Israel to restore humanitarian access and respect international law.<sup>603</sup> Ambassador Woodward emphasized that ongoing violence and humanitarian

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<sup>597</sup> The ceasefire deal was the best chance we had seen to return the hostages to their families: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-ceasefire-deal-was-the-best-chance-we-had-seen-to-return-the-hostages-to-their-families-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>598</sup> Middle East: Foreign Secretary statement, 20 March 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/middle-east-foreign-secretary-statement-20-march-2025>

<sup>599</sup> The UK opposes any attempt to forcibly annex land in Gaza or expand settlements in the West Bank: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-opposes-any-attempt-to-forcibly-annex-land-in-gaza-or-expand-settlements-in-the-west-bank-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>600</sup> Joint statement from the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the UK (E3) on Gaza, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <http://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-the-foreign-ministers-of-france-germany-and-the-uk-e3-on-gaza>

<sup>601</sup> PM call with King Abdullah II of Jordan: 22 March 2025, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 22 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-king-abdullah-ii-of-jordan-22-march-2025>

<sup>602</sup> We must strengthen international commitments to protect aid workers: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-strengthen-international-commitments-to-protect-aid-workers-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>603</sup> Aid workers should not have to risk their lives to help those in need in Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/aid-workers-should-not-have-to-risk-their-lives-to-help-those-in-need-in-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

restrictions undermine conditions necessary for achieving peace, directly reinforcing the UK's commitment to the two-state solution.

On 22 April 2025, Secretary Lammy and the foreign ministers of France and Germany issued a joint statement condemning Israel's continued blockade of humanitarian aid to Gaza, which had persisted for over fifty days.<sup>604</sup> The ministers urged Israel to immediately allow a rapid and unimpeded flow of aid to prevent mass starvation and disease, especially among children. The statement emphasized Israel's legal obligation to permit aid, called for protection of humanitarian workers and medical infrastructure and reiterated support for a ceasefire and a two-state solution as the only path to lasting peace.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The UK demonstrated strong action across all three dimensions by supporting the two-state solution through diplomatic visits, enforcing sanctions on violent settler groups, and consistently advocating for ceasefires and humanitarian access to protect civilians and maintain stability in the region.

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

*Analyst: Chloe Gergi*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 4 July 2024, President Joe Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu discussed efforts to achieve a ceasefire that would release hostages.<sup>605</sup> President Biden reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring Israel's security and expressed his support for Prime Minister Netanyahu's decision to bring in Israeli negotiators among the US, Qatar, and Egypt to mediate a deal.

On 10 July 2024, President Biden met with United Kingdom Prime Minister Starmer at the White House to discuss the cooperation between the US and the UK in global challenges.<sup>606</sup> The leaders emphasized the need for achieving a ceasefire that would return hostages and bring an end to the conflict while reaffirming their commitment to the vision of the two-state solution.

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>607</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region

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<sup>604</sup> Aid to Gaza: E3 foreign ministers' statement, 23 April 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 23 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/aid-to-gaza-e3-foreign-ministers-statement-23-april-2025>

<sup>605</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden's Call with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel, The White House (Washington D.C.) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/04/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-6/>

<sup>606</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden's Meeting with Prime Minister Keir Starmer of the United Kingdom, The White House (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/10/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-meeting-with-prime-minister-keir-starmer-of-the-united-kingdom/>

<sup>607</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Situation in the West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 11 July 2024, the Department of State imposed sanctions on three individuals and five entities under Executive Order 14115 for “undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank,” such that “all property and interests within or under the possession of the United States” would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>608</sup>

On 15 July 2024, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with Israeli National Security Advisor Tzachi Hanegbi, Israeli Minister of Strategic Affairs Ron Dermer, and a senior delegation from the Israeli interagency at the US-Israel Strategic Consultative Group.<sup>609</sup> Advisor Sullivan reconfirmed Israel’s right to self-defence and the leaders discussed the ways to reach a deal that would accompany a ceasefire and a release of the hostages.

On 21 July 2024, Director of the White House Gender Policy Council Jennifer Klein, Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer, and Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues Geeta Rao Gupta, held discussions with Palestinian and Israeli women leaders who are collaborating to promote peace and security in the region.<sup>610</sup> Leaders addressed the effect of the ongoing conflict on women and girls and highlighted the importance of sustained peace. The meeting reflects the US’s commitment to resolve the conflict in Gaza by means of a ceasefire and the release of hostages.

On 25 July 2024, President Biden met with Prime Minister Netanyahu at the White House to discuss the progress of the situation in Gaza and the deal that would bring a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>611</sup> President Biden emphasized the urgency of negotiations that would result in a ceasefire, the release of hostages and a lasting resolution to the conflict in Gaza. President Biden also stressed the need for aid and the protection of the civilian population in military operations.

On 12 August 2024, Amy Tohill-Stull, Mission Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), met with the mayors of Tulkarem, Jenin and Nablus to reaffirm USAID’s commitment to regional development in the West Bank.<sup>612</sup> They discussed the importance of youth empowerment and skill development in enhancing Palestinians’ lives.

On 28 August 2024, the Department of State imposed sanctions on an Israeli organization and individual “undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank.”<sup>613</sup> The Department of State acknowledged the harm the extremist settler violence brings to Palestinian civilians and stability in the region.

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<sup>608</sup> Designation of Individuals and Entities Contributing to Violence and Instability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-individuals-and-entities-contributing-to-violence-and-instability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>609</sup> Readout of the U.S.-Israel Strategic Consultative Group, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 6 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/15/readout-of-u-s-israel-strategic-consultative-group-2/>

<sup>610</sup> Readout of Meeting with Israeli and Palestinian Women Leaders, The White House (Washington D.C.) 21 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/21/readout-of-meeting-with-israeli-and-palestinian-women-leaders/>

<sup>611</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden’s Meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/25/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-meeting-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel/>

<sup>612</sup> USAID and Tulkarem, Jenin, Nablus, Halhul, Hebron and Dura Municipalities Reaffirm Strategic Partnership to Support the Palestinian People, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/aug-12-2024-usaid-and-tulkarem-jenin-nablus-halhul-hebron-and-dura-municipalities-reaffirm-strategic-partnership-support-palestinian-people>

<sup>613</sup> Sanctions on Israeli Entity and Individual, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-israeli-entity-and-individual/>

On 10 September 2024, USAID along with local farmers and the mayor of Jericho, Abdel Kareem Sider, signed 20 co-investment agreements totaling USD1.3 million under the Quality Technologies Revitalizing Agriculture Activity project.<sup>614</sup> The project aims to advance development goals and support communities in the West Bank and Gaza over four years to improve community livelihood and build community resilience.

On 11 September 2024, Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and Secretary General for the European Union External Action Service Stefano Sannino, reaffirmed the joint commitment calling for a prompt ceasefire in Gaza, the liberation of all hostages, the provision of humanitarian aid, and a feasible route to peace through a two-state solution.<sup>615</sup>

On 30 September 2024, the United States government announced nearly USD336 million in humanitarian assistance to Gaza and the West Bank at the 79th UN General Assembly.<sup>616</sup> The aid will expand support for emergency healthcare, food, nutrition, psychological services, increased access to drinking water, hygiene products and sanitation services for Palestinian civilians, including logistics and emergency shelter services to displaced Gazans.

On 1 October 2024, the Department of State announced the imposition of sanctions on two individuals for “undermining peace, security and stability in the West Bank,” such that “all property and interests in property within the United States or under the possession or control of the United States” would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>617</sup>

On 1 October 2024, the Department of State designated two additional individuals to be in violation of Executive Order 14115, or “undermining peace, security and stability in the West Bank,” such that “all property and interests in property within the United States or under the possession or control of the United States” would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>618</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>619</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

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<sup>614</sup> USAID Quality Technologies Revitalizing Agriculture Activity (Q'tra) Signs 20 Co-Investment Agreements to Enhance Water Efficiency and Resilience in the West Bank, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/sep-10-2024-usaid-quality-technologies-revitalizing-agriculture-activity-qtra-signs-20-co-investment-agreements-enhance-water-efficiency-and-resilience-west-bank>

<sup>615</sup> EU-US: Consultations between EEAS Secretary General Stefano Sannino and US Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state_en)

<sup>616</sup> The United States Announces Nearly \$336 Million in Humanitarian Assistance to Support Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-30-2024-united-states-announces-nearly-336-million-humanitarian-assistance-support-palestinians-gaza-and-west-bank>

<sup>617</sup> Sanctions on Two Individuals Undermining Peace, Security, and Stability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-two-individuals-undermining-peace-security-and-stability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>618</sup> Sanctions on Two Individuals Undermining Peace, Security, and Stability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-two-individuals-undermining-peace-security-and-stability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>619</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communiqu.html>

On 24 October 2024, Secretary Blinken, announced an additional USD135 million for Palestinian civilians during a joint press conference with Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, in Doha, Qatar.<sup>620</sup>

On 28 October 2024, USAID announced an additional USD45.5 million assistance aid to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network, addressing financial, technical, and operational challenges, reinforcing healthcare infrastructure, and bolstering the Palestinian Authority and surrounding West Bank communities.<sup>621</sup>

On 15 November 2024, USAID announced an additional USD230 million to assist reconstruction and development efforts in the West Bank and Gaza, to improve community resilience, humanitarian support and strengthen the private and civil sectors.<sup>622</sup>

On 19 November 2024, USAID announced the launch of seven programs aimed at promoting peace between Israelis and Palestinians, which will enhance the connections between organizations for peacebuilding, specifically under the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund.<sup>623</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>624</sup>

On 15 January 2025, President Biden announced the ceasefire deal reached between Israel and Hamas, halting the fighting in Gaza, allowing the entry of humanitarian aid and the release of hostages.<sup>625</sup> The deal was brokered in part by the United States, Qatar and Egypt.

On 17 January 2025, President Biden and the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>626</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 15 February 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio the G7 Foreign Ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>627</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

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<sup>620</sup> Blinken announces \$135M in additional US aid for Palestinians, Voice of America (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.voanews.com/a/blinken-announces-135-million-in-additional-us-aid-for-palestinians/7837681.html>

<sup>621</sup> USAID Provides an Additional \$45.5 Million to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/oct-28-2024-usaid-provides-additional-455-million-east-jerusalem-hospital-network>

<sup>622</sup> USAID Provides \$230 Million in New Funding to Support the Palestinian People, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/Nov-15-2024-USAID-Provides-230-Million-in-New-Funding-to-Support-the-Palestinian-People>

<sup>623</sup> USAID Announces New Programs to Foster Peace Between Palestinians and Israelis, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-19-2024-usaid-announces-new-programs-foster-peace-between-palestinians-and-israelis>

<sup>624</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>625</sup> Statement from Former President Joe Biden, US Embassy in Israel (Jerusalem) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://il.usembassy.gov/statement-from-president-joe-biden/>

<sup>626</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on Ceasefire and Hostage Deal, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>627</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement>

On 13 March 2025, US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff announced a new proposal to secure the release of hostages in exchange for a ceasefire agreement.<sup>628</sup> Envoy Witkoff also proposed extending the ceasefire through the holy month of Ramadan and the Jewish holidays, facilitating the flow of essential aid into Gaza.

On 14 March 2025, Secretary Rubio and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>629</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The United States demonstrated strong action in all three commitment dimensions by engaging in bilateral talks with Israeli, Palestinian and world leaders to advance the two-state solution and create lasting peace. The United States has also imposed sanctions on individuals that compromise peace and has provided aid to rebuilding Gaza. The United States has also concentrated its diplomacy on ceasefire negotiations.

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

*Analyst: Blair Shang*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 23 June 2024, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič issued a statement expressing deep concern over the humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>630</sup> They warned that the delivery of essential aid has become nearly impossible due to ongoing military operations and the breakdown of law and order. The European Union reiterated its call for all parties to uphold international legal obligations, protect civilians, provide a safe environment for humanitarian work, and grant unimpeded access to aid. High Representative Borrell and Commissioner Lenarčič also urged for an immediate ceasefire and the unconditional release of hostages.

On 27 June 2024, the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>631</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of

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<sup>628</sup> US envoy gives Israel and Hamas new proposal to extend Gaza ceasefire, says source, CNN News (Atlanta) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/03/13/middleeast/us-israel-hamas-new-gaza-ceasefire-proposal-intl-latam/index.html>

<sup>629</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix (Ottawa) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/joint-statement-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-in-charlevoix.html>

<sup>630</sup> Statement on the humanitarian situation in Gaza and access constraints by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Le, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 23 June 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/statement-humanitarian-situation-gaza-and-access-constraints-high-representativevice-president-josep-2024-06-23\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/statement-humanitarian-situation-gaza-and-access-constraints-high-representativevice-president-josep-2024-06-23_en)

<sup>631</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>



Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 27 June 2024, the European Commission and Belgium coordinated a new shipment of humanitarian aid from Brussels to Gaza via Jordan.<sup>632</sup> The 240-tonne shipment, organized by the Brussels-based charity Human Smile, includes essential supplies such as hygiene items, sleeping bags, baby milk powder, and other assistance for Palestinians in need. This effort adds to over 2,600 metric tonnes of supplies already sent via 55 EU Humanitarian Air Bridge flights since the crisis began. The EU has provided over EUR1.1 billion in humanitarian aid to Palestinians since 2000, with more than EUR290 million allocated in 2023 and 2024 alone.

On 28 June 2024, the Council of the European Union added six individuals and three entities to its sanctions list for financing or supporting the violent actions of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ).<sup>633</sup> Among those listed are three companies linked to Hamas' financial operations, which were used as front companies to facilitate financial flows. These listings subject those involved to asset freezes and prohibit the provision of funds or economic resources to them. EU efforts include the sanctions aimed at holding those who enable violent actions by Hamas and PIJ accountable.

On 5 July 2024, High Representative Borrell and Commissioner Lenarčič expressed deep concern over the Israeli army's orders to evacuate 250,000 civilians from Khan Younis in southern Gaza, warning that these forced evacuations are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis for nearly 1.9 million displaced Gazans.<sup>634</sup> The EU stressed that evacuations must comply with International Humanitarian Law, ensuring safety and proper shelter. Israel must guarantee that displaced individuals can return home after the conflict and access necessary services. The EU reiterated the need for an immediate ceasefire to facilitate humanitarian aid and called for the respect of International Court of Justice orders and the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers including released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>635</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>636</sup>

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<sup>632</sup> Gaza: The EU and Belgium team up to deliver humanitarian supplies amid the ongoing crisis, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/gaza-eu-and-belgium-team-deliver-humanitarian-supplies-amid-ongoing-crisis-2024-06-27\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/gaza-eu-and-belgium-team-deliver-humanitarian-supplies-amid-ongoing-crisis-2024-06-27_en)

<sup>633</sup> Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Council adds six individuals and three entities to the sanctions list, European Council (Brussels) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/28/hamas-and-palestinian-islamic-jihad-council-adds-six-individuals-and-three-entities-to-the-sanctions-list/>

<sup>634</sup> Joint statement by the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič on military action in Khan Younis, Gaza, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/joint-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-commissioner-crisis-management-2024-07-05\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/joint-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-commissioner-crisis-management-2024-07-05_en)

<sup>635</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Situation in the West Bank, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240711-westbank.html>

<sup>636</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 15 July 2024, the European Union and Jordan reaffirmed their partnership during the 15th Association Council meeting in Brussels.<sup>637</sup> Both parties emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to end the war and the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe. They expressed support for the US ceasefire proposal. Further, the EU and Jordan highlighted the importance of delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza, with the EU confirming its readiness to support aid efforts via the Jordanian corridor. Both sides stressed that the only path to a just and lasting resolution of the Middle East conflict is through a two-state solution, leading to the establishment of an independent, sovereign Palestinian state alongside Israel, in accordance with international law and UN Security Council resolutions.

On 19 July 2024, the European Commission and the Palestinian Authority signed a Letter of Intent outlining a strategy to address the financial challenges facing the Palestinian Authority and the broader Palestinian economy, which have been worsened by the war in Gaza.<sup>638</sup> The strategy focuses on stabilizing the Palestinian Authority and creating conditions for economic recovery and resilience in the West Bank, with future plans to support Gaza's reconstruction. As a first step, the EU will provide EUR400 million in emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority. The program will focus on modernizing the Palestinian administration, improving governance, fighting corruption, and strengthening the economy.

On 24 July 2024, the European Commission coordinated its first medical evacuation operation, transferring 16 Palestinian children and their family members from Egypt to Spain.<sup>639</sup> The EU has been facilitating these evacuations following a request from the World Health Organization (WHO) for urgent medical care for Palestinian children. So far, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania, Slovakia, and Spain have offered assistance with treatment and transportation for these patients. The Emergency Response Coordination Centre is working with EU health and consular services, WHO, and other partners to continue these operations in the coming weeks. The EU has also allocated EUR32.5 million in 2024 to support health-related humanitarian efforts in Gaza.

On 31 July 2024, the European Commission disbursed the first installment of EUR150 million from its EUR400 million emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority, following an agreement previously made on 19 July.<sup>640</sup> This instalment includes EUR58 million in grants for civil servants' salaries and vulnerable families, and EUR92 million from the European Investment Bank for the Palestine Monetary Authority. Future payments depend on the Palestinian Authority's reform progress, with a long-term program to achieve

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<sup>637</sup> Joint press statement – European Union and Jordan confirm ever stronger partnership at their 15th Association Council, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/joint-press-statement-european-union-and-jordan-confirm-ever-stronger-partnership-at-their-15th-association-council/>

<sup>638</sup> The European Commission and the Palestinian Authority agree on emergency financial support and the principles for a recovery and resilience programme, European Commission (Brussels) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3823](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3823)

<sup>639</sup> EU's first medical evacuation operation of Palestinians transfers children from Egypt to Spain, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eus-first-medical-evacuation-operation-palestinians-transfers-children-egypt-spain-2024-07-24\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eus-first-medical-evacuation-operation-palestinians-transfers-children-egypt-spain-2024-07-24_en)

<sup>640</sup> EU proceeds with first tranche of short-term emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-proceeds-first-tranche-short-term-emergency-financial-support-palestinian-authority-2024-07-31\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-proceeds-first-tranche-short-term-emergency-financial-support-palestinian-authority-2024-07-31_en)

budgetary stability by 2026 proposed for September. The EU remains the largest provider of external assistance to the Palestinians, with nearly EUR1.2 billion allocated for 2021-2024.

On 20 August 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the Arms Trade Treaty during the 10th Conference of State Parties, expressing the need for regional stability, upholding Israel's right to self-defence, but per international humanitarian law and abiding by the orders of the International Court of Justice.<sup>641</sup>

On 9 September 2024, High Representative Borrell voiced support for the Palestinian people in a press conference at the Rafah Crossing, urging the need for a political solution towards peace, while condemning the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>642</sup>

On 10 September 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israel-Palestine Conflict at the League of Arab States, condemning all parties that are counterproductive to a political settlement, the need to bolster the Palestinian Authority and Israeli Civil Society and a common approach towards a balance of power on realistic conditions for the two-state solution.<sup>643</sup>

On 10 September 2024, High Representative Borrell met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty reaffirming support towards a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a political solution in accordance with the two-state solution.<sup>644</sup>

On 11 September 2024, Secretary General for the European Union External Action Service Stefano Sannino United States Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, reaffirmed the joint commitment calling for a prompt ceasefire in Gaza, the liberation of all hostages, the provision of humanitarian aid, and a feasible route to peace through a two-state solution.<sup>645</sup>

On 15 September 2024, High Representative Borrell voiced support for Queen Rania of Jordan on the need for international law; autonomy, dignity, and human rights; justice; mutual security; and countering extremism, as the five principles of lasting peace in the Middle East.<sup>646</sup> He also stressed the need for action and not words, reiterating the stance of European leaders on the illegality of Israeli settlements and its responsibility as the occupying power in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 17 September 2024, the European Union signed a EUR6 million grant agreement together with Germany and the Palestinian Authority to establish twelve new social and public infrastructures in Area C of the West

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<sup>641</sup> ATT CSP10 EU General Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 20 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/att-csp10-eu-general-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/att-csp10-eu-general-statement_en)

<sup>642</sup> Egypt: Press statement by High Representative/Vice-president Joseph Borrell at the Rafah Border Crossing, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-rafah-border-crossing\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-rafah-border-crossing_en)

<sup>643</sup> League of Arab States: Opening remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell at the Ministerial Meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024 [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/league-arab-states-opening-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ministerial\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/league-arab-states-opening-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ministerial_en)

<sup>644</sup> Egypt: Press remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell after his meeting with Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 September 2024. Access date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-his-meeting-foreign\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-his-meeting-foreign_en)

<sup>645</sup> EU-US: Consultations between EEAS Secretary General Stefano Sannino and US Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state_en)

<sup>646</sup> Ukraine/Middle East wars: International law is a must—not a maybe, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukrainemiddle-east-wars-international-law-must%E2%80%94not-maybe\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukrainemiddle-east-wars-international-law-must%E2%80%94not-maybe_en)

Bank, promoting economic development and improving the quality of life for Palestinian communities, while bolstering the presence and support of the Palestinian Authority.<sup>647</sup>

On 19 September 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the 68th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference, on the immediate need to implement UN Security Council Resolution 2735 towards a ceasefire, dedicating efforts toward a durable and sustainable peace aligned with the two-state solution, and protecting all civilian lives through the distribution of humanitarian aid.<sup>648</sup>

On 24 September 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its support for the two-state solution at the United Nations Human Rights Council, advocating for enduring peace on the premise of an “independent, democratic, contiguous, sovereign, and viable state of Palestine.”<sup>649</sup>

On 26 September 2024, the European Union announced the formation of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, highlighting the importance of united efforts toward peace through diplomatic initiatives, the release of hostages, and adopting the two-state solution.<sup>650</sup>

On 27 September 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict at the United Nations Security Council, advocating for a ceasefire in accordance with the two-state solution and resolving the humanitarian crisis.<sup>651</sup>

On 7 October 2024, the European Union, on the one-year anniversary of the Hamas attack, condemned the terrorist attack by Hamas, supporting all efforts to alleviate the humanitarian crisis and suffering in Gaza, advocating for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a political solution in accordance with the two-state solution.<sup>652</sup>

On 8 October 2024, Ambassador to the United Nations Hedda Samson, made a statement at the UN General Assembly 1st Committee of the 79th Session reiterating the necessity of a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a comprehensive humanitarian response in Gaza, while denouncing Hamas’s terrorist attacks, supporting Israel’s right to self-defence, but in accordance with international humanitarian law and the orders of the International Court of Justice.<sup>653</sup>

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<sup>647</sup> The European Union, Germany and Palestinian Authority sign a new agreement to implement twelve projects in Area C, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-germany-and-palestinian-authority-sign-new-agreement-implement-twelve-projects-area-c\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-germany-and-palestinian-authority-sign-new-agreement-implement-twelve-projects-area-c_en)

<sup>648</sup> EU Statement on the Situation in the Middle East at the 68th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference, 19 September 2024, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-situation-middle-east-68th-regular-session-iaea-general-conference-19-september-2024\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-situation-middle-east-68th-regular-session-iaea-general-conference-19-september-2024_en)

<sup>649</sup> HRC57 - Item 4: General debate on human rights situations that require the Council’s attention, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/hrc57-item-4-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-council%E2%80%99s-attention\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/hrc57-item-4-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-council%E2%80%99s-attention_en)

<sup>650</sup> Israel/Palestine: Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution announced in the UNGA margins, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-global-alliance-implementation-two-state-solution-announced-unga-margins\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-global-alliance-implementation-two-state-solution-announced-unga-margins_en)

<sup>651</sup> Middle East: Speech by the High Representative at the UN Security Council meeting on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representative-un-security-council-meeting-situation-occupied-palestinian\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representative-un-security-council-meeting-situation-occupied-palestinian_en)

<sup>652</sup> Israel: Statement by the High Representative one year after the 7th October terrorist attacks, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israel-statement-high-representative-one-year-after-7th-october-terrorist-attacks\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israel-statement-high-representative-one-year-after-7th-october-terrorist-attacks_en)

<sup>653</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 1st Committee: General Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-1st-committee-general-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-1st-committee-general-statement_en)

On 9 October 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the 1509th Meeting of the Committee of Ministers, condemning acts of terror and civilian casualties, supporting the actions of the UN and United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and committing towards enduring peace in guidance with the two-state solution.<sup>654</sup>

On 10 October 2024, Ambassador to the United Nations Stavros Lambrinidis, reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israeli-Palestine conflict based on the two-state solution at the United Nations Security Council, calling for the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2735 for an urgent ceasefire, the release of hostages, and humanitarian aid into Gaza.<sup>655</sup>

On 12 October 2024, the European Union reiterated its support for the UN Secretary-General and the UNRWA, in accordance with the “multilateral and rule-based global governance system,” expressing concerns over Israel’s decision to suspend the activities of UNRWA.<sup>656</sup>

On 14 October 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated in a joint press release with UK’s Foreign Secretary Lammy, the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, access to humanitarian aid, and a return to the consensus of the two-state solution.<sup>657</sup>

On 14 October 2024, High Representative Borrell following a meeting at the EU Foreign Affairs Council discussed the disbursement of the third tranche of the EU emergency aid package with UNRWA, sanctions against settlers in the West Bank, and support for the United Nations, working towards a ceasefire and a two-state solution.<sup>658</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>659</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 29 October 2024, the European Union delivered a statement at the UN Security Council, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and improved humanitarian access, in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2735.<sup>660</sup> The EU also emphasized its support for international efforts towards the

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<sup>654</sup> 1509th Meeting of the Committee of Ministers (9 October 2024) EU Statement on the Middle East, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/1509th-meeting-committee-ministers-9-october-2024-eu-statement-middle-east\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/1509th-meeting-committee-ministers-9-october-2024-eu-statement-middle-east_en)

<sup>655</sup> EU Statement – UN Security Council: Situation in the Middle East, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east_en)

<sup>656</sup> Israel/Palestine: Statement by the High Representative on a draft legislation that could stop UNRWA operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 12 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-high-representative-draft-legislation-could-stop-unrwa-operations-occupied\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-high-representative-draft-legislation-could-stop-unrwa-operations-occupied_en)

<sup>657</sup> EU/UK: Joint press release on the meeting between High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell and UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/euuk-joint-press-release-meeting-between-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-uk\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/euuk-joint-press-release-meeting-between-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-uk_en)

<sup>658</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Joseph Borrell after the meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-16\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-16_en)

<sup>659</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers’ Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>660</sup> EU Statement – UN Security Council: Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east-including-palestinian-question-2\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east-including-palestinian-question-2_en)

two-state solution and the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2334, supporting the Palestinian Authority's reform efforts.

On 18 November 2024, High Representative Borrell following the 50th formal Foreign Affairs Council meeting, delivered remarks on the need for implementation of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution.<sup>661</sup>

On 19 November 2024, the European Union disbursed a short-term emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority amounting EUR110 million, to help address the budgetary and fiscal situation of the Palestinian Authority, as part of the EU Comprehensive Programme for Palestinian Recovery and Resilience.<sup>662</sup>

On 21 November 2024, High Representative Borrell, following a meeting with Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ayman Safadi, stressed the need for humanitarian aid and the cessation of hostilities.<sup>663</sup>

On 22 November 2024, the EU made a statement at the UN General Assembly, condemning Israeli settlement policies and practices affecting Palestinians and other Arabs in occupied territories.<sup>664</sup> There, the EU criticized Israel's settlement activities in Palestinian territories, urging an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and better access to humanitarian aid. They reiterated their support for the two-state solution and the Palestinian Authority's reforms, including a viable path to Palestinian statehood for long-term peace in the region.

On 26 November 2024, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms Elisa Ferreira emphasised the importance of the role of UNWRA considering the worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza in response to Israel's proposed legislation on obstructing UNWRA operations and urged the need for de-escalation and abidance to the rule-based order.<sup>665</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers, released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>666</sup>

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<sup>661</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Josep Borrell after the meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-17\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-17_en)

<sup>662</sup> Jordan: Press remarks by the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell after meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ayman Safadi., European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-disburses-third-instalment-emergency-package-palestinian-authority-following-agreement-2024-11-19\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-disburses-third-instalment-emergency-package-palestinian-authority-following-agreement-2024-11-19_en)

<sup>663</sup> EU disburses third instalment of the emergency package for the Palestinian Authority following agreement on a comprehensive reform agenda, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/jordan-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-meeting-deputy-prime\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/jordan-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-meeting-deputy-prime_en)

<sup>664</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 4th Committee: Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-4th-committee-israeli-practices-and-settlement-activities-1\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-4th-committee-israeli-practices-and-settlement-activities-1_en)

<sup>665</sup> Middle East: Speech by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the West Bank and UNRWA's role in the region, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-humanitarian-crisis-gaza-and-west\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-humanitarian-crisis-gaza-and-west_en)

<sup>666</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 28 November 2024, High Representative Borrell, ahead of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution meeting, reiterated the need for general, regional de-escalation, adherence to the international rule-based order, and the necessity of a two-state solution.<sup>667</sup>

On 3 December 2024, the EU delivered a statement at the UN General Assembly speaking to their continued efforts to the two-state solution in Palestine and Israel, specifically through an upcoming international peace conference.<sup>668</sup> In addition, the EU reaffirmed its call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all hostages, and the urgent improvement of humanitarian aid access.

On 4 December 2024, Ambassador Samson emphasized the EU's call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the unconditional release of all hostages at the UN General Assembly.<sup>669</sup> Ambassador Samson condemned the civilian suffering, particularly in Gaza and the West Bank, and reiterated the EU's commitment to a two-state solution. Additionally, Ambassador Samson reiterated the EU's ongoing support for the needs and reform of Palestinian Authority, highlighting the necessity of a viable path for an independent Palestinian state.

On 16 December 2024, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas spoke at a Foreign Affairs Council press conference in Brussels.<sup>670</sup> There, she emphasized the need for the release of hostages, a ceasefire, and efforts towards a two-state solution.

On 16 December 2024, the EU and the European Investment Bank signed a EUR28.3 million agreement to support Palestinian micro, small, and medium enterprises, particularly in Area C, East Jerusalem, and Gaza.<sup>671</sup> This funding aims to support the Palestinian Authority by boosting economic stability and development, which helps align both Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority's reform agenda.

On 16 January 2025, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced an EUR120 million aid package to Gaza.<sup>672</sup> The package includes assistance for food, water, healthcare, hygiene, sanitation, shelter, and protection for the vulnerable, displaced populations.

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<sup>667</sup> Palestine: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell ahead of the meeting of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ahead-meeting-global-alliance\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ahead-meeting-global-alliance_en)

<sup>668</sup> EU Explanation of Vote – UN General Assembly Plenary: Adoption of the Resolution on the Syrian Golan, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-explanation-vote-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-plenary-adoption-resolution-syrian-golan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-explanation-vote-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-plenary-adoption-resolution-syrian-golan_en)

<sup>669</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 10th Emergency Special Session: Illegal Israeli actions in occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-10th-emergency-special-session-illegal-israeli-actions-occupied-o\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-10th-emergency-special-session-illegal-israeli-actions-occupied-o_en)

<sup>670</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Kaja Kallas at the press conference, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-press-conference\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-press-conference_en)

<sup>671</sup> The European Union and Palestinian Authority convene Investment Platform and announce EUR 28.3 million of investments for the Palestine Financial Sustainability Initiative, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-palestinian-authority-convene-investment-platform-and-announce-eur-283-million\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-palestinian-authority-convene-investment-platform-and-announce-eur-283-million_en)

<sup>672</sup> EU announces new €120 million humanitarian aid package for Gaza, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (Brussels) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. Operations [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-announces-new-eu120-million-humanitarian-aid-package-gaza-2025-01-16\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-announces-new-eu120-million-humanitarian-aid-package-gaza-2025-01-16_en)

On 17 January 2025, the G7 leaders released a joint statement expressing their support for the ceasefire and hostage release deal reached between Israel and Hamas.<sup>673</sup> The leaders called for the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and restated their commitment to the implementation of a two-state solution.

On 18 January 2025, the Council of the European Union voiced its support for the ceasefire deal, condemning the loss of civilian life during the conflict and calling for the unimpeded access of humanitarian aid through the United Nations, as well as a lasting peace based on the Two-State Solution.<sup>674</sup>

On 20 January 2025, Ambassador Lambrinidis condemned escalation in the West Bank due to settler violence, as well as expansion of settlements and terror attacks.<sup>675</sup> The European Union further reiterated its commitment to international law, towards a peace based on the Two-State Solution in accordance with the UN Security Council, as well as an international peace conference.

On 21 January 2025, the European Union External Action Service reiterated its support for the Palestinian Authority and its commitment towards a sustainable peace resolution along the principles of the Two-State Solution.<sup>676</sup> It also addressed the need for political reform of the Authority and engaging with Israel and international partners.

On 6 February 2025, the European Union External Action Service reiterated its commitment to the Two-State Solution at the WHO 156<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting, reiterating its commitment to peace and security in support of the Palestinians while acknowledging pressing needs such as humanitarian aid and political reform.<sup>677</sup>

On 15 February 2025, High Representative Kallas and the G7 Foreign Ministers released a joint statement detailing their meetings during the Munich Security Conference.<sup>678</sup> Among other topics, the ministers discussed the importance of a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine, supporting the efforts led by Qatar, the United States and Jordan to negotiate a ceasefire.

On 19 February 2025, High Representative Kallas, following the EU-South Africa Ministerial Political Dialogue on European Unions, iterated continued support for the two-state Solution, while emphasizing the role of UNRWA in assisting Palestinian refugees.<sup>679</sup>

On 20 February 2025, member of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations Fabio Cannizzaro voiced support for the implementation of the ceasefire, emphasising the need of releasing hostages,

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<sup>673</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on Ceasefire and Hostage Deal, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 20 January 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2025kananaskis/250116-ceasefire.html>

<sup>674</sup> Israel/Palestine: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the EU welcoming the ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/01/18/israelpalestine-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-welcoming-the-ceasefire-and-hostage-deal-in-gaza/>

<sup>675</sup> EU Statement: UN Security Council Open Debate on the Situation in the Middle East, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-un-security-council-open-debate-situation-middle-east\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-un-security-council-open-debate-situation-middle-east_en)

<sup>676</sup> Conference on Disarmament - Opening Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-opening-statement-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-opening-statement-0_en)

<sup>677</sup> WHO 156th Executive Board - Agenda Item 17 - Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem - EU Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/who-156th-executive-board-agenda-item-17-health-conditions-occupied-palestinian-territory-including\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/who-156th-executive-board-agenda-item-17-health-conditions-occupied-palestinian-territory-including_en)

<sup>678</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement – Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement>

<sup>679</sup> South Africa: Press remarks by High Representative Kaja Kallas after the EU-South Africa Ministerial Political Dialogue, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 19 February 2025. Access Date 22 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/south-africa-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-after-eu-south-africa-ministerial\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/south-africa-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-after-eu-south-africa-ministerial_en)



allowing the return of displaced Palestinians, and reviving the political process in accordance with the Two-State Solution towards a peace agreement.<sup>680</sup>

On 24 February 2025, Special Envoy Stephan Clement expressed his support for the ceasefire agreement in Gaza at the Conference on Disarmament.<sup>681</sup> Envoy Clement noted that the ceasefire would allow for the release of hostages and easing of humanitarian suffering, working towards a comprehensive peace agreement in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 1 March 2025, the European Union External Action Service announced the EU's grave concerns over the escalating tensions and violence in the West Bank, voicing condemnation against the Israeli military operation and settler violence, which has resulted in the displacement of around 40,000 Palestinians.<sup>682</sup> The EU urges parties to achieve a just, comprehensive peace in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 2 March 2025, the European Union External Action Service released a statement condemning Hamas for rejecting the extension of the initial ceasefire in Gaza and urged a swift resumption of discussions on the second phase of the ceasefire and reaffirms its full support for the mediation efforts.<sup>683</sup> It also highlighted the EU's Civilian Border Assistance Mission at the Rafah crossing, which works for the unrestricted, safe and prompt delivery of humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in need and for ensuring the safety and effectiveness of humanitarian workers and organizations operating in Gaza.

On 4 March 2025, European Council President Antonio Costa emphasized the EU's strong support for a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine, and the Palestinian Authority.<sup>684</sup> President Costa called for the full implementation of the ceasefire and hostage release agreements, praising mediation efforts by Egypt and Qatar, and stressed the importance of a lasting political solution.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union External Action Service expressed its support for the ceasefire agreement at the IAEA Board of Governors, calling for the immediate release of hostages, an increase in humanitarian aid and the implementation of the International Court of Justice orders.<sup>685</sup> The EU reiterated its support for a just, comprehensive peace agreement, which affirms the statehood and sovereignty of all parties in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 9 March 2025, the European Union External Action Service released a statement emphasizing its support and plan to work with Arab partners for the new Arab Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza.<sup>686</sup>

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<sup>680</sup> EU Statement – UN Special Committee on the Charter: Peaceful Settlement of Disputes, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-special-committee-charter-peaceful-settlement-disputes\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-special-committee-charter-peaceful-settlement-disputes_en)

<sup>681</sup> Conference on Disarmament - 2025 HLS - EU Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-eu-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-eu-statement_en)

<sup>682</sup> Statement by the Spokesperson on the situation in the West Bank, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 1 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/statement-spokesperson-situation-west-bank\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/statement-spokesperson-situation-west-bank_en)

<sup>683</sup> Israel/Palestine: Statement by the Spokesperson on the ceasefire in Gaza, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 2 March 2025, Access Date: 10 March 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-spokesperson-ceasefire-gaza-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-spokesperson-ceasefire-gaza-0_en)

<sup>684</sup> Speech by President António Costa at the Emergency summit of the League of Arab States on Gaza, European Council (Brussels) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/04/speech-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-emergency-summit-of-the-league-of-arab-states-on-gaza/>

<sup>685</sup> EU Statement at the IAEA Board of Governors under AOB on the Situation in the Middle East, delivered on 7 March 2025, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-iaea-board-governors-under-aob-situation-middle-east-delivered-7-march-2025\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-iaea-board-governors-under-aob-situation-middle-east-delivered-7-march-2025_en)

<sup>686</sup> Statement by the High Representative on the Arab Plan for Gaza, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/statement-high-representative-arab-plan-gaza\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/statement-high-representative-arab-plan-gaza_en)

Additionally, the statement noted its support for the Palestinian Authority's reform efforts and calls for the full implementation of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement.

On 11 March 2025, High Representative Kallas emphasised the EU's effort in working towards a peaceful resolution of the Gaza conflict at the UN Security Council.<sup>687</sup> High representative Kallas emphasised the need for a just, comprehensive peace agreement in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 12 March 2025, the Ambassador to Kuwait Anne Koistinen voiced strong opposition to any demographic or territorial changes in Gaza, reiterating the need for humanitarian aid and welcoming the Arab Plan to a diplomatic resolution.<sup>688</sup> Ambassador Koistinen also voiced support for the objectives of the EU Mission at the Rafah crossing point and the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, advocating for a just, comprehensive peace agreement using diplomatic means.

On 13 March 2025, the European Union External Action Service voiced support for the ceasefire agreement to ensure a permanent end to hostilities.<sup>689</sup> It emphasised the need to uphold international law and the UN Charter and the importance of the distribution of humanitarian aid. It also reiterated its support for a just, comprehensive peace in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 14 March 2025, High Representative Kallas and the G7 Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement following the Charlevoix meeting, which reaffirmed support for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>690</sup> The statement emphasized the need for a negotiated two-state solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians, demonstrating multilateral diplomatic engagement to advance peace in the region.

On 20 March 2025, the Council of the European Union voiced its concern over the escalating situation in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>691</sup> It urged for a diplomatic resolution in accordance with the two-state solution, adhering to international law and criticized Israel's hindering humanitarian aid.

On 23 March 2025, High Representative Kallas condemned the resumption of the war at a joint press conference with Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority Mohammad Mustafa.<sup>692</sup> High Representative Kallas reiterated EU support for humanitarian aid and reconstruction, as well as supporting a return to the ceasefire agreement.

On 25 March 2025, High Representative Kallas condemned the resumption of fighting in Gaza in a joint statement at the Arab-Islamic Ministerial Meeting.<sup>693</sup> High Representative Kallas also condemned the loss of

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<sup>687</sup> United Nations: Speech by High Representative Kaja Kallas at the annual UN Security Council session on EU-UN cooperation, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 11 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/united-nations-speech-high-representative-kaja-kallas-annual-un-security-council-session-eu-un\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/united-nations-speech-high-representative-kaja-kallas-annual-un-security-council-session-eu-un_en)

<sup>688</sup> EU Delegation hosts Ramadan ghabqa with the Kuwaiti media, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kuwait/eu-delegation-hosts-ramadan-ghabqa-kuwaiti-media\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kuwait/eu-delegation-hosts-ramadan-ghabqa-kuwaiti-media_en)

<sup>689</sup> EU Statement - ILO 353rd GB - Follow up to the discussion on the enhanced programme of development cooperation for the occupied Arab territories, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-statement-ilo-353rd-gb-follow-discussion-enhanced-programme-development-cooperation-occupied-arab\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-statement-ilo-353rd-gb-follow-discussion-enhanced-programme-development-cooperation-occupied-arab_en)

<sup>690</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 26 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement>

<sup>691</sup> EU position on the situation in the Middle East, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 21 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-position-situation-middle-east/>

<sup>692</sup> Group Statement - HRC58 - Item 4 - General debate on human rights situations that require the Council's attention 20 March 2025, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-joint-press-conference-prime\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-joint-press-conference-prime_en)

<sup>693</sup> Joint statement by HRVP Kaja Kallas & the Arab-Islamic Ministerial Committee on Gaza, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 23 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-statement-hrvp-kaja-kallas-arab-islamic-ministerial-committee-gaza\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-statement-hrvp-kaja-kallas-arab-islamic-ministerial-committee-gaza_en)

civilian life and damage to infrastructure, urging for a return to the ceasefire agreement, in accordance with international law and mutual sovereignty of the Palestinian people.

On 1 April 2025, High Representative Kallas urged the resumption of negotiations in Gaza at the European Parliament plenary on the situation in Gaza.<sup>694</sup> High Representative Kallas also stressed the need for a full implementation of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement, reiterating the two-state solution as the only path towards a just, comprehensive peace agreement in Gaza.

On 14 April 2025, High Representative Kallas met with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Mustafa in Luxembourg for the first EU-Palestine High-Level Political Dialogue, announcing a EUR1.6 billion multiannual support package for Palestine, reinforcing its commitment to a two-state solution and long-term cooperation.<sup>695</sup> High Representative Kallas condemned Israel's total blockade of aid into Gaza and urged full reinstatement of humanitarian access. She reaffirmed EU support for the Palestinian Authority's return to Gaza and emphasized that only negotiations—not military action—can end the conflict.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The European Union has taken strong action across all three commitment dimensions by providing financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, reaffirming support for a two-state solution through bilateral meetings and contributing to humanitarian relief efforts in Gaza. The European Union has also imposed sanctions on individuals and companies responsible for perpetuating further violence in the region.

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

*Analyst: Blair Shang*

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<sup>694</sup> Israel/Gaza Ceasefire: Speech by High Representative/Vice-President Kaja Kallas at the EP plenary on the dramatic situation in Gaza and the need for a full implementation of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelgaza-ceasefire-speech-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-ep-plenary-dramatic\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelgaza-ceasefire-speech-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-ep-plenary-dramatic_en)

<sup>695</sup> 1st EU-Palestine High-Level Political Dialogue, 14 April 2025, European Council (Brussels) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 11 May 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-ministerial-meetings/2025/04/14/>

## 4. Non-Proliferation: Export Controls

“We are strengthening effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (84%)		

### Background

Since the invention of the atomic bomb in 1942 and its first use in Hiroshima in 1945, non-proliferation has become a significant concern for G7 members.<sup>696</sup> G7 discussions and commitments relating to non-proliferation, specifically export controls, have evolved over time. Following the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, G7 summits emphasized denuclearization of Soviet Union states and safe nuclear energy use.<sup>697</sup> Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, G7 leaders expressed the need for non-proliferation export controls that would prevent terrorists from acquiring nuclear capabilities.<sup>698</sup> North Korea's nuclear testing in the early and mid-2000s, non-proliferation and export controls remained a topic of notable G7 attention.<sup>699</sup> Finally, the 2022 full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine renewed Russian non-proliferation compliance as a significant point in the growing agenda for non-proliferation and export controls.<sup>700</sup>

At the 1996 Moscow Summit, G7 leaders committed to prioritising nuclear safety, and international adherence to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safety standards.<sup>701</sup> They emphasised support for non-proliferation efforts and responsible management of nuclear materials.

<sup>696</sup> Atomic bomb, Encyclopedia Britannica (Edinburgh) 25 August 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/technology/atomic-bomb/Development-and-proliferation-of-atomic-bombs>

<sup>697</sup> Nuclear Reactor Safety, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) April 1998. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/1998birmingham/issues/nuke.htm>

<sup>698</sup> Impressions Of The Kananaskis Summit, 26-27 June 2002, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002kananaskis/assess\\_baynea.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002kananaskis/assess_baynea.html)

<sup>699</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>700</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 December 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2022. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

<sup>701</sup> Nuclear Safety and Security Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 April 1996. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996moscow/declaration.html>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed the importance of establishing an international regime of nuclear liability and renewed their commitment to the necessity of preparing an international convention on the safety of nuclear waste.<sup>702</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to nuclear safety, specifically to help shut down the Ukrainian Chornobyl reactor by 2000.<sup>703</sup> They also committed to strengthening cooperation on non-proliferation efforts by enhancing export controls, laws, and regulations to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.<sup>704</sup>

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen non-proliferation mechanisms, emphasizing the role of the Nuclear Suppliers Group.<sup>705</sup> They also emphasized concerns surrounding nuclear testing following India and Pakistan's nuclear tests.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the outcome of the 2000 Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Review Conference and committed to implementing its conclusions, including swift entry of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty negotiations, and universal NPT adherence.<sup>706</sup> They also reaffirmed their commitments made in the 1996 Moscow Summit, emphasising the importance of the safe use of nuclear power.

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8's leaders committed to preventing nuclear weapons from falling into the hands of terrorists through the creation of the "The G8 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction."<sup>707</sup> The program was created to assist former member states of the Soviet Union in decommissioning excess nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, and its priorities were 1) destroying chemical weapons, 2) dismantling decommissioned nuclear submarines, 3) disposing of fissile materials, and 4) helping to redeploy weapons scientists.<sup>708</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders affirmed their commitment to the IAEA advancing the Global Partnership initiative by promoting universal non-proliferation principles.<sup>709</sup> Specifically, they called on states to mobilise to improve the safety and security of the sources they produce, possess, use, import or export, and to develop a medium- and long-term approach aimed at reinforcing the security of sources and the mechanisms for interstate cooperation.<sup>710</sup>

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<sup>702</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 2 February 2025.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>703</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 2 February 2025.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>704</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>705</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>706</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>707</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 2 February 2025.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>708</sup> Statement by G8 Leaders: The G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons

and Materials of Mass Destruction, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/arms.html>

<sup>709</sup> Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction:

A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

[https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/destruction\\_action\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/destruction_action_en.html)

<sup>710</sup> Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction Securing Radioactive Sources: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/wmd\\_action\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/wmd_action_en.html)

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the NPT, as well as the Proliferation Security Initiative and the Statement of Interdiction Principles.<sup>711</sup>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to non-proliferation and called on all states to uphold in full international norms on non-proliferation and to meet their arms control and disarmament obligations.<sup>712</sup> They also expressed particular concern about the threat of proliferation in North Korea and Iran.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to reducing risks in the safe use of nuclear energy through a strong non-proliferation regime and reliable safety and security systems for nuclear materials and facilities.<sup>713</sup> They also recommitted to fully implementing international treaties, supporting the IAEA's efforts, and continuing to address nuclear safety and security issues through the Nuclear Safety and Security Group.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction through the multilateral treaty system and diplomatic cooperation with international partners.<sup>714</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the NPT, nuclear disarmament, and called for a global moratorium on nuclear tests and fissile material production for weapons.<sup>715</sup> They also supported North Korea's denuclearization through the Six-Party process and urged Iran to comply with United Nations resolutions and engage in diplomatic efforts regarding its nuclear program.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the NPT, and its three pillars of non-proliferation, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and disarmament.<sup>716</sup>

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders urged all states to take decisive action against non-compliance with non-proliferation obligations, including safeguards.<sup>717</sup> They also called on states to adopt a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and an Additional Protocol with the IAEA as the new standard for verifying peaceful nuclear energy use. Furthermore, they encouraged the exchange of nuclear technology and information for peaceful purposes, particularly benefiting developing countries, in line with the NPT.

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders affirmed their commitment to strengthening the global non-proliferation regime by supporting key treaties and promoting international cooperation. They also emphasized the importance of diplomatic solutions for denuclearization in North Korea and Iran, robust counter-proliferation tools, and the IAEA's role in verifying compliance through the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol.<sup>718</sup>

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<sup>711</sup> G8 Action Plan on Nonproliferation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2004. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/nonproliferation.html>

<sup>712</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/wmd\\_action\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/wmd_action_en.html)

<sup>713</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (St. Petersburg) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/summary.html>

<sup>714</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

<sup>715</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>716</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary.html>

<sup>717</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>718</sup> Group of Eight Declaration on Nonproliferation and Disarmament for 2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 May 2012. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-npt.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to non-proliferation and disarmament and pledged to advance the universalization of key treaties, including the NPT, to prevent and combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.<sup>719</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to non-proliferation and disarmament, emphasizing the urgent need for North Korea to comply fully with all UN Security Council Resolutions and abandon its nuclear tests and programs.<sup>720</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to upholding global non-proliferation efforts and ensuring compliance with international agreements. They also urged Iran to fully adhere to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, reverse measures reducing transparency, and cease all ballistic missile activities.<sup>721</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders warned against any threat of the use of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons or related materials, particularly in Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine which began in February of 2022.<sup>722</sup> Furthermore, they urged Russia to stop its attacks, especially in the direct vicinity of Ukraine's nuclear power plants.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders declared their commitment to non-proliferation through the G7 Leaders' Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament.<sup>723</sup> The Vision reaffirmed commitment to eliminating nuclear weapons, reinforcing non-proliferation treaties, specifically the CTBT, condemning nuclear threats and promoting international cooperation for global security.<sup>724</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed to "[strengthen] effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security."

## **Commitment Features**

### **Definitions and Concepts**

"Strengthening" is understood to mean "To make stronger."<sup>725</sup>

"Effective" is understood to mean "operating in a way that produces the intended result. It does not mean any effort, especially thoughtless ones."<sup>726</sup>

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<sup>719</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>720</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqué.html>

<sup>721</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Carbis Bay, Cornwall) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>722</sup> Elmau Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>723</sup> G7 Leaders' Hiroshima Vision on Nuclear Disarmament, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 19 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230519-disarmament.html>

<sup>724</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Hiroshima) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 5 February 2025. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>725</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>726</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

“Export controls” refer to “a system that regulates the export of dual-use materials and technologies.”<sup>727</sup> In this regard, “dual-use” items are “goods, software and technology that can be used for both civilian and military applications.”<sup>728</sup>

To “keep pace” is understood to mean “to go or make progress at the same speed as (someone or something else).”<sup>729</sup>

“Recognize” is understood to mean “to acknowledge formally.”<sup>730</sup> In this context, recognition would mean an explicit acknowledgement.<sup>731</sup>

“Central” is understood to mean “in, at, from, or near the centre or the most important part,” whereas “role” is understood to mean “the position or purpose that someone or something has in a situation, organization, society, etc.”<sup>732</sup> “Central role” is understood to mean someone or something that has an important position or purpose in a given context.

“Multilateral export control regimes” (MECRs) refer to “consensus-based, voluntary arrangements of supplier countries that produce technologies useful in developing weapons of mass destruction or conventional weapons.”<sup>733</sup>

“Key” is understood to mean “an instrumental or deciding factor.”<sup>734</sup>

“Non-proliferation” refers to “the controlling of the spread and/or amount of something, especially nuclear or chemical weapons.”<sup>735</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

This commitment is best interpreted as comprising two overarching dimensions: 1) the strengthening of effective export controls in line with technological advancements and 2) the recognition of multilateral export regimes as a key instrument in non-proliferation. The first dimension specifies three areas of export controls – a. Materials, b. Technology, and c. Research.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be awarded to any member that takes strong action in both dimensions by 1) effectively strengthening their export controls regime in line with technological development and 2) effectively recognizing the key role of MECRs in non-proliferation. To fully comply with the first dimension, the member must address a) materials; b) technology; and c) research. Examples of strong actions in the first

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<sup>727</sup> Export Controls, UNTERM (New York) n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. Translation provided by Compliance Director. <https://unterm.un.org/unterm2/en/view/a4cc7958-09a0-4deb-8f57-ff076c59944a>

<sup>728</sup> Exporting dual-use Items, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/help-exporters-and-importers/exporting-dual-use-items\\_en](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/help-exporters-and-importers/exporting-dual-use-items_en)

<sup>729</sup> Keep pace with, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfiel n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/keep%20pace%20with>

<sup>730</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>731</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>732</sup> Central role, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/example/english/central-role>

<sup>733</sup> Nonproliferation: Strategy Needed to Strengthen Multilateral Export Control Regimes, U.S. Government Accountability Office (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2002. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-03-43>

<sup>734</sup> Key, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/key>

<sup>735</sup> Non-proliferation, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/non-proliferation>



dimension include expanding national control lists to include new dual-use items, further regulation against the distribution of dual-use items, harsher penalties for illicit proliferation of such items and further investment to improve or innovate upon enforcement mechanisms (e.g. economizing the permit evaluation process, hiring more security staff or improving automated sensing of controlled substances at major border crossings). Strong actions in dimension two may include normalizing existing regulations and best practices against MECR standards, formulating new agreements and strengthening regulations collaboratively at the multilateral level, and taking bilateral and multilateral coordinated action on export control strengthening alongside fellow MECR parties under the subject area of the relevant MECR.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded to any member that takes strong action in one of the two compliance dimensions, or takes weak action in both dimensions. Weak actions in dimension one may include verbal reaffirmations of the commitment terms without material actions to that effect. Weak actions in dimension two may include verbal reaffirmations or fielding delegations to MECR meetings without any material action.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be awarded to any member that takes weak action in one but not both commitment dimensions, or to a G7 member that takes no action towards either dimension.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken weak action towards either 1) strengthening effective export controls in line with technological advancements, including materials, technology or research or 2) recognizing the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument, or the G7 member has not taken any action in either dimension.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action towards either 1) strengthening effective export controls in line with technological advancements, including materials, technology and research or 2) recognizing the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument, or the G7 member has taken weak action in both dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in strengthening effective export controls on materials, technology and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and strong action in recognizing the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument.

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*Lead Analyst: Anna Lysenko*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 19 June 2024, the Government of Canada announced the Order Amending the Export Control List (ECL).<sup>736</sup> The Amendment specified that items not covered by multilateral export control regimes (MECRs) but deemed necessary by Canada to avoid use detrimental to security must be listed directly in the ECL under Group 5. Specifically, the amendment adds advanced semiconductors and quantum computing technologies to the ECL. The amendment also institutes minor editorial changes to align Canadian regulation with Wassenaar Arrangement standards.

On 10 July 2024, the Washington Summit Declaration issued at North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit condemned Russia's nuclear posturing and expressed concern over Russia's increasing violations of

<sup>736</sup> Order Amending the Export Control List: SOR/2024-112, the Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://canadagazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2024/2024-06-19/html/sor-dors112-eng.html>

arms control agreements and nuclear safety standards.<sup>737</sup> The declaration called on the People's Republic of China to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort and introduce export controls on dual-use items. The declaration reaffirmed members' commitment to nuclear deterrence as essential to NATO security while encouraging arms control and non-proliferation efforts as essential to ensuring strategic stability. Canada is a NATO member.

On 20 September 2024, the Ministry of National Defence announced a research compact with the United States' Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency and the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence.<sup>738</sup> The three agencies committed to work together in researching advances to cyber-security infrastructure and in mitigating risks caused by artificial intelligence, particularly in dual-use military applications.

On 23 September 2024, the Government of Canada jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>739</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>740</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 4 October 2024, Canada participated in the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>741</sup> The talks, hosted by Japan for officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, emphasized topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 21 October 2024, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) adopted the CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management Client Portal, a front-end portal for importers to interact with the customs process for imports into Canada.<sup>742</sup> This modernization endeavour is consistent with the aim of keeping up with technical changes and strengthening export restrictions, as it improves compliance and transparency by automating operations and making it easier to trace imported and exported commodities.

On 1 November 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly and Minister of National Defence Bill Blair met with Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yul and Minister of National Defence Kim Yong-hyun.<sup>743</sup>

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<sup>737</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>738</sup> UK, US and Canada to collaborate on cybersecurity and AI research, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-canada-to-collaborate-on-cybersecurity-and-ai-research>

<sup>739</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty/>

<sup>740</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>741</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>742</sup> Importers now benefitting from new accounting system for the collection of duties and taxes for commercial goods, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/10/importers-now-benefiting-from-new-accounting-system-for-the-collection-of-duties-and-taxes-for-commercial-goods.html>

<sup>743</sup> Canada-Republic of Korea Foreign and Defence (2+2) Ministerial Meeting joint statement, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/canada-republic-of-korea-foreign-and-defence-22-ministerial-meeting-joint-statement.html>

In their joint statement, they condemned actions by other states to support Russia's invasion of Ukraine through the transfer dual-use items.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement that called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>744</sup> The ministers addressed also Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 15 February 2025, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement at the margins of the Munich Security Conference, condemning the provision to Russia of dual-use materials by China and the continued provision of military assistance by North Korea and Iran.<sup>745</sup>

On 7 March 2025, Canada announced additional sanctions against Iran under the Special Economic Measures (Iran) Regulations.<sup>746</sup> These sanctions target Iranian individuals and entities involved in human rights violations and destabilizing activities in the Middle East, such as procurement networks that support weapons production, including for the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. This action aligns with similar measures taken by Canada's allies, including the US, the UK, and the EU, recognizing the importance of MECRs and Canada's role in preventing the transfer of controlled materials and technologies.

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>747</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. Canada has taken strong action towards strengthening its export controls by amending the ECL to include more recent technological developments and weak action in co-signing the Washington Summit Declaration. The ECL amendment also demonstrates a commitment to Canadian regulations to meet and surpass MECR standards. Canada has modernized its customs infrastructure by installing the CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management Client Portal, which streamlines import operations and improves compliance while investing in military capabilities. These actions signal Canada's dedication to robust export controls on dual-use goods. Canada's participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation and advancement of export controls recognizes the central role of MECRs.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mehek Berry*

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<sup>744</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>745</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement - Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>746</sup> Minister Joly announces additional sanctions against Iran (Ottawa) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-joly-announces-additional-sanctions-against-iran.html>

<sup>747</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 15 June 2024, France released a joint statement with the governments of Germany and the United Kingdom condemning Iran's nuclear programme expansion.<sup>748</sup> France denounced Iran's increased uranium enrichment and advanced centrifuge use, warning of significant proliferation risks and urged Iran to fulfil its Non-Proliferation Treaty obligations.

On 24 June 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot and the Council of the European Union announced its Fourteenth package of sanctions against Russia.<sup>749</sup> The European Union added 61 entities to its export restriction list for supporting Russia's military-industrial complex, with the expanded sanctions and restrictions targeting dual-use goods and technologies, including machine tools, chemicals, and helium imports.

On 29 June 2024, Minister Barrot and the Council of the European Union adopted additional restrictive measures against Belarus to closer align them with the sanctions on Russia and address circumvention issues.<sup>750</sup> The Council extended the export ban to include restrictions on additional dual-use goods, professional services, and transport. Furthermore, the Council will require EU exporters to contractually prohibit the re-exportation of sensitive goods to Belarus.

On 10 July 2024, the Washington Summit Declaration issued at North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit condemned Russia's nuclear posturing and expressed concern over Russia's increasing violations of arms control agreements and nuclear safety standards.<sup>751</sup> The declaration called on the People's Republic of China to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort and introduce export controls on dual-use items. The declaration reaffirmed members' commitment to nuclear deterrence as essential to NATO security while encouraging arms control and non-proliferation efforts as essential to ensuring strategic stability. France is a NATO member.

On 10 September 2024, France released a joint statement with the governments of Germany and the United Kingdom condemning Iran's exports of ballistic missiles to Russia.<sup>752</sup> France announced it will proceed with canceling bilateral air service agreements with Iran, designating entities and individuals involved in the missile transfer, and imposing sanctions on Iran Air. France reaffirmed its commitment to working with European and international partners on the non-proliferation of weapons provided to Russia for its war against Ukraine.

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<sup>748</sup> Iran's further expansion of its nuclear programme: joint statement by France, Germany and the UK, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-united-kingdom>

<sup>749</sup> Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: comprehensive EU's 14th package of sanctions cracks down on circumvention and adopts energy measures, the Council of the European Union (Brussels), 24 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-comprehensive-eu-s-14th-package-of-sanctions-cracks-down-on-circumvention-and-adopts-energy-measures/>

<sup>750</sup> Belarus' involvement in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: new EU restrictive measures target trade, services, transport and anti-circumvention (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/29/belarus-involvement-in-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-new-eu-restrictive-measures-target-trade-services-transport-and-anti-circumvention/>

<sup>751</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>752</sup> Iran - Transfers of Ballistic Missiles to Russia - Statement by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-transfers-of-ballistic-missiles-to-russia-statement-by-the-foreign>

On 23 September 2024, France jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>753</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On 24 September 2024, Minister Barrot urged all countries, particularly Iran and North Korea, to refrain from exporting weapons, dual-use goods, and military components to Russia during the UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting on Ukraine.<sup>754</sup> Minister Barrot condemned Iran's sale of ballistic missiles to Russia, noting how it constitutes escalation and a threat to European security.

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>755</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 24 September 2024, France, along with 28 other countries, participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>756</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 4 October 2024, France participated in the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>757</sup> The talks, hosted by Japan for officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, emphasized topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 18 November 2024, Minister Barrot and the Council of the European Union announced expanded export restrictions on Iran due to the country's military support to Russia's war against Ukraine.<sup>758</sup> These widened measures include a prohibition on the export, transfer, supply, or sale from the EU to Iran of components used in the development and production of missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

On 24 November 2024, the Finance Ministry's Directorate-General for Enterprise submitted to Parliament its annual report on France's dual-use goods exports during the 2023 calendar year.<sup>759</sup> The report describes France's multi-agency export control process, and notes that France approved export licenses for up to EUR11.1 billion worth of potential dual-use goods in 2023, a 26 per cent increase from the previous year.

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<sup>753</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty/>

<sup>754</sup> Address by Jean-Noël Barrot Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting on Ukraine at the United Nations Security Council (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/france-and-the-united-nations/news-and-events/news/article/address-by-jean-noel-barrot-minister-for-europe-and-foreign-affairs-un-security>

<sup>755</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>756</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>757</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>758</sup> Iran: EU widens restrictive measures in view of Iran support of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and lists one individual and four entities, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/18/iran-eu-widens-restrictive-measures-in-view-of-iran-support-of-the-russian-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-and-lists-one-individual-and-four-entities/>

<sup>759</sup> Les exportations des biens à double usage de la France, Ministère de l'Économie, des finances et de l'Industrie (Paris) 24 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.entreprises.gouv.fr/la-dge/publications/les-exportations-des-biens-double-usage-de-la-france>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement that called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>760</sup> The ministers addressed also Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 9 December 2024, France, Germany and the United Kingdom condemned Iran's escalation of its nuclear program particularly its actions at the Fordow facility.<sup>761</sup> They expressed concern and urged Iran to reverse its actions and its nuclear escalation.

On 17 December 2024, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of the Armed Forces and the US Department of State and Department of Defense co-chaired the third US-France Defense Trade Strategic Dialogue (DTSG) in Paris.<sup>762</sup> The DTSG included updates from working groups on export regulations and international export regimes. Representatives reaffirmed their commitment to close coordination on international armaments issues, including identifying measures to improve export control efficiency and effectiveness.

On 17 December 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a joint statement alongside the German Federal Foreign Office and the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, pertaining to non-proliferation in Iran and the implementation Of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231(2015).<sup>763</sup>

On 23 December 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a joint statement alongside the United Kingdom Foreign Office and the German Federal Foreign Office on the IAEA Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, underscoring the critical role played by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Safeguards Agreement in establishing the civilian nature of nuclear programs in the country.<sup>764</sup>

On 14 February 2025, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Director for Strategic Affairs, Security and Disarmament Guillaume Ollangier met with Indian External Affairs Ministry official Muanpuui Saiawi to discuss the state of disarmament and non-proliferation.<sup>765</sup> The officials also affirmed India and France's respective obligations as Multilateral Export Control Regime members.

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<sup>760</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>761</sup> Iran's Further Escalation of Its Nuclear Programme: Joint Statement by France, Germany and the UK, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/irans-further-escalation-of-its-nuclear-programme-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-the-uk>

<sup>762</sup> Third Defense Trade Strategic Dialogue (DTSG) Between the United States and France, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/2024/article/third-defense-trade-strategic-dialogue-dtsg-between-the-united-states-and>

<sup>763</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, United Kingdom on Non-Proliferation, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-united-kingdom-on-non-proliferation>

<sup>764</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States on the IAEA Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 November 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2686318-2686318>

<sup>765</sup> India-France Bilateral Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Paris (February 14, 2025), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India (New Delhi) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 6 March 2025. [https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/39073/IndiaFrance\\_Bilateral\\_Dialogue\\_on\\_Disarmament\\_and\\_NonProliferation\\_Paris\\_February\\_14\\_2025](https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/39073/IndiaFrance_Bilateral_Dialogue_on_Disarmament_and_NonProliferation_Paris_February_14_2025)

On 15 February 2025, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement at the margins of the Munich Security Conference, condemning the provision to Russia of dual-use materials by China and the continued provision of military assistance by North Korea and Iran.<sup>766</sup>

On 24 February 2025, the sixteenth Sanctions Package against Russia took effect in France, following the agreement upon the extensions of sanctions by the Council of the European Union, thereby imposing stricter export restrictions with regard to dual-use items and with a specific focus on chemical precursors and industrial machinery.<sup>767</sup>

On 24 February 2025, France took part in the Conference on Disarmament, issuing a joint statement with other EU member states regarding a variety of proliferation related topics, including the escalatory role that material deliveries to Russia in the form of dual-use goods have played in the war in Ukraine.<sup>768</sup>

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>769</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

France has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. France has signed multiple statements that demonstrate a commitment to non-proliferation and effective export controls on dual-use goods. France's participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation and the Exercise Pacific Protector 24, their co-chairing of the DTSG as well as their advancement of export controls at those forums recognizes the central role of MECRs.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jeanne Brownnewell*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 15 June 2024, Germany released a joint statement with the governments of France and the United Kingdom condemning Iran's nuclear programme expansion.<sup>770</sup> Germany denounced Iran's increased uranium enrichment and advanced centrifuge use, warning of significant proliferation risks and urged Iran to fulfil its Non-Proliferation Treaty obligations.

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<sup>766</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement - Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>767</sup> New package of sanctions against Russia, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/federal-government/eu-sanctions-2336106>

<sup>768</sup> Conference on Disarmament - 2025 HLS - Joint Statement, EU Delegation to the UN (Geneva) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement_en)

<sup>769</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>770</sup> Iran's further expansion of its nuclear programme: joint statement by France, Germany and the UK, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-united-kingdom>

On 24 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock and the Council of the European Union announced its fourteenth package of sanctions against Russia.<sup>771</sup> The European Union added 61 entities to its export restriction list for supporting Russia's military-industrial complex, with the expanded sanctions and restrictions targeting dual-use goods and technologies, including machine tools, chemicals, and helium imports.

On 29 June 2024, Minister Baerbock and the Council of the European Union adopted additional restrictive measures against Belarus to closer align them with the sanctions on Russia and address circumvention issues.<sup>772</sup> The Council extended the export ban to include restrictions on additional dual-use goods, professional services, and transport. Furthermore, the Council will require EU exporters to contractually prohibit the re-exportation of sensitive goods to Belarus.

On 10 July 2024, the Washington Summit Declaration issued at North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit condemned Russia's nuclear posturing and expressed concern over Russia's increasing violations of arms control agreements and nuclear safety standards.<sup>773</sup> The declaration called on the People's Republic of China to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort and introduce export controls on dual-use items. The declaration reaffirmed members' commitment to nuclear deterrence as essential to NATO security while encouraging arms control and non-proliferation efforts as essential to ensuring strategic stability. Germany is a NATO member.

On 23 July 2024, the Bundestag passed the 21st amendment to the German Foreign Trade and Payments Ordinance.<sup>774</sup> The amendment establishes additions to Germany's National Controls List (NCL) for dual-use goods, extending beyond existing European Union export control policies to include limits on the export of research and materials relating to emerging technologies.

On 10 September 2024, Germany released a joint statement with the governments of France and the United Kingdom condemning Iran's exports of ballistic missiles to Russia.<sup>775</sup> Germany announced it will proceed with canceling bilateral air service agreements with Iran, designating entities and individuals involved in the missile transfer, and imposing sanctions on Iran Air. Germany reaffirmed its commitment to working with European and international partners on the non-proliferation of weapons provided to Russia for its war against Ukraine.

On 23 September 2024, Germany jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>776</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On 24 September 2024, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, alongside other G7 members, issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions

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<sup>771</sup> Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: comprehensive EU's 14th package of sanctions cracks down on circumvention and adopts energy measures, the Council of the European Union (Brussels), 24 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-comprehensive-eu-s-14th-package-of-sanctions-cracks-down-on-circumvention-and-adopts-energy-measures/>

<sup>772</sup> Belarus' involvement in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: new EU restrictive measures target trade, services, transport and anti-circumvention (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/29/belarus-involvement-in-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-new-eu-restrictive-measures-target-trade-services-transport-and-anti-circumvention/>

<sup>773</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>774</sup> Twenty-first Ordinance amending the Foreign Trade and Payments Ordinance, the German Bundestag (Berlin) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://dservet.bundestag.de/btd/20/126/2012685.pdf>

<sup>775</sup> Iran - Transfers of Ballistic Missiles to Russia - Statement by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-transfers-of-ballistic-missiles-to-russia-statement-by-the-foreign>

<sup>776</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty/>



imposed on Russia.<sup>777</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 24 September 2024, Germany, along with 28 other countries participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>778</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 4 October 2024, Germany participated in the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>779</sup> The talks, hosted by Japan for officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, emphasized topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 9 October 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany at the United Nations Thomas Zahneisen delivered a statement during the 1540 Committee Open Briefing, underscoring the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Controls (BAFA) role in Multilateral Export Control Regimes (MECR).<sup>780</sup> Deputy Representative Zahneisen highlighted BAFA's efforts as the convener of the Wiesbaden Process and the Erlangen Initiative, established to enhance cooperation in research-related export controls.

On 30 October 2024, the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control co-chaired the first regional conference of the Erlangen Initiative, held in Singapore.<sup>781</sup> The conference aimed to bolster regional cooperation on research and academia's role in supporting United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540.

On 18 November 2024, Minister Baerbock and the Council of the European Union announced expanded export restrictions on Iran due to the country's military support to Russia's war against Ukraine.<sup>782</sup> These widened measures include a prohibition on the export, transfer, supply, or sale from the EU to Iran of components used in the development and production of missiles and uncrewed aerial vehicles.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>783</sup>

On 29 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a joint declaration that addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts

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<sup>777</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>778</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>779</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>780</sup> Statement by Germany During the 1540 Committee Open Briefing, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://new-york-un.diplo.de/un-en/-/2679358>

<sup>781</sup> Regional Industry Outreach Conference in Singapore, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://disarmament.unoda.org/update/regional-industry-outreach-conference-for-central-asia-and-neighbouring-states/>

<sup>782</sup> Iran: EU widens restrictive measures in view of Iran support of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and lists one individual and four entities, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/18/iran-eu-widens-restrictive-measures-in-view-of-iran-support-of-the-russian-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-and-lists-one-individual-and-four-entities/>

<sup>783</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.<sup>784</sup>

On 6 December 2024, the Ministry of Defence of Germany partook in the Combined Space Operations Initiative hosted by the Italian ministry of Defence in Florence, with Germany and other participating partners addressing their continued commitment to non-proliferation in space.<sup>785</sup>

On 9 December 2024, Germany, France and the UK condemned Iran's escalation of its nuclear program particularly its actions at the Fordow facility.<sup>786</sup> They expressed concern and urged Iran to reverse its actions and its nuclear escalation.

On 13 December 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action and the Office for Economic Affairs and Export Controls issued the 4th package of measures as part to streamline enforcement of export controls.<sup>787</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the Federal Foreign Office issued a joint statement alongside the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, pertaining to non-proliferation in Iran and the implementation Of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231(2015).<sup>788</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the fifteenth Sanctions Package against Russia took effect in Germany, following the measures of the Council of the European Union Regulation (EU) 2024/3192.<sup>789</sup> The new package imposes stricter export restrictions upon dual-use items listed in Annex I of the EU Dual-Use Regulation.

On 23 December 2024, the Federal Foreign Office released a joint statement alongside the United Kingdom Foreign Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France on the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, underscoring the critical role played by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Safeguards Agreement in establishing the civilian nature of nuclear programs in the country.<sup>790</sup>

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<sup>784</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>785</sup> Space: Florence hosts the meeting of the Combined Space Operations Initiative, Ministry of Defence (Rome) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 24 March 2025, .<https://www.difesa.it/eng/primo-piano/space-florence-hosts-the-meeting-of-the-combined-space-operations-initiative/59641.html>

<sup>786</sup> Iran's Further Escalation of Its Nuclear Programme: Joint Statement by France, Germany and the UK, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/irans-further-escalation-of-its-nuclear-programme-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-the-uk>

<sup>787</sup> Export Control: 4th Package of Measures from BMWK and BAFA as Part of the Growth Initiative Makes Export Control Procedures More Digital, Faster and More Efficient, Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (Berlin) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025.

[https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/2024\\_14\\_massnahmenpaket4\\_bmwk\\_bafa.html](https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/2024_14_massnahmenpaket4_bmwk_bafa.html)

<sup>788</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, United Kingdom on Non-Proliferation, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-united-kingdom-on-non-proliferation>

<sup>789</sup> Export control: 4th package of measures from BMWK and BAFA as part of the growth initiative makes export control procedures more digital, faster and more efficient, Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (Berlin) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025.

[https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/2024\\_14\\_massnahmenpaket4\\_bmwk\\_bafa.html](https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/2024_14_massnahmenpaket4_bmwk_bafa.html)

<sup>790</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States on the IAEA Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 November 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2686318-2686318>

On 15 February 2025, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement at the margins of the Munich Security Conference, condemning the provision to Russia of dual-use materials by China and the continued provision of military assistance by North Korea and Iran.<sup>791</sup>

On 24 February 2025, the sixteenth Sanctions Package against Russia took effect in Germany, following the agreement upon the extensions of sanctions by the Council of the European Union, thereby imposing stricter export restrictions with regard to dual-use items with a specific focus on chemical precursors and industrial machinery.<sup>792</sup>

On 24 February 2025, Germany took part in the Conference on Disarmament, issuing a joint statement with other EU member states regarding a variety of proliferation related topics, including the escalatory role that material deliveries to Russia in the form of dual-use goods have played in the war in Ukraine.<sup>793</sup>

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>794</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. Germany demonstrated strong action towards strengthening its export controls by amending its NCL to include emerging technologies. Furthermore, Germany demonstrated additional action in co-signing the G7 joint guidance for industry and issuing multiple guidance papers and statements. Germany's participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation and the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 as well as their advancement of export controls at those forums recognizes the central role of MECRs.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Lorenzo Songsare Shevy*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 24 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani and the Council of the European Union announced its Fourteenth package of sanctions against Russia.<sup>795</sup> The European Union added 61 entities to its

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<sup>791</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement - Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>792</sup> New package of sanctions against Russia, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/federal-government/eu-sanctions-2336106>

<sup>793</sup> Conference on Disarmament - 2025 HLS - Joint Statement, EU Delegation to the UN (Geneva) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement_en)

<sup>794</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>795</sup> Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: comprehensive EU's 14th package of sanctions cracks down on circumvention and adopts energy measures, the Council of the European Union (Brussels), 24 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-comprehensive-eu-s-14th-package-of-sanctions-cracks-down-on-circumvention-and-adopts-energy-measures/>

export restriction list for supporting Russia's military-industrial complex, with the expanded sanctions and restrictions targeting dual-use goods and technologies, including machine tools, chemicals, and helium imports.

On 29 June 2024, Minister Tajani the Council of the European Union adopted additional restrictive measures against Belarus to closer align them with the sanctions on Russia and address circumvention issues.<sup>796</sup> The Council extended the export ban to include restrictions on additional dual-use goods, professional services, and transport. Furthermore, the Council will require EU exporters to contractually prohibit the re-exportation of sensitive goods to Belarus.

On 1 July 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published a decree establishing a National Controls List for dual-use goods, extending beyond existing European Union dual-use export controls policies.<sup>797</sup> The National Controls List includes restrictions on various dual-use technologies, including quantum computing technologies and semiconductors.<sup>798</sup>

On 24 July 2024, the Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic of Italy, under the Nineteenth Legislature, published the policy guidelines for the European Commission for 2024-2029.<sup>799</sup> Within these guidelines the legislature emphasized economic security as a key priority and highlighted the need for a coordinated approach to export controls.

On 23 September 2024, Minister Tajani delivered a statement on dual-use restrictions during the G7 ministerial meeting on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly's High-Level Week.<sup>800</sup> At this ministerial meeting, Minister Tajani called on China to cease the transfer of dual-use materials to Russia, particularly those acting as inputs for Russia's defense sector.

On 23 September 2024, Italy jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>801</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States.

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>802</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

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<sup>796</sup> Belarus' involvement in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: new EU restrictive measures target trade, services, transport and anti-circumvention (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/29/belarus-involvement-in-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-new-eu-restrictive-measures-target-trade-services-transport-and-anti-circumvention/>

<sup>797</sup> Decreta, Istituzione dell'Elenco nazionale di controllo, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 1 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.esteri.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Istituzione-dellelenco-nazionale-di-controllo.pdf>

<sup>798</sup> Allegato A, Decreta, Istituzione dell'Elenco nazionale di controllo, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 1 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.esteri.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/allegato-A.pdf>

<sup>799</sup> Policy Guidelines for the European Commission 2024-2029, the Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic (Rome) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://documenti.camera.it/leg19/dossier/pdf/AT030.pdf>

<sup>800</sup> Statement on Dual-Use Restrictions at G7 Ministerial, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/)

<sup>801</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty>

<sup>802</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

On 24 September 2024, Italy, along with 28 other countries participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>803</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 9 October 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni issued Legislative Decree No. 103 of 12 June 2024, to simplify controls on economic activities.<sup>804</sup> The decree, which entered into law on 2 August 2024 also pertains to the simplification of export related controls of economic activities.

On 20 October 2024, the Ministry of Economy and Finance issued the draft state budget for the fiscal period 2025-2027, which increases the budget for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation's National Authority for Export Control of Armament and Dual-Use Materials (UAMA) from fiscal period 2025 to 2026.<sup>805</sup>

On 18 November 2024, Minister Tajani and the Council of the European Union announced expanded export restrictions on Iran due to the country's military support to Russia's war against Ukraine.<sup>806</sup> These widened measures include a prohibition on the export, transfer, supply, or sale from the EU to Iran of components used in the development and production of missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>807</sup> Their declaration also addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the proliferatory dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 29 November 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defense opened the second Italian Forum on Export Controls.<sup>808</sup> This forum, focused on the defense industry, was a conference of key stakeholders focused on improving public-private dialogue on the development, maintenance and enforcement of export controls.

On 29 November 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defense opened the second Italian Forum on Export Controls.<sup>809</sup> This forum, focused on the defence industry, was a conference of key

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<sup>803</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>804</sup> Legislative Decree No. 103 Simplifying Controls on Economic Activities, the President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Italy (Rome) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.normattiva.it/uri-res/N2Ls?urn:nir:stato:decreto.legislativo:2024-07-12;103%lgv>

<sup>805</sup> Integrative Note to the Budget Draft for 2025-2027, the Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 20 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/\\_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/attivita\\_istituzionali/formazione\\_e\\_gestione\\_del\\_bilancio/bilancio\\_di\\_previsione/bilancio\\_finanziario/2025-2027/DLB/DLB\\_2025\\_DLB-04-AT-060-Esteri.pdf](https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/attivita_istituzionali/formazione_e_gestione_del_bilancio/bilancio_di_previsione/bilancio_finanziario/2025-2027/DLB/DLB_2025_DLB-04-AT-060-Esteri.pdf)

<sup>806</sup> Iran: EU widens restrictive measures in view of Iran support of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and lists one individual and four entities, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/18/iran-eu-widens-restrictive-measures-in-view-of-iran-support-of-the-russian-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-and-lists-one-individual-and-four-entities/>

<sup>807</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>808</sup> Tajani e Crosetto aprono alla Farnesina il secondo "Forum italiano sul Controllo delle Esportazioni", Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 29 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/tajani-e-crosetto-aprono-alla-farnesina-il-secondo-forum-italiano-sul-controllo-delle-esportazioni/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/tajani-e-crosetto-aprono-alla-farnesina-il-secondo-forum-italiano-sul-controllo-delle-esportazioni/)

<sup>809</sup> Tajani e Crosetto aprono alla Farnesina il secondo "Forum italiano sul Controllo delle Esportazioni", Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 29 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/tajani-e-crosetto-aprono-alla-farnesina-il-secondo-forum-italiano-sul-controllo-delle-esportazioni/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/tajani-e-crosetto-aprono-alla-farnesina-il-secondo-forum-italiano-sul-controllo-delle-esportazioni/)

stakeholders focused on improving public-private dialogue on the development, maintenance and enforcement of export controls.

On 21 January 2025, Ambassador Leonardo Bencini assumed the Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament, whilst setting the focus of the Italian presidency on the topic areas of nuclear disarmament, the continued commitment of states to the non-militarisation of outer space, efforts towards a Fissile Materials Treaty and security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon states.<sup>810</sup>

On 5 December 2024, Ambassador Debora Lepre chaired the 28th Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) Plenary meeting in Vienna.<sup>811</sup> The Wassenaar Arrangement Plenary serves as the decision-making body for export controls on dual use goods.<sup>812</sup>

On 6 December 2024, the Ministry of Defence of Italy hosted the Combined Space Operations Initiative in Florence, with Italy and other participating partners addressing their continued commitment to non-proliferation in space.<sup>813</sup>

On 15 February 2025, G7 foreign ministers issued a statement at the margins of the Munich Security Conference, condemning the provision to Russia of dual-use materials by China and the continued provision of military assistance by North Korea and Iran.<sup>814</sup>

On 24 February 2025, the sixteenth Sanctions Package against Russia took effect in Italy, following the agreement upon the extensions of sanctions by the Council of the European Union, thereby imposing stricter export restrictions with regard to dual-use items with a specific focus on chemical precursors and industrial machinery.<sup>815</sup>

On 24 February 2025, Italy took part in the Conference on Disarmament, issuing a joint statement with other EU member states regarding a variety of proliferation related topics, including the escalatory role that material deliveries to Russia in the form of dual-use goods have played in the war in Ukraine.<sup>816</sup>

On 14 March 2025, the G7 Foreign Ministers and the EU High Representative met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>817</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

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<sup>810</sup> Italy assuming the Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://italiarappdisarmo.esteri.it/en/news/dalla\\_rappresentanza/2025/01/italy-assuming-the-presidency-of-the-conference-on-disarmament/](https://italiarappdisarmo.esteri.it/en/news/dalla_rappresentanza/2025/01/italy-assuming-the-presidency-of-the-conference-on-disarmament/)

<sup>811</sup> Statement Issued By The Plenary Chair On 2024 Outcomes Of The Wassenaar Arrangement On Export Controls For Conventional Arms And Dual-use Goods And Technologies, Wassenaar Arrangement (Vienna) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.wassenaar.org/app/uploads/2024/12/Chair-Statement-2024-Outcomes.pdf>

<sup>812</sup> About us, The Wassenaar Arrangement (Vienna) n.d. Access Date: 10 May 2025. <https://www.wassenaar.org/about-us/>

<sup>813</sup> Space: Florence hosts the meeting of the Combined Space Operations Initiative, Ministry of Defence (Rome) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 24 March 2025. <https://www.difesa.it/eng/primo-piano/space-florence-hosts-the-meeting-of-the-combined-space-operations-initiative/59641.html>

<sup>814</sup> Joint G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement - Meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250215-statement.html>

<sup>815</sup> New package of sanctions against Russia, the Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/federal-government/eu-sanctions-2336106>

<sup>816</sup> Conference on Disarmament - 2025 HLS - Joint Statement, EU Delegation to the UN (Geneva) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/conference-disarmament-2025-hls-joint-statement_en)

<sup>817</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

On 28 March 2025, Ambassador Bencini took part in the Global Conference on AI, Security and Ethics organised by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research Institute (UNIDIR) in Geneva.<sup>818</sup> In his discussions during the Conference, Ambassador Bencini underscored the importance non-proliferation in the emerging field of AI, which presents itself as a possible force multiplier for conventional methods of proliferation such as biological weapons.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. Italy has taken strong action towards strengthening its export controls by increasing the funding of the UAMA, whilst also simplifying the implementation of economic restrictions through Legislative Decree No. 103 of 12 June 2024. Furthermore, The legislative changes and increases in UAMA funding demonstrates a commitment by Italian regulations to meet and surpass Multilateral Export Control Regime standards. Italy's participation at the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 as well as their advancement of export controls recognizes the central role of MECRs.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Lorenzo Songsare Sherry*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 17 June 2024, Japan and the United States held an Extended Deterrence Dialogue addressing nuclear development.<sup>819</sup> Both countries emphasized joint deterrence capabilities, and alliance preparedness.

On 26 June 2024, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ken Saito met with United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo.<sup>820</sup> At this meeting, in furtherance of the Japan-United States Commercial and Industrial Partnership, Minister Saito and Secretary Raimondo discussed further bilateral cooperation on export controls.

On 23 September 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stressed Japan's commitment to a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT) as a feasible step toward a world without nuclear weapons.<sup>821</sup> In his remarks at the Friends of an FMCT High-Level Launch Meeting, he emphasized the importance of beginning treaty discussions to limit continued manufacturing of fissile material for nuclear weapons. The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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<sup>818</sup> Unidir Global Conference: Reaffirming Multilateralism And Trust In The Age Of Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://italiarappdisarmo.esteri.it/en/news/dalla\\_rappresentanza/2025/04/unidir-global-conference-reaffirming-multilateralism-and-trust-in-the-age-of-artificial-intelligence/](https://italiarappdisarmo.esteri.it/en/news/dalla_rappresentanza/2025/04/unidir-global-conference-reaffirming-multilateralism-and-trust-in-the-age-of-artificial-intelligence/)

<sup>819</sup> US-Japan Extended Deterrence Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-extended-deterrence-dialogue-3/>

<sup>820</sup> Minister Saito Holds the Fourth Japan-U.S. Commercial and Industrial Partnership (JUCIP) Ministerial Meeting with Ms. Gina M. Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0627\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0627_001.html)

<sup>821</sup> Prime Minister Kishida attends the High-Level Launch Meeting of the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/ac\\_d/page4e\\_001472\\_00001.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/ac_d/page4e_001472_00001.html)

On 24 September 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoko Kamikawa emphasized Japan's commitment to advancing realistic and practical efforts toward a world free of nuclear weapons, particularly in light of the challenging international security climate.<sup>822</sup> Minister Kamikawa pushed for strengthening efforts to universalize the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and expedite its early entry into force.

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>823</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 24 September 2024, Japan, along with 28 other countries, participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>824</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 4 October 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>825</sup> Japanese officials engaged with participants, who were officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, on topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 28 October 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry held a joint dialogue event with counterparts from China's Ministry of Commerce, on the topic of export controls.<sup>826</sup> During this event, Japanese and Chinese officials discussed export control issues, promoting transparency and mutual understanding between governments and private-sector stakeholders.

On 30 October 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Technology and Industry issued a ministry ordinance outlining amendments to the regulations under the Foreign Exchange Order including seventeen and eighteen, focusing on transactions related to technology transfer and export controls.<sup>827</sup> The amendments contain new rules specifying conditions for providing technical information related to the development, manufacture, or use of sensitive goods listed in Appendix I of the Export Trade Control Order. This includes manufacturing technologies that, if misused, could be adapted for nuclear or military applications.

On 26 November 2024, Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya released a joint Declaration alongside all other G7 Foreign Ministers.<sup>828</sup> As part of the declaration, the ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar. The declaration also addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the proliferatory dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

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<sup>822</sup> Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00603.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00603.html)

<sup>823</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>824</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>825</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>826</sup> Third Meeting of the Japan-China Export Control Dialogue and Japan-China Joint Outreach Event Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 11 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1030\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1030_001.html)

<sup>827</sup> Regarding amendments to the "Ministry Ordinance Partially Revising the Ministerial Ordinance on Trade-Related Non-Trade Transactions, etc.", Center for Information on Security Trade Control (Tokyo) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. <https://www.cistec.or.jp/export/express/241030/241030.html>

<sup>828</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>



On 3 December 2024, the Japanese Government called for the adoption of tangible measures based on the “Hiroshima Action Plan.”<sup>829</sup> These measures include the enhancement of transparency measures, negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty, continuation of the non-use of nuclear weapons and disarmament and non-proliferation education to improve understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings. It considers maintaining and strengthening the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

On 14 January 2025, Japan and the European Union held a Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, reinforcing their shared commitment to global peace and stability, with a focus on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, underscoring the importance of the NPT.<sup>830</sup> The dialogue emphasized Japan’s shared commitment with the EU to promote global peace and stability through collaborative efforts in arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation.

On 4 February 2025, Japan highlighted its commitment to the IAEA by stressing the importance of enhancing cooperation on nuclear non-proliferation efforts in anticipation of Director General of the IAEA Rafael Mariano Grossi to the Ministry of Affairs.<sup>831</sup> Japan further emphasized its support for multilateral frameworks, such as the IAEA, to foster international peace and security through strengthened export controls and non-proliferation measures.

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>832</sup> This included condemning China’s provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders’ emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. Japan demonstrated strong action to strengthen its export controls policies by amending the Foreign Exchange Order, and to corroborate these controls with Multilateral Export Control Regime standards by proxy through bilateral cooperation with the United States. Germany’s participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation and the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 as well as their advancement of export controls at those forums recognizes the central role of MECRs.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mehek Berry*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

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<sup>829</sup> The Adoption of the Draft Resolution on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons submitted by Japan in the Plenary Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00769.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00769.html)

<sup>830</sup> Japan-EU Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 8 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00920.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00920.html)

<sup>831</sup> Visit of H.E. Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 8 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00971.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00971.html)

<sup>832</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

On 15 June 2024, the United Kingdom released a joint statement with the governments of France and Germany condemning Iran's nuclear programme expansion.<sup>833</sup> The United Kingdom denounced Iran's increased uranium enrichment and advanced centrifuge use, warning of significant proliferation risks and urged Iran to fulfil its Non-Proliferation Treaty obligations.

On 10 July 2024, the Washington Summit Declaration issued at North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit condemned Russia's nuclear posturing and expressed concern over Russia's increasing violations of arms control agreements and nuclear safety standards.<sup>834</sup> The declaration called on the People's Republic of China to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort and introduce export controls on dual-use items. The declaration reaffirmed members' commitment to nuclear deterrence as essential to NATO security while encouraging arms control and non-proliferation efforts as essential to ensuring strategic stability. The UK is a NATO member.

On 2 September 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy announced the introduction of further regulation on exports that support Iran's production of military weapons to the House of Commons, supporting efforts to maintain international security and tackle threats to peace.<sup>835</sup>

On 10 September 2024, the United Kingdom released a joint statement with the governments of France and Germany condemning Iran's exports of ballistic missiles to Russia.<sup>836</sup> Germany announced it will proceed with canceling bilateral air service agreements with Iran, designating entities and individuals involved in the missile transfer, and imposing sanctions on Iran Air. Germany reaffirmed its commitment to working with European and international partners on the non-proliferation of weapons provided to Russia for its war against Ukraine.

On 20 September 2024, the Ministry of Defence announced a research compact with the United States' Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency and Canada's Department of National Defence.<sup>837</sup> The three agencies committed to work together in researching advances to cyber-security infrastructure and in mitigating risks caused by artificial intelligence, particularly in dual-use military applications.

On 23 September 2024, the United Kingdom jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>838</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, and the United States.

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<sup>833</sup> Iran's further expansion of its nuclear programme: joint statement by France, Germany and the UK, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-united-kingdom>

<sup>834</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>835</sup> UK policy on arms export licences to Israel: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 15 October 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretary-statement-on-uk-policy-on-arms-export-licenses-to-israel>

<sup>836</sup> Iran - Transfers of Ballistic Missiles to Russia - Statement by the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-transfers-of-ballistic-missiles-to-russia-statement-by-the-foreign>

<sup>837</sup> UK, US and Canada to collaborate on cybersecurity and AI research, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-canada-to-collaborate-on-cybersecurity-and-ai-research>

<sup>838</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty/>

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>839</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 24 September 2024, the UK, along with 28 other countries participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>840</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>841</sup> The declaration also addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 9 December 2024, the UK, France and Germany condemned Iran's escalation of its nuclear program particularly its actions at the Fordow facility.<sup>842</sup> They expressed concern and urged Iran to reverse its actions and its nuclear escalation.

On 17 December 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) issued a joint statement alongside the German Federal Foreign Office and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, pertaining to non-proliferation in Iran and the implementation Of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231(2015).<sup>843</sup>

On 17 December 2024, UK Deputy Permanent Representative James Kariuki condemned Iran's nuclear escalation.<sup>844</sup> The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported a significant increase in Iran's uranium production. Kariuki stated there was no civilian justification for Iran's actions and warned that its growing capabilities raised concerns for global non-proliferation.

On 18 December 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative Kariuki condemned North Korea's support for Russia's war in Ukraine, and its supplying of weapons.<sup>845</sup> Kariuki called for the withdrawal of North Korean Forces and support for Russia, warning that it undermined international law and stability. He also called for

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<sup>839</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>840</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>841</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>842</sup> Iran's Further Escalation of Its Nuclear Programme: Joint Statement by France, Germany and the UK, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/irans-further-escalation-of-its-nuclear-programme-joint-statement-by-france-germany-and-the-uk>

<sup>843</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, United Kingdom on Non-Proliferation, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/iran-joint-statement-by-france-germany-united-kingdom-on-non-proliferation>

<sup>844</sup> There Is No Justification for Iran's Stockpiling of High Enriched Uranium: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (New York) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/there-is-no-justification-for-irans-stockpiling-of-high-enriched-uranium-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>845</sup> North Korea Must Cease Its Support for Russia's Illegal War in Ukraine: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (New York) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/dprk-must-cease-its-support-for-russias-illegal-war-in-ukraine-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

alignment with global nuclear non-proliferation principles, urging Russia to honour the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

On 20 December 2024, the FCDO published the Counter Proliferation Programme guidance for the financial year 2025 to 2026.<sup>846</sup> This guidance outlines the UK's commitment to non-proliferation efforts and supports global actions to address proliferation threats.

On 23 December 2024, the FCDO released a joint statement alongside the Federal Foreign Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France on the IAEA Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, underscoring the critical role played by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Safeguards Agreement in establishing the civilian nature of nuclear programs in the country.<sup>847</sup>

On 11 March 2025, the Export Control Joint Unit in the Department for Business and Trade announced upcoming changes to the Strategic Export Controls list in line with the Wassenaar Arrangement.<sup>848</sup> The updated list will be made public in the spring.

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>849</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. The UK has participated in multiple statements and groups with fellow G7 and NATO members that call for stronger export controls regarding business with geopolitical rivals. Through collaboration with the United States and Canada, the UK has also committed to defence research conducive to making its export controls regime more applicable to modern technologies. However, the UK has not updated its control list or taken any action to strengthen its export controls on dual-use materials, technology or research during this cycle. The UK indicated that its export control list would be published in the spring. Publication of this list and its implementation in line with the Wassenaar Arrangement will result in full compliance.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

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<sup>846</sup> Counter Proliferation Programme Guidance: Financial Year 2025 to 2026, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 24 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-proliferation-programme>

<sup>847</sup> Joint Statement by France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States on the IAEA Board of Governors Resolution on Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 November 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2686318-2686318>

<sup>848</sup> NTE 2025/06: upcoming updates to the UK strategic export control list, Department for Business and Trade (London) 11 March 2025. Access Date: 10 May 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-to-exporters-202506-upcoming-updates-to-the-uk-strategic-export-control-list/nte-202506-upcoming-updates-to-the-uk-strategic-export-control-list>

<sup>849</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

On 17 June 2024, the United States and Japan held an Extended Deterrence Dialogue addressing nuclear development.<sup>850</sup> Both countries emphasized joint deterrence capabilities, and alliance preparedness.

On 21 June 2024, representatives from the European Union and the United States, including EU Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson and US Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco, met for the EU-US Ministerial Meeting on Justice and Home Affairs in Brussels.<sup>851</sup> The representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the enforcement of sanctions and export controls in light of Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

On 26 June 2024, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo met with Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ken Saito.<sup>852</sup> At this meeting, in furtherance of the Japan-United States Commercial and Industrial Partnership, Secretary Raimondo and Minister Saito discussed further bilateral cooperation on export controls.

On 27 June 2024, Secretary Raimondo met with Korean Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Ahn Duk-geun.<sup>853</sup> Secretary Raimondo and Minister Ahn discussed further cooperation on dual-use export controls, specifically commenting upon ongoing negotiations at the United States-Korea Supply Chain and Commercial Dialogue initiative's Dual-Use Export Controls working group.

On 10 July 2024, the Washington Summit Declaration issued at North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit condemned Russia's nuclear posturing and expressed concern over Russia's increasing violations of arms control agreements and nuclear safety standards.<sup>854</sup> The declaration called on the People's Republic of China to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort and introduce export controls on dual-use items. The declaration reaffirmed members' commitment to nuclear deterrence as essential to NATO security while encouraging arms control and non-proliferation efforts as essential to ensuring strategic stability. The US is a NATO member.

On 20 September 2024, the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency announced a research compact with the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence and Canada's Department of National Defence.<sup>855</sup> The three agencies committed to work together in researching advances to cyber-security infrastructure and in mitigating risks caused by artificial intelligence, particularly in dual-use military applications.

On 23 September 2024, the United States jointly established the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), a group of countries that advocates for a treaty ban on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons.<sup>856</sup> The FMCT includes Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom.

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<sup>850</sup> US-Japan Extended Deterrence Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-japan-extended-deterrence-dialogue-3/>

<sup>851</sup> EU-US joint press release following the EU-US Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3428](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3428)

<sup>852</sup> Minister Saito Holds the Fourth Japan-U.S. Commercial and Industrial Partnership (JUCIP) Ministerial Meeting with Ms. Gina M. Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0627\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0627_001.html)

<sup>853</sup> Joint Readout: United States-Korea Supply Chain and Commercial Dialogue Ministerial Meeting, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/06/joint-readout-united-states-korea-supply-chain-and-commercial-dialogue>

<sup>854</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_227678.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_227678.htm)

<sup>855</sup> UK, US and Canada to collaborate on cybersecurity and AI research, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-canada-to-collaborate-on-cybersecurity-and-ai-research>

<sup>856</sup> Joint Statement on the Friends of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-friends-of-a-fissile-material-cut-off-treaty/>

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>857</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 24 September 2024, the United States, along with 28 other countries participated in the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 under the Proliferation Security Initiative by Australia.<sup>858</sup> The exercise enhanced cooperation in non-proliferation export measures and security measures.

On 2 October 2024, the Department of State introduced new sanctions targeting four entities that have transferred dual-use goods to the Houthi rebel group in Yemen.<sup>859</sup>

On 3 October 2024, Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Bonnie Jenkins addressed international security, highlighting Russia's violations of international obligations at the NATO Weapons of Mass Destruction Conference.<sup>860</sup> She called for strengthened commitments to arms control and the nuclear proliferation regime, and the necessity for the engagement of Russia and China on these issues.

On 4 October 2024, the United States participated in the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>861</sup> The talks, hosted by Japan for officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, emphasized topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 28 October 2024, the Department of the Treasury issued a Final Rule restricting US export of semiconductors, artificial intelligence and quantum computing and information technologies to China.<sup>862</sup> The rule stipulates that individuals residing in the United States cannot transfer certain of these items to China, and that certain other transfers cannot be made without the consent of the Department of the Treasury.

On 30 October 2024, the Department of State introduced new sanctions targeting entities transferring dual-use goods to Russia in third countries including China, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Türkiye and the United Arab Emirates.<sup>863</sup>

On 13 November 2024, Assistant Secretary Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation C.S. Eliot Kang emphasized the importance of maintaining national security by ensuring the peaceful use of nuclear

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<sup>857</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>858</sup> Exercise Specific Protector Kicks Off, Australian Government Defence (Canberra) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2024-09-24/exercise-pacific-protector-kicks>

<sup>859</sup> Targeting Houthi Weapons Smuggling and Procurement Networks, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/targeting-houthi-weapons-smuggling-and-procurement-networks/>

<sup>860</sup> Under Secretary Jenkin's Remarks at the NATO WMD Conference, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/under-secretary-jenkins-remarks-at-the-nato-wmd-conference/>

<sup>861</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>862</sup> FACT SHEET: Addressing U.S. Investments in Certain National Security Technologies and Products in Countries of Concern, The White House (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/28/fact-sheet-addressing-u-s-investments-in-certain-national-security-technologies-and-products-in-countries-of-concern/>

<sup>863</sup> New Measures Targeting Third-Country Enablers Supporting Russia's Military-Industrial Base, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/new-measures-targeting-third-country-enablers-supporting-russias-military-industrial-base/>

energy.<sup>864</sup> He highlighted challenges to non-proliferation and strategies to manage nuclear exports to maintain global security.

On 21 November 2024, the US and Thailand hosted the Southeast Asia Proliferation Security Initiative to discuss non-proliferation efforts.<sup>865</sup> The workshop discussed methods to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction including export controls.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>866</sup> The declaration also addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 17 December 2024, the Department of State and Department of Defense and the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of the Armed Forces co-chaired the third US-France Defense Trade Strategic Dialogue (DTSG) in Paris.<sup>867</sup> The DTSG included updates from working groups on export regulations and international export regimes. Representatives reaffirmed their commitment to close coordination on international armaments issues, including identifying measures to improve export control efficiency and effectiveness.

On 5 February 2025, President Donald Trump signed a directive reinstating his first term "maximum pressure" policy on Iran, aiming to force the state into a nuclear deal.<sup>868</sup> President Trump emphasized the consequences of acquiring nuclear weapons, showcasing non-proliferation goals.

On 13 February 2025, President Trump proposed restarting nuclear arms control talks with Russia and China.<sup>869</sup> He criticized current spending on nuclear weapons and aimed for a future agreement to halve Russian and Chinese defence budgets.

On 26 February 2025, the United States sanctioned six entities based in China and Hong Kong for aiding Iran's missile programs.<sup>870</sup>

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<sup>864</sup> Understanding the Past and Navigating the Future of Civil Nuclear Energy, U.S. Department of State (Colorado) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/understanding-the-past-and-navigating-the-future-of-civil-nuclear-energy/>

<sup>865</sup> U.S. and Thailand Co-Host Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) Southeast Asia Workshop in Bangkok to Strengthen Regional Counterproliferation Cooperation, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-and-thailand-co-host-proliferation-security-initiative-psi-southeast-asia-workshop-in-bangkok-to-strengthen-regional-counterproliferation-cooperation/>

<sup>866</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>867</sup> Third Defense Trade Strategic Dialogue (DTSG) Between the United States and France, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/2024/article/third-defense-trade-strategic-dialogue-dtsg-between-the-united-states-and-france>

<sup>868</sup> Trump Restores 'Maximum Pressure' Policy on Iran, Hopes for Nuclear Deal, The White House (Washington D.C.) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/02/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-restores-maximum-pressure-on-iran/>

<sup>869</sup> Trump proposes nuclear deal with Russia and China to halve defense budgets, The Guardian (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/feb/13/trump-nuclear-russia-china>

<sup>870</sup> New Sanctions Increase Pressure on Iran's UAV and Ballistic Missile Programs, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/new-sanctions-increase-pressure-on-irans-uav-and-ballistic-missile-programs/>

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>871</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

On 1 April 2025, the United States sanctioned six entities and two Individuals in China, the United Arab Emirates and Iran for aiding Iran's ballistic missile procurement networks.<sup>872</sup> This action aims to disrupt Iran's proliferation efforts.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. The United States demonstrated taken strong action to restrict the export of materials and technologies with potential military uses, including through the Treasury Department's final rule limiting semiconductor, quantum information and artificial intelligence to China. The United States' participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation, the Exercise Pacific Protector 24 and the Proliferation Security Initiative, their co-chairing of the DTSG as well as their advancement of export controls at those forums recognizes the central role of MECRs.

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

*Analyst: Layan Mbaish*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security.

On 21 June 2024, representatives from the European Union and the United States, including EU Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson and US Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco, met for the EU-US Ministerial Meeting on Justice and Home Affairs in Brussels.<sup>873</sup> The representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the enforcement of sanctions and export controls in light of Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

On 24 June 2024, the Council of the European Union announced its Fourteenth package of sanctions against Russia.<sup>874</sup> The European Union added 61 entities to its export restriction list for supporting Russia's military-industrial complex, with the expanded sanctions and restrictions targeting dual-use goods and technologies, including machine tools, chemicals, and helium imports.

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<sup>871</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>872</sup> Sanctions Target Iran's UAV and Ballistic Missile Procurement Networks, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-target-irans-uav-and-ballistic-missile-procurement-networks/>

<sup>873</sup> EU-US joint press release following the EU-US Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3428](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3428)

<sup>874</sup> Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: comprehensive EU's 14th package of sanctions cracks down on circumvention and adopts energy measures, Council of the European Union (Brussels), 24 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-comprehensive-eu-s-14th-package-of-sanctions-cracks-down-on-circumvention-and-adopts-energy-measures/>



On 29 June 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted additional restrictive measures against Belarus to closer align them with the sanctions on Russia and address circumvention issues.<sup>875</sup> The Council extended the export ban to include restrictions on additional dual-use goods, professional services, and transport. Furthermore, the Council will require EU exporters to contractually prohibit the re-exportation of sensitive goods to Belarus.

On 5 September 2024, the European Commission adopted a Delegated Regulation updating the list of dual-use items contained in Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2021/821.<sup>876</sup> This list is updated annually to remain aligned with the Multilateral Export Control Regimes (MECRs). This update adds new dual-use goods to the list, such as nuclear equipment, toxins, and noise reduction equipment, provides for the modification of control parameters, and updates technical definitions.

On 13 September 2024, the European Union condemned Iran's recent exports of ballistic missiles to Russia.<sup>877</sup> The European Union is responding by announcing new restrictive measures against Iran, including the designation of involved entities in the missile, drone, and aviation sectors.

On 24 September 2024, the G7 issued joint guidance for industry on preventing the evasion of export controls and sanctions imposed on Russia.<sup>878</sup> This document includes key risk indicators for sanctions circumvention and offers recommendations on best practices for compliance.

On 4 October 2024, the European Union participated in the 19th edition of the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation.<sup>879</sup> The talks, hosted by Japan for officials from various members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and interested states from outside Asia, emphasized topics such as bolstering export controls across all countries.

On 18 November 2024, the Council of the European Union announced expanded export restrictions on Iran due to the country's military support to Russia's war against Ukraine.<sup>880</sup> These widened measures include a prohibition on the export, transfer, supply, or sale from the EU to Iran of components used in the development and production of missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers called for China to end the export of dual-use materials to Russia, and for all states to end dual-use material exports to Myanmar.<sup>881</sup> The declaration also addressed Russia's veto on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1718 Committee Panel of

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<sup>875</sup> Belarus' involvement in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: new EU restrictive measures target trade, services, transport and anti-circumvention (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/29/belarus-involvement-in-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-new-eu-restrictive-measures-target-trade-services-transport-and-anti-circumvention/>

<sup>876</sup> 2024 Update of the EU Control List of Dual-Use Items (Brussels) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024.

[https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-update-eu-control-list-dual-use-items-2024-10-01\\_en](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/2024-update-eu-control-list-dual-use-items-2024-10-01_en)

<sup>877</sup> Iran: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union (Brussels) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/09/13/iran-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union/>

<sup>878</sup> Preventing Russian Export Control & Sanctions Evasion Guidance, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/G/g7-guidance-for-industry-preventing-russian-export-control-and-sanctions-evasion.pdf>

<sup>879</sup> The 19th Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation (ASTOP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00626.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00626.html)

<sup>880</sup> Iran: EU widens restrictive measures in view of Iran support of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and lists one individual and four entities, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/18/iran-eu-widens-restrictive-measures-in-view-of-iran-support-of-the-russian-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-and-lists-one-individual-and-four-entities/>

<sup>881</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

Experts on North Korea Sanctions, as well as the dangers presented by the possible transfer of ballistic and nuclear missile technology to the North Korea by Russia.

On 14 January 2025, the EU and Japan held a Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, reinforcing their shared commitment to global peace and stability, with a focus on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, underscoring the importance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.<sup>882</sup> The dialogue emphasized Japan's shared commitment with the EU to promote global peace and stability through collaborative efforts in arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation.

On 30 January 2025, the European Commission published a report examining patterns of Member State exports of dual-use items from 2022-2024.<sup>883</sup> As the first annual report prepared under the terms of the EU Export Control Regulation, the report demonstrates increased scrutiny on the part of both the EU and Member States when considering the export of dual-use items. Additionally, the report includes information on Member States' licensing data to increase transparency and allow for an improved understanding of how export controls are applied across the EU.

On 24 February 2025, the Council of the European Union adopted its sixteenth sanctions package against Russia.<sup>884</sup> The new measures include extended dual-use export restrictions that cover industrial goods and software, in addition to tightened exemptions for certain advanced technology exports. The package also restricts exports to over 50 more companies involved in Russia's military-industrial complex or sanctions circumvention.

On 14 March 2025, the G7 foreign ministers met in Charlevoix to reaffirm their commitments to non-proliferation.<sup>885</sup> This included condemning China's provision of weapons and dual-use components to Russia for use in the war against Ukraine. The leaders' emphasized the importance of international rules and norms for protecting global security.

On 27 March 2025, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy attended the 20th EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting.<sup>886</sup> The participants reaffirmed their commitments to international arms control, disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Furthermore, the EU shared information about its measures to prevent sanctions circumvention and re-exports of high priority items, on which the participants agreed to continue their cooperation.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen effective export controls on materials, technology, and research that could be used for military purposes in a way that keeps pace with rapid technological developments and recognizes the central role of multilateral export control regimes as a key non-proliferation instrument and safeguard for international peace and security. The European Union has taken strong action towards strengthening its export controls by aligning restrictions on Belarus and updating the dual-use export control list, and weak action by offering verbal support during the EU-US Ministerial Meeting.

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<sup>882</sup> Japan-EU Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 8 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00920.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00920.html)

<sup>883</sup> Report Highlights EU's Approach to Export Controls of Dual-Use Items, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/report-highlights-eus-approach-export-controls-dual-use-items-2025-01-31\\_en](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/report-highlights-eus-approach-export-controls-dual-use-items-2025-01-31_en)

<sup>884</sup> Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/389 of 24 February 2025 implementing Regulation (EU) No 269/2014 concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, EUR-Lex (Brussels) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 10 May 2025. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L\\_202500389](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202500389)

<sup>885</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>886</sup> Joint communiqué - 20th EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/27/joint-communique-20th-eu-central-asia-ministerial-meeting/>

The updates to the dual-use export control list also demonstrates a commitment for European Union regulations to meet and surpass MECR standards. The European Union's participation at the Asia Senior-Level Talks on Non-Proliferation and their advancement of export controls at those forums recognizes the central role of MECRs.

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

*Analyst: Jeanne Brownell*

## 5. Climate Change: Climate Adaptation

“We note that, despite progress, there is a need to continue to scale up action and support, including finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union		0	
Average	0.00 (50%)		

### Background

The climate change crisis is one of the world’s most pertinent threats and mitigating its effects has been one of the G7’s primary focuses. The Paris Agreement, ratified in 2016, was a historic international treaty aimed at restricting planetary temperature increases to 2°C, aiming for a safer 1.5°C.<sup>887</sup> The Paris Agreement also stated that climate funding is pivotal in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>888</sup> The Glasgow Climate Pact, signed on 13 November 2021, reaffirms the commitments made in the Paris Agreement. It encourages Parties to further reduce emissions to meet the 1.5°C goal, diminish coal consumption, protect ecosystems through conservation and restoration measures and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies. The Agreement urges developed countries to elevate their climate finance capacity in response to the needs of developing countries, including through contributions to the Adaptation Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund.<sup>889</sup> The Agreement also encourages financial mobilization from the private sector, calling upon financial institutions including multilateral development banks to fund resources necessary for proposed climate plans. As global temperature recordings continue to rise at concerning rates, the G7 and countries internationally aim to take greater actions to reduce emissions to reach their net-zero targets; greater financial allocation towards supporting developing countries can aid in the larger goal of limiting climatic ramifications.<sup>890</sup>

At the 1978 Bonn Summit, the G7 outlined the need to review their national energy programmes, which included increasing energy research and development.<sup>891</sup> This included a goal of intensifying national development assistance programmes to help developing countries.

<sup>887</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 1 September 2024.

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/paris-agreement>

<sup>888</sup> Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) 2015. Access Date: 1 September 2024.

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

<sup>889</sup> Decision -/CP.26 Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations (New York) 13 November 2021. Access Date: 1 September 2024.

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cop26\\_aув\\_2f\\_cover\\_decision.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cop26_aув_2f_cover_decision.pdf)

<sup>890</sup> Nations must go further than current Paris pledges or face global warming of 2.5-2.9°C, United Nations (New York) 20 November 2023. Access Date: 1 September 2024. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/nations-must-go-further-current-paris-pledges-or-face-global-warming>

<sup>891</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Bonn) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 1 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communiqué.html>

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, the G7 first acknowledged the significance of renewable energy in the pursuit of developing alternative energy sources, restating its importance in equalizing the world economy and preventing further pollution.<sup>892</sup>

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders recognized the importance of limiting pollution and identified projects to help develop cost-effective methods aimed at reducing environmental damage.<sup>893</sup>

At the 1987 Venice Summit, the G7 stated actions must be taken to face climate change and other large-scale environmental issues such as deforestation, air and marine pollution and ozone depletion.<sup>894</sup> Clean and low-resource technologies and the widespread international adoption of sustainable goods were listed as methods to tackle these problems.

At the 1989 Paris Summit, the G7 noted their intent to help developing countries repair past damages and provide economic incentives and technological support to encourage a shift towards environmentally friendly efforts.<sup>895</sup> Statements were also made in favor of environmental considerations in economic planning and active conservation and protection endeavors to protect tropical forests and marine ecosystems.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, the G7 highlighted climate change as a matter of crucial relevance; actions to help mitigate its effects include expedited scientific and economic research on climate change, reforestation and sustainable forest management, reducing marine pollution and prioritized development of alternative energy sources.<sup>896</sup> The G7 noted that financial and technological resources are imperative and encouraged multilateral development banks to incorporate environmental considerations into their programmes.

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, the G7 restated the importance of environmental safeguarding and the need for environmental cognizance in all policy and decision-making discourse.<sup>897</sup> The G7 asserted that efforts must be concentrated on minimizing pollution through more thorough environmental costs and a polluter pays principle.

At the 1996 Moscow Nuclear Safety and Security Summit, the G7 with Russia agreed to interdict radioactive waste disposal in the ocean and its related proper post-use management to prevent any environmental harm.<sup>898</sup>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, the G8 committed to greater environmental protections in the face of climate change.<sup>899</sup> These promises include implementing national sustainable forest management programmes, creating protected forested areas, eliminating illegal deforestation, combating desertification, sustainable fishing and preventing oil spills and marine pollution.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, the G8 delineated environmental protection as a facet of sustainable development, explaining the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with an emphasis on developing renewable energy

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<sup>892</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Tokyo) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 2 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>893</sup> London G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (London) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

<sup>894</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Venice) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html>

<sup>895</sup> Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Paris) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

<sup>896</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Houston) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

<sup>897</sup> Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Halifax) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communique/index.html>

<sup>898</sup> Nuclear Safety and Security Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Moscow) 20 April 1996. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996moscow/declaration.html>

<sup>899</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Denver) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

sources to lower industrial impact upon the earth.<sup>900</sup> The G8 also encouraged multilateral development banks and national development assistance agencies to develop finance procedures to boost green energy.

On 25-27 April 2003, the G8 Environment Ministers meeting in Evian identified the need for greener technologies to decouple economic growth and ecological deterioration. A call for improved environmental governance and financing was also mentioned.<sup>901</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, the G8 recognized the importance of protecting the marine environment, calling for greater regulation of illegal fishing, measures to protect and maintain biodiversity, sustainable development and compilation of information and management concerning environmental evaluations and impact assessments.<sup>902</sup> This will help determine any intrusive effects from national projects on coastal and marine environments and ecosystemic equilibrium. Satellite imaging and other modern technologies were referenced to combat threats to forests, illegal logging and deforestation and facilitate sustainable forest management.<sup>903</sup>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 expressed their intent to respond to climate change through cleaner technologies and promoting innovations towards improved energy efficiency.<sup>904</sup> The Gleneagles Plan of Action included a comprehensive list in transforming energy consumption and transitioning towards cleaner energy; the creation of financing frameworks for clean energy with the World Bank were discussed. The G8 stated their goal to collaborate with developing countries to improve resilience in climate adaptation strategies. Another subsection reaffirms their commitment to international cooperation in monitoring planetary observations, as well as collaboration between timber-producing and timber-consuming nations in tackling deforestation and other ramifications of logging.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, the G8 suggested the use of long-term strategies to address the climate change crisis, welcoming the creation of regional, national and international policies and plans.<sup>905</sup> The G8 reacknowledged the importance of taking action to adapt in accordance with climate impacts, emphasizing their enthusiasm to support developing countries. Their listed actions include developing technology roadmaps, energy diversification and motivating global development as efforts to combat climate change and to continue engaging with developing countries to halt forest cover loss. The recovery of the ozone layer by phasing out hydrochlorofluorocarbons and other ozone-depleting substances, alongside increasing energy efficiency through multiple initiatives will reduce emissions. One such strategy includes sustainable building techniques with low or zero-energy emissions, as well as the abatement of greenhouse gases in the long-term.

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 declared a determination to reaching atmospheric greenhouse gas concentration stabilization, with a goal to half global emissions by 2050 through the deployment and evolution of low-carbon alternative technologies for long-term use to attain sustainable economic development.<sup>906</sup> The G8 has noted their cooperation with developing countries in climate adaptation and are committed to increasing investment in clean energy research and development, having pledged USD10 billion annually over the next few years and supplying incentives for public-private partnerships and private sector

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<sup>900</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Genoa) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>901</sup> G8 Environment Minister's Meeting, Paris, April 2003, Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Paris) 27 April 2003. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2003paris/env030427eng.pdf>

<sup>902</sup> Marine Environment and Tanker Safety: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Evian) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 2 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine_en.html)

<sup>903</sup> Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Evian) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 2 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable\\_development\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html)

<sup>904</sup> The Gleneagles Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/communiqué.pdf>

<sup>905</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Heiligendamm) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.pdf>

<sup>906</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leader's Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Hokkaido-Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

technology commercialization. Commitments to combating illegal logging and poaching and conserving biodiversity were reasserted as well.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, the G8 affirmed that the international community should rally to participate in financially tackling the climate crisis by promoting public-private partnerships in investment and equitably dispersing funds between developed and developing countries with the assistance of multilateral development banks and other international institutions.<sup>907</sup> The G8 also pledged to increase consideration of ecosystem adaptation, strengthen informational networks to reinforce research building and continue to support deforestation prevention efforts, with positive incentives for developing countries that work to reduce emissions. The need for climate financing was addressed, through bilateral and multilateral approaches, calling for an appropriate arrangement to facilitate adaptation and mitigation.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the G8 noted their support for a goal of developed countries meeting an 80 per cent aggregate reduction in emissions.<sup>908</sup> The G8 reiterated their support for the Copenhagen Accord, contributing financial aid to address urgent needs in vulnerable nations, as well as discussed adaptational innovation and infrastructure. They are committed to building a low-carbon, green and climate-resilient economy and calling on the International Energy Agency to create an International Platform to better disseminate low-carbon technologies in reducing global emissions.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, the G8 committed to heightening their response to decelerating biodiversity loss, recognizing their critical role in maintaining ecological equilibrium and the global carbon cycle.<sup>909</sup>

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing climate change globally and pledged to cooperate with other international actors.<sup>910</sup> The members welcomed financing for energy infrastructure and also recognized the impacts of pollutants on various vital sectors such as health and agriculture and pledged to join the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, the G8 reiterated the commitment of developed countries to collectively finance USD100 billion in climate finance per year by 2020 to bridge the gap and improve the climate finance flows to underpin mitigation actions.<sup>911</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their support of the Copenhagen Accord in addressing developing countries' climate mitigation and adaptation needs.<sup>912</sup> They reaffirmed the need to address climate mitigation and adaptation needs and in ameliorating the reportage of global climate finance flows.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, the G7 restated their desire to implement the Green Climate Fund by 2015 to support climate finance architecture, mobilize financial resources from the private sector to fund renewable energy in Africa and developing countries in other regions and pledged to add mitigation measures into

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<sup>907</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (L'Aquila) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>908</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Muskoka) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>909</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Deauville) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>910</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Camp David). 19 May 2012. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

<sup>911</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Lough Erne) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>912</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 15 September 15, 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

development and decision-making.<sup>913</sup> The G8 also pledged to continue to mobilize finance and overcome investment barriers, to intensify support by 400 million for residents in vulnerable countries.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 reaffirmed their commitment to climate finance from the public and private sectors to support developing countries in instating their national climate plans, in relation to mitigation and adaptation.<sup>914</sup> At the Environment Ministers' Meeting, the G7 Environment Ministers also encouraged intergovernmental cooperation in managing climate-related issues, including biodiversity protection, marine management and overcoming illegal wildlife trade.<sup>915</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 avowed their support for investing in coastal resilience, especially in developing countries, for diminishing fish overexploitation and in launching a joint initiative to supervise coastal zones.<sup>916</sup> All G7 members except for the United States also reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement and to reaching a global carbon-neutral economy by the second half of the century.<sup>917</sup> They also reiterated their commitment to enhancing financing adaptive capacity. The six nations also endorsed the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter, an agreement to more sustainable consumption and manufacturing of plastics to prevent environmental pollution.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 extended their commitment to climate finance, reaffirming the collective annual USD100 billion funding goal to 2025 from the public and private sectors to help global transition to net-zero economies and with decarbonization efforts and pledged to increase this amount at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Glasgow.<sup>918</sup> This includes finance towards adaptation and resilience. The G7 has stated they will use blended finance vehicles to reach their goals, such as through private capital streams towards the Green Climate Fund and reinforce net-zero commitments. The Nature Compact ahead of the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) in Kunming and COP26 shows an endorsement to conserving and protecting a minimum of 30 per cent of global land and ocean by 2030 for biodiversity targets in hopes of curbing mass extinction, which the G7 hopes to also increase finance for.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, the G7 reiterated many previous commitments, noting the pertinence of the climate change crisis, including the endeavor not to allow global warming to exceed a 1.5°C increase, net-zero emissions for international shipping by 2050, the call to double the climate adaptation finance provision for developing countries by 2025 as stated in the Glasgow Climate Pact and the elimination of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies by 2025.<sup>919</sup> Emphasis was placed on low-carbon and renewable energy and preserving biodiversity in marine and terrestrial environments remained a key concern of the G7. The creation of the Climate Club is also meant to facilitate climate action and accelerate decarbonization towards the goal of climate neutrality.<sup>920</sup>

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<sup>913</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 2 September 2024.

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

<sup>914</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 2 September 2024.

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

<sup>915</sup> Communiqué, G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toyama) 16 May 2016. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

<sup>916</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>

<sup>917</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>918</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Cornwall) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>919</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>920</sup> G7 Statement on Climate Club, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-climate-club.html>



At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, the G7 committed to accelerating financial flow efforts consistent with lower projected greenhouse gas emissions in line with keeping below the 1.5°C temperature rise, restating commitment to the G7 Ocean Deal by cleaning the oceans and to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030, working with international bodies and using incentive systems to promote action.<sup>921</sup> The G7 members also reaffirmed their commitment to the Glasgow Climate Pact, to at least double the collective supply for adaptive climate financing towards developing countries.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed to “continue to scale up action and support, including finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.”<sup>922</sup> The Glasgow Climate Pact “urges developed country Parties to at least double their collective provision of climate finance for adaptation to developing country Parties from 2019 levels by 2025.”<sup>923</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

G7 members must advance strong action towards climate adaptation finance to developing countries in order to achieve full compliance with the commitment they made at the Apulia Summit. This commitment therefore comprises two components: 1) scaling up action and support for climate adaptation and 2) financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.<sup>924</sup>

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Progress” is understood to mean “moving forward towards a goal.”<sup>925</sup>

“Continue” is understood to mean “to keep up, maintain; to keep going or add to.”<sup>926</sup> In the context of this commitment, G7 members are building upon past adaptation efforts in alignment with the provisions of the Glasgow Climate Pact.

“Glasgow Climate Pact” refers to the agreement reached at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).<sup>927</sup> The Pact consists of a range of agreed decisions including strengthened efforts to increase climate change resilience, lower greenhouse gas emissions and phase down inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and unabated coal use. The pact also places emphasis on the agreements to “significantly scale up” adaptation financing to support developing countries. This includes contributions from multilateral development banks, the private sector and other financial institutions.

“Scaling up” is understood to mean “progression or movement forward. It does not include past or previous performance. It does not include action already taken. It can include past measures if further or additional attention is applied to them.”<sup>928</sup>

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<sup>921</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Hiroshima) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communication.html>

<sup>922</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>923</sup> Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021\\_10\\_add1\\_adv.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf)

<sup>924</sup> Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021\\_10\\_add1\\_adv.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf)

<sup>925</sup> Progress, Merriam Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 31 August 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/develop>

<sup>926</sup> Continue, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 31 August 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/continue>

<sup>927</sup> Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021\\_10\\_add1\\_adv.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf)

<sup>928</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

“Action” is understood to mean “a thing done; the accomplishment of a thing usually over a period of time, in stages, or with the possibility of repetition.”<sup>929</sup>

“Support” refers to “the action or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity”.<sup>930</sup> In the context of this commitment, support for climate adaptation includes actions in addition to adaptation financing, such as mitigation financing, capacity-building, technology transfer, the implementation of policies and measures designed to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change. This includes local, regional, national and international actions.<sup>931</sup>

“Finance” is understood to mean “to raise or provide funds or capital for; to furnish with necessary funds.”<sup>932</sup> In the context of this commitment, there is an emphasis on members providing climate adaptation finance to “respond to the needs of developing countries as part of a global effort.”<sup>933</sup> All six of the ‘Adaptation Finance’ clauses in the Pact refer to developing countries.

“Climate adaptation” refers to “adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities”.<sup>934</sup> Climate adaptation is one of the two central approaches to the global climate change process along with mitigation, which “involves actions to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions from human activities.”<sup>935</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Domestic and international actions contribute to compliance for adaptation “action and support” beyond adaptation financing for the first component of this commitment, but international action targeting developing countries for adaptation finance is required for compliance with the second part of the commitment. Actions aimed solely at mitigation fall outside the commitment scope.

On the first component, strong action or support includes legislation that advances climate adaptation, launching or contributing to projects that plant draught resistive plant varieties, practice regenerative agriculture, improve water storage and use, implement wildfire-resistant land management practices, improve infrastructure in areas vulnerable to extreme weather patterns and rising sea levels, enhancing warning systems and increasing access to disaster information, or creating or enhancing National Adaptation Plans. In order to achieve a +1 on this dimension, the G7 member must take at least four strong actions.

On the second component of adaptation financing, action includes multilateral climate finance mechanisms and funds, such as the Adaptation Fund, multilateral development banks, other financial institutions and the private sector. In order to achieve a score of +1 for this component, the G7 member must have significantly increased its adaptation financing from the year before in line with the Glasgow goal to double total adaptation financing from 2019 levels by 2025.

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<sup>929</sup> Action, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 31 August 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/action>

<sup>930</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>931</sup> Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021\\_10\\_add1\\_adv.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf)

<sup>932</sup> Finance, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 31 August 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/finance>

<sup>933</sup> Glasgow Climate Pact, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021\\_10\\_add1\\_adv.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf)

<sup>934</sup> Fact sheet: The need for adaptation, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. [https://unfccc.int/files/press/backgrounders/application/pdf/press\\_factsh\\_adaptation.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/press/backgrounders/application/pdf/press_factsh_adaptation.pdf)

<sup>935</sup> “What is climate change mitigation and why is it urgent?”, United Nations Development Program (New York) 29 February 2024. Access Date: 28 August 2024. <https://climatepromise.undp.org/news-and-stories/what-climate-change-adaptation-and-why-it-crucial>

Given the singling out of the climate adaptation financing goal in the commitment, the G7 member must receive a +1 in this component to qualify to receive a +1 overall. For example, if the G7 member fully takes more than four strong actions towards climate change and contributed some adaptation financing but the amount was the same that it contributed the year before, the member will receive a 0 overall.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will also be assigned to G7 members that take some action in both dimensions, such as maintenance of the previous year's climate adaptation finance contribution and a few verbal reiterations of support for actions/supports. Other weak actions that would contribute to a 0 include, conference attendance, information sharing, proposing but not yet passing legislation/policies, memorandums of understanding, speeches and the like.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that provide less climate adaptation financing than they did in the previous year and/or took only weak action or support and weak climate adaptation financing by merely maintaining rather than increasing its support for the previous year.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken weak action to scale up action or support and financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.
0	The G7 member has taken weak action or three or fewer strong actions to scale up action or support and financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact by only maintaining its previous year's contribution, or has taken strong action or support on climate adaptation financing but has not increased adaptation financing as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.
+1	The G7 member has taken four or more strong actions to scale up action or support and increased financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

*Compliance Director: Eliana Tiritilli*  
*Lead Analyst: Jackson Leung*

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 20 June 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD4.2 million in adaptation development finance for urban areas threatened by climate events to develop nature-based solutions.<sup>936</sup>

On 26 June 2024, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced the Climate Change Adaptation Horizontal Initiative to advance the implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS).<sup>937</sup> The initiative develops a new subset of programmes to advance the Government's involvement in the NAS and increase cross-departmental coordination regarding the Strategy.

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<sup>936</sup> Canada hosts 54th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of Caribbean Development Bank and announces development funding for Caribbean region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-hosts-54th-annual-meeting-of-board-of-governors-of-caribbean-development-bank-and-announces-development-funding-for-caribbean-region.html>

<sup>937</sup> Horizontal initiative: Climate Change Adaptation, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/corporate/transparency/priorities-management/departamental-plans/2024-2025/supplementary-tables/horizontal-initiative-climate-change-adaptation.html>

On 27 June 2024, Natural Resources Canada announced funding of CAD3 million to support the management of wildfires in Prince Edward Island.<sup>938</sup> The funding is made available through the Fighting and Managing Wildfires in a Changing Climate program—Equipment Fund, which aims to strengthen Canada’s climate adaptation efforts through increased wildfire management capacities of governments and provinces.

On 9 July 2024, Environment and Climate Change Canada released the first results generated by the rapid extreme weather event attribution system to allow Canadians to prepare for predicted extreme weather events due to climate change.<sup>939</sup>

On 15 July 2024, FinDev Canada invested USD20 million in a “blue bond” to support ecosystem protection amid climate change in Costa Rica.<sup>940</sup> The blue bond also aims to aid Costa Rica’s economy in sustainable industries.

On 17 July 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD100 million loan to support sustainable projects include for climate adaptation through FirstRand Bank.<sup>941</sup>

On 18 July 2024, Minister of Health Mark Holland unveiled two calls for proposals under the Climate Change and Health Capacity Building programme.<sup>942</sup> The programmes will help defend Canadians against extreme heat, functioning to augment climate-resilient health systems and providing educational health advisories under the HeatADAPT programme.

On 19 July 2024, Minister of Veteran Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defense Ginette Petitpas Taylor, New Brunswick Minister for Natural Resources and Energy Development Hugh J.A. Flemming, announced CAD71 million to fund New Brunswick tree-planting projects.<sup>943</sup> These initiatives aim to plant over 52 million trees from climate-resilient and native seeds to strengthen ecosystems to make them more resilient to threats posed by wildfires and flooding, in line with the goals of the National Adaptation Strategy.

On 1 August 2024, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson and Minister of Forestry and Parks Todd Loewen announced CAD57 million for the Fighting and Managing Wildfires in a Changing Climate Program (FMWCC) – Equipment Fund.<sup>944</sup> The fund will help purchase specialized firefighting equipment and workforce training to increase wildfire management capacities.

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<sup>938</sup> Governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island Enhance Capacity to Prepare for and Respond to Wildfires, Natural Resources Canada (Summerside) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/06/governments-of-canada-and-prince-edward-island-enhance-capacity-to-prepare-for-and-respond-to-wildfires.html>

<sup>939</sup> Canada releases first results from rapid extreme weather event attribution system, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/07/canada-releases-first-results-from-rapid-extreme-weather-event-attribution-system.html>

<sup>940</sup> FinDev Canada invests in Costa Rica’s first blue bond, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-costa-ricas-first-blue-bond>

<sup>941</sup> FinDev Canada announces US\$ 100M commitment to FirstRand Bank to support climate finance in Sub-Saharan Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-announces-us-100m-commitment-firststrand-bank-support-climate-finance-sub-saharan>

<sup>942</sup> New contribution program will focus on adapting to climate change to protect health, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/07/new-contribution-program-will-focus-on-adapting-to-climate-change-to-protect-health.html>

<sup>943</sup> Canada and New Brunswick to Plant Over 52 Million Climate-Resilient Trees, Natural Resources Canada (Moncton) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/canada-and-new-brunswick-to-plant-over-52-million-climate-resilient-trees.html>

<sup>944</sup> Canada and Alberta Announce Major Investment to Purchase More Wildfire Equipment, Natural Resources Canada (Edmonton) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/canada-and-alberta-announce-major-investment-to-purchase-more-wildfire-equipment.html>

On 8 August 2024, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Marc Serré and Ontario Associate Minister of Natural Resources Nolan Quinn announced CAD61 million for the 2 billion Trees programme.<sup>945</sup> The funds aim to populate and strengthen current ecosystems to make them more resilient to threats posed by wildfires and flooding, in line with the goals of the National Adaptation Strategy.

On 13 August 2024, Minister Wilkinson and Ontario Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith announced CAD64 million would help facilitate actions through the FMWCC – Equipment Fund over the next four years.<sup>946</sup> The joint effort will fund specialized firefighting equipment and personnel training programmes to increase wildfire management capacities.

On 14 August 2024, Minister Wilkinson and Saskatchewan’s Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety Paul Merriman proclaimed a CAD47.7 million investment for the FMWCC – Equipment Fund for Saskatchewan and the Resilient Communities through FireSmart (RCF) Program.<sup>947</sup> The budget will support wildland protection measures and firefighting equipment over the next five years to increase resilience to wildfires.

On 21 August 2024, Minister Wilkinson and Nova Scotia’s Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables Tory Rushton announced that CAD40 million would be invested to plant up to 21 million trees.<sup>948</sup> The initiative, which will run until 2031, will increase forest resilience and lower threats of wildfires in rural regions.

On 21 August 2024, Member of Parliament Brendan Hanley and Minister of Community Services Richard Mostyn disclosed that over CAD21 million would be allocated towards the FMWCC - Equipment Fund for Yukon.<sup>949</sup> The efforts will concentrate on purchasing firefighting equipment, to improve wildfire resilience.

On 22 August 2024, Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings announced a CAD69.4 million investment aimed at conserving the towns of Bridgewater and the La Have River.<sup>950</sup> The project focuses on improving wastewater treatment and improving stormwater systems to protect against increased flooding and climate-related disasters.

On 22 August 2024, Member of Parliament Wilson Miao announced that four British Columbian communities would experience upgrades to their water infrastructure systems, amounting to a total of CAD7.6 million.<sup>951</sup>

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<sup>945</sup> Governments of Canada and Ontario Enhance Capacity to Plant Trees and Strengthen Ecosystems, Natural Resources Canada (Greater Sudbury) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/governments-of-canada-and-ontario-enhance-capacity-to-plant-trees-and-strengthen-ecosystems.html>

<sup>946</sup> Canada and Ontario Announce Major Investment to Purchase More Wildfire Equipment, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/canada-and-ontario-announce-major-investment-to-purchase-more-wildfire-equipment.html>

<sup>947</sup> Canada and Saskatchewan Announce Major Investment to Purchase More Wildfire Equipment and Increase Resilience to Wildfires, Natural Resources Canada (Saskatoon) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-major-investment-to-purchase-more-wildfire-equipment-and-increase-resilience-to-wildfires.html>

<sup>948</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia to Plant up to 21 Million Trees and Restore Ecosystems Affected by Wildfires, Natural Resources Canada (Nova Scotia) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/canada-and-nova-scotia-to-plant-up-to-21-million-trees-and-restore-ecosystems-affected-by-wildfires.html>

<sup>949</sup> Canada and Yukon Announce Major Investment to Purchase More Wildfire Equipment, Natural Resources Canada (Whitehorse) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/08/canada-and-yukon-announce-major-investment-to-purchase-more-wildfire-equipment.html>

<sup>950</sup> Protecting communities in Nova Scotia from the impacts of climate change, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Bridgewater) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/08/protecting-communities-in-nova-scotia-from-the-impacts-of-climate-change.html>

<sup>951</sup> Water infrastructure upgrades across British Columbia, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Richmond) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/08/water-infrastructure-upgrades-across-british-columbia.html>

Improvements to flood and stormwater management pathways and connections to surrounding waterways aim to improve water quality and protect against increased flood damage.

On 30 August 2024, Minister Hussen and Toronto Mayor Olivia Chow announced CAD223 million would be allocated to finance several flood-resilient projects in the Rockcliffe-Smythe area of Toronto.<sup>952</sup> The adaptive efforts include the modification of the Black and Lavender Creek channels, the creation of a flood-prevention wall, bridges and culvert substitutions.

On 18 September 2024, Minister Wilkinson and British Columbia's Minister of Forests Bruce Ralston declared a CAD950,112 investment into the government led RCF Program.<sup>953</sup> The programme aims to build community resilience against wildfires.

On 18 September 2024, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAuley announced CAD1.5 million for sixteen projects jointly financed with the government of British Columbia.<sup>954</sup> These projects intend to reduce climatic impacts through adaptive practices, including drought preparation and irrigational measures.

On 27 September 2024, Minister of Environment and Climate Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Indigenous Services Patty Hajdu and Member of Parliament representing Thunder Bay–Rainy River Marcus Powlowski declared funding of up to CAD27.6 million in facilitating 80 First Nations Guardians initiatives.<sup>955</sup> The projects being supported include actions to oversee wildfire management, climate change adaptation and mitigation and to enhance environmental information systems.<sup>956</sup>

On 1 October 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced a nearly CAD30 million investment to the FMWCC – Equipment Fund and the RCF Program for Nova Scotia.<sup>957</sup> This includes CAD25.6 million towards the FMWCC – Equipment Fund, in supporting Nova Scotian wildfire-fighting infrastructure and CAD3.9 million towards the RCF Program over five years to improve preparation and resilience towards wildfires.

On 4 October 2024, Minister MacAulay stated that up to CAD4.38 million would be given to the Eastern Canada Oilseed Development Alliance over the next five years.<sup>958</sup> The funding, through the AgriScience

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<sup>952</sup> Federal Government and City of Toronto partner to protect communities from worsening floods, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Toronto) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/08/federal-government-and-city-of-toronto-partner-to-protect-communities-from-worsening-floods.html>

<sup>953</sup> Canada and British Columbia Invest in Wildfire Resilience, Natural Resources Canada (Victoria) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/09/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-wildfire-resilience.html>

<sup>954</sup> British Columbia farmers get help building more resilient, sustainable practices, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Victoria) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2024/09/british-columbia-farmers-get-help-building-more-resilient-sustainable-practices.html>

<sup>955</sup> Funding for First Nations Guardians now managed by world's first Indigenous-led national stewardship network (Thunder Bay) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/09/funding-for-first-nations-guardians-now-managed-by-worlds-first-indigenous-led-national-stewardship-network.html>

<sup>956</sup> Indigenous Guardians projects 2024–2025, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Thunder Bay) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/09/indigenous-guardians-projects-20242025.html>

<sup>957</sup> Canada and Nova Scotia Announce Major Investment in Wildfire Equipment and Enhance Wildfire Resilience, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/10/canada-and-nova-scotia-announce-major-investment-in-wildfire-equipment-and-enhance-wildfire-resilience.html>

<sup>958</sup> Minister MacAulay announces investment to improve the long-term sustainability of Eastern Canadian oilseeds, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Charlottetown) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2024/10/minister-macaulay-announces-investment-to-improve-the-long-term-sustainability-of-eastern-canadian-oilseeds.html>

Program – Projects Component, would allow for the development of new agronomic and crop resilience technologies and systems to adapt to environmental challenges enhanced by climate change.

On 9 October 2024, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada announced a CAD783,360 investment into flood mitigation measures in Cornwall and along the southern portion of the Raisin River.<sup>959</sup> These early adaptation practices will assist in preventing future sewer overflow and repair and intermingling between waste and stormwater reserves in increased cases of flooding and other climate- related disasters.

On 7 October 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD40 million loan to finance sustainable development including climate adaptation in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>960</sup>

On 9 October 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD40 million loan, including adaptation finance portions, to bolster Latin American and Caribbean sustainable agriculture.<sup>961</sup>

On 17 October 2024, Member of Parliament representing Sydney–Victoria Jaime Battiste proclaimed a CAD1.2 million joint investment alongside the Atlantic Coastal Action Program towards the replanting of the eastern Cape Breton Forest.<sup>962</sup> Through the 2 Billion Trees programme, over 208,000 trees will be planted, to aid in mitigating flood damage and promote climate adaptation.

On 24 October 2024, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Sean Fraser established the Climate Toolkit for Housing and Infrastructure (CTHI).<sup>963</sup> The CTHI is a free set of resources to assist Canadians in adapting their infrastructure and projects to consider climate change and to provide direct assistance with climate adaptation inquiries.

On 29 October 2024, Minister Hussen and Minister Guilbeault announced funding of CAD62 million for seven programmes to protect biodiversity and Indigenous communities, particularly in Latin America.<sup>964</sup> One project, in collaboration with the World Food Programme, allocates CAD9.5 million to boost indigenous reliance to climate change and improve food security.<sup>965</sup>

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<sup>959</sup> Federal government invests in flood mitigation for the Raisin River, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Cornwall) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/10/federal-government-invests-in-flood-mitigation-for-the-raisin-river.html>

<sup>960</sup> Stanbic IBTC Bank and FinDev Canada partner to increase Sustainable Finance and Gender Finance, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/stanbic-ibtc-bank-and-findev-canada-partner-increase-sustainable-finance-and-gender-finance>

<sup>961</sup> FinDev Canada provides a US\$ 40M loan to LAAD to support sustainable agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-provides-us-40m-loan-laad-support-sustainable-agriculture-latin-america-and>

<sup>962</sup> Government of Canada and Atlantic Coastal Action Program Launch Major Reforestation Project in Cape Breton, Natural Resources Canada (Sydney) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-and-atlantic-coastal-action-program-launch-major-reforestation-project-in-cape-breton.html>

<sup>963</sup> Federal government launches new initiative to support climate resilient housing and infrastructure across communities, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Ottawa) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/10/federal-government-launches-new-initiative-to-support-climate-resilient-housing-and-infrastructure-across-communities.html>

<sup>964</sup> During COP16, Canada announces new partnerships to support global biodiversity and Indigenous-led action, Global Affairs Canada (Cali) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/during-cop16-canada-announces-new-partnerships-to-support-global-biodiversity-and-indigenous-led-action.html>

<sup>965</sup> Backgrounder: Canada announces \$62 million for sustaining livelihoods by protecting biodiversity in developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Cali) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/backgrounder-canada-announces-62-million-for-sustaining-livelihoods-by-protecting-biodiversity-in-developing-countries.html>

On 8 November 2024, the Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities announced CAD7.6 million to build two drainage pump stations in the city of Delta, British Columbia.<sup>966</sup> The stations help manage stormwater to adapt the city to increased flood risks due to climate change.

On 12 November 2024, Minister Guilbeault announced the launch of a new international climate finance platform, GAIA, valued at USD1.48 billion, which will support climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives in vulnerable regions and developing economies.<sup>967</sup> This platform will help benefit these communities in accessing sustainable solutions and addressing the impacts of climate change through adaptation projects. The platform includes CAD720 million in financing from FinDev Canada.<sup>968</sup> The balance of funding comes from the Green Climate Fund and the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group.<sup>969</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Wilkinson declared an investment of over CAD7 million to fund 12 projects in British Columbia and across Canada that aim to further climate adaptation by delivering tools and strategies for improved resilience.<sup>970</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Hussen announced the funding of CAD12.5 million for the Building Climate Resilience from Indigenous Perspectives project.<sup>971</sup> The project centers around Indigenous-led climate projects and partnerships between Latin America and Canada to advance climate adaptation efforts in Indigenous communities.

On 21 November 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD75 million contribution to a USD394 sustainability-linked loan for agriculture in Africa.<sup>972</sup> The Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (TDB) and the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank arrange the loans. The sustainability-linked loan aims to provide training and resources for climate resilient agricultural practices.<sup>973</sup>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for

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<sup>966</sup> Federal government partners with the City of Delta to protect the community from flood risks, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Delta) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/11/federal-government-partners-with-the-city-of-delta-to-protect-the-community-from-flood-risks.html>

<sup>967</sup> During the World Leaders Climate Action Summit at COP29, Minister Guilbeault announces major Canadian-led climate finance platform, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Baku) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/11/during-the-world-leaders-climate-action-summit-at-cop29-minister-guilbeault-announces-major-canadian-led-climate-finance-platform.html>

<sup>968</sup> Prime Minister grants \$720M to FinDev Canada for a new concessional finance facility, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/prime-minister-grants-720m-findev-canada-new-concessional-finance-facility>

<sup>969</sup> GAIA – US\$ 1.48 billion blended finance platform for climate projects in emerging markets and developing economies – commercial agreement on significant terms, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/gaia-us-148-billion-blended-finance-platform-climate-projects-emerging-markets-and-developing>

<sup>970</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in British Columbia and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Coquitlam) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/11/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-british-columbia-and-across-canada0.html>

<sup>971</sup> Canada announces funding for Indigenous-led climate projects and partnerships between Latin America and Canada, Global Affairs Canada (Vancouver) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/canada-announces-funding-for-indigenous-led-climate-projects-and-partnerships-between-latin-america-and-canada.html>

<sup>972</sup> FinDev Canada, FMO, TDB and others join forces in a US\$ 394M loan to ETG boosting sustainable agriculture in Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-fmo-tdb-and-others-join-forces-us-394m-loan-etg-boosting-sustainable-agriculture>

<sup>973</sup> ETG THE FUTURE OF FINANCE IN AFRICAN AGRICULTURE, Entrepreneurial Development Bank (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://future-minded.fmo.nl/future-proof-agribusiness/groundbreaking-deal>



developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>974</sup>

On 3 December 2024, Minister Wilkinson and Member of Parliament George Chahal announced over CAD2.6 million in funding for seven projects aimed at helping Indigenous and rural communities in the Prairies adapt to changing climates.<sup>975</sup>

On 12 December 2024, Minister Fraser announced plans to invest approximately CAD20 million into updating crucial disaster mitigation infrastructure in Gingolx Harbour.<sup>976</sup> The investment will protect the area from increasing climate disasters by controlling water flow and fortification of the shoreline and channels.

On 19 December 2024, Member of Parliament Roy McKinnon announced two project grants totalling CAD9.6 million to upgrade pivotal structural infrastructure in Port Coquitlam.<sup>977</sup> The initiatives aim to alleviate flood risk to the community, replacing pumps, improving the flood box structure and considering structural and seismic activity.

On 17 January 2025, Minister Wilkinson, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Dominic Leblanc, Minister of Fisheries Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Seniors Joanne Thompson and Minister MacAulay announced CAD8.8 million in funding for nine projects across Atlantic Canada.<sup>978</sup> Through the Climate Change Adaptation Program (CCAP) and Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities Program (CRCC) under the NAS, the projects will aid the region in adapting to and addressing increasing climate pressures.

On 20 January 2025, Minister Wilkinson and Parliamentary Secretary Dabrusin announced two projects under the CRCC Program would receive CAD4.1 million.<sup>979</sup> The projects will complete risk assessments and develop climate adaptation strategies with Indigenous and local input.

On 23 January 2025, Secretary Dabrusin and Member of Parliament Bardish Chagger awarded nine projects over CAD4.5 million.<sup>980</sup> The actions under the CRCC and CCAP will help businesses and communities adapt to climate change.

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<sup>974</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>975</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in the Prairies and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/12/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-the-prairies-and-across-canada.html>

<sup>976</sup> Upgrades to disaster mitigation infrastructure to help protect Gingolx Harbour, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Gingolx) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/12/upgrades-to-disaster-mitigation-infrastructure-to-help-protect-gingolx-harbour.html>

<sup>977</sup> Federal government partners with Port Coquitlam to strengthen flood protection efforts, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Port Coquitlam) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/12/federal-government-partners-with-port-coquitlam-to-strengthen-flood-protection-efforts.html>

<sup>978</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in Atlantic Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Sackville) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-atlantic-canada0.html>

<sup>979</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation Around Ontario's Great Lakes, Natural Resources Canada (Toronto) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-around-ontarios-great-lakes-and-delivers-update-on-flood-hazard-mapping.html>

<sup>980</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in Southern Ontario and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-southern-ontario-and-across-canada.html>

On 24 January 2025, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories Michael McLeod and Northwest Territories Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jay Macdonald announced over CAD10.3 million in allocations to mitigate wildfire damages and amplify protection in the area.<sup>981</sup> The funding will come from the RCF Program.

On 28 January 2025, Minister Guilbeault attended the Ouranos Symposium, where he addressed climate adaptation and national wildfire response efforts.<sup>982</sup>

On 28 January 2025, the Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities announced more than CAD2.8 million in funding to protect the village of Tahsis from inundation risk.<sup>983</sup> The project will create flood walls and berms to stabilize and preserve the riverbank and shoreline against climate disasters.

On 29 January 2025, Parliamentary Secretary Serré, Member of Parliament Viviane Lapointe and Member of Parliament Anthony Rota stated that CAD2.7 million under the CCAP would finance five climate-resilience projects in northern Ontario.<sup>984</sup> The projects aid First Nations communities, local leaders and professionals in implementing climate adaptation plans.

On 29 January 2024, Minister Wilkinson, along with Minister of Public Security and Minister responsible for the Estrie Region François Bonnardel, announced the utilization of CAD64 million from the FMWCC – Equipment Fund to purchase wildfire and communications equipment in Quebec to increase climate resiliency.<sup>985</sup>

On 5 February 2025, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced at International Development Week that over CAD87 million would fund nine projects across Canada to aid marginalized communities and businesses affected by climate change.<sup>986</sup>

On 7 February 2025, Minister Guilbeault and Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne declared the provision of CAD72 million to exactEarth Ltd. To design the WildFireSat constellation.<sup>987</sup> The project will employ seven microsatellites to monitor Canadian wildfires and gather data to protect remote northern communities.

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<sup>981</sup> Canada and Northwest Territories Fund Community Resilience to Wildfires, Natural Resources Canada (Yellowknife) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-and-northwest-territories-fund-community-resilience-to-wildfires.html>

<sup>982</sup> Minister Guilbeault to highlight Canada's efforts to address climate adaptation and announce wildfire preparation at Ouranos Symposium, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Montreal) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2025/01/minister-guilbeault-to-highlight-canadas-efforts-to-address-climate-adaptation-and-announce-wildfire-preparation-at-ouranos-symposium.html>

<sup>983</sup> Federal government invests in improved flood protection in the Village of Tahsis, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Tahsis) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2025/01/federal-government-invests-in-improved-flood-protection-in-the-village-of-tahsis.html>

<sup>984</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in Northern Ontario and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Sudbury) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-northern-ontario-and-across-canada0.html>

<sup>985</sup> Canada and Quebec Announce Major Investment in Wildfire Equipment, Natural Resources Canada (Montreal) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/canada-and-quebec-announce-major-investment-in-wildfire-equipment.html>

<sup>986</sup> Canada announces new funding during International Development Week to strengthen climate action and economies, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-announces-new-funding-during-international-development-week-to-strengthen-climate-action-and-economies.html>

<sup>987</sup> WildFireSat: \$72 million for critical Canadian space infrastructure for wildfires, Canadian Space Agency (Longueuil) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/space-agency/news/2025/02/wildfiresat-72-million-for-critical-canadian-space-infrastructure-for-wildfires.html>

On 14 February 2025, Member of Parliament Ginette Petitpas Taylor and New Brunswick Minister of Natural Resources John Herron declared an investment of CAD40.1 million to help purchase wildfire equipment.<sup>988</sup> The training and equipment will help support Indigenous and local firefighters through the FMWCC – Equipment Fund and the RCF Program.

On 20 February 2025, Minister Lebouthillier and Minister Guilbeault announced that over CAD3.6 million would fund six projects in Quebec aimed to improve climate change adaptation and management across Quebec.<sup>989</sup>

On 21 February 2025, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD10 million in funding for the Caribbean Community Resilience Fund, which aims to finance climate-resilient infrastructure in sectors such as energy and agriculture.<sup>990</sup>

On 4 March 2025, the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Nathaniel Erskine-Smith and the town of Cobourg announced an investment of CAD19.5 million to repair and improve coastal infrastructure against flooding and shoreline erosion exacerbated by climate change.<sup>991</sup> The funds will help rebuild the harbour breakwaters and seawall to promote future climate resilience.

On 6 March 2025, Minister Guilbeault, alongside Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent Emmanuella Lambropoulos and Mayor of Saint-Laurent Alan DeSousa, announced the allocation of over CAD7.3 million towards building water retention infrastructure.<sup>992</sup> Through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, the initiative will support stormwater management and drainage in the face of increased rainfall.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Guilbeault announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Manitoban government.<sup>993</sup> The MoU commits the signatories to protect declining biodiversity in protected and conservation areas within the province and allows for collaborative climate adaptation strategies with the input of Indigenous stewards.

On 9 March 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD15 million for sustainable land and water management and adaptation in Nepal, as well as CAD10 million for nature-based solutions adaptation in Bangladesh.<sup>994</sup>

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<sup>988</sup> Canada and New Brunswick Announce Major Investment in Wildfire Equipment and to Improve Community Resilience Against Wildfires, Natural Resources Canada (Moncton) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/canada-and-new-brunswick-announce-major-investment-in-wildfire-equipment-and-to-improve-community-resilience-against-wildfires.html>

<sup>989</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in Quebec and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-quebec-and-across-canada.html>

<sup>990</sup> Minister Hussen announces new funding for multiple countries in the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/backgrounder-minister-hussen-announces-new-funding-for-multiple-countries-in-the-caribbean.html>

<sup>991</sup> Rock armour: a solid solution for climate change resiliency on Lake Ontario, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Cobourg) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2025/03/rock-armour-a-solid-solution-for-climate-change-resiliency-on-lake-ontario.html>

<sup>992</sup> Saint-Laurent receives \$7.3 million from the federal government to fight flooding, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Saint-Laurent) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2025/03/saint-laurent-receives-73-million-from-the-federal-government-to-fight-flooding.html>

<sup>993</sup> Canada and Manitoba collaborating to advance nature protection and climate adaptation, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Winnipeg) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2025/03/canada-and-manitoba-collaborating-to-advance-nature-protection-and-climate-adaptation.html>

<sup>994</sup> Backgrounder - Minister Hussen announces support for development projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/backgrounder---minister-hussen-announces-support-for-development-projects-in-bangladesh-and-the-indo-pacific-region.html>

On 20 March 2025, Minister LeBlanc, Minister Kody Blois, Premier Susan Holt and Minister Fred Tilley announced CAD650 million would be provided by the federal, New Brunswick and Nova Scotian governments to improve climate resiliency in the Chignecto Isthmus.<sup>995</sup> The dykeland system will help protect regional communities and agricultural production.

On 20 March 2025, Minister Wilkinson, Minister Gary Anandasangaree, Minister Terry Duguid, Minister Guilbeault, Minister McLeod, and Minister Brendan Hanley announced the allocation of CAD12.1 million to thirteen climate adaptation projects in the North and remote communities across Canada.<sup>996</sup> The investment is made available through the CCAP and CRCC programme.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Wilkinson declared CAD16.3 million would support 25 FMWCC – Training Fund projects to augment national fire management capacities.<sup>997</sup> The funding will educate youth and community members in rural and remote areas to improve wildfire response.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation, as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. On a domestic level, Canada has taken actions to strengthen adaptation efforts through measures to increase fire and flood management capabilities, improve implementation of existing adaptation policies and improve access to disaster preparedness information. Canada has taken international efforts such as the GAIA finance platform, Global Affairs Canada investments and grants through FinDev, its development finance institution, to support adaptation efforts in developing economies. However, it has not yet increased its contribution to global adaptation finance from the prior year, in line with Glasgow Climate Pact and its commitment to scale up finance.<sup>998</sup>

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Jackson Leung, Eliana Tiritilli and Beth Momot*

## **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 17 June 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry announced a funding call for projects promoting adaptive farming measures to support farmers and strengthen agricultural resilience against climate change impacts.<sup>999</sup>

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<sup>995</sup> Protecting the Chignecto Isthmus against climate change, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Sackville) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2025/03/protecting-the-chignecto-isthmus-against-climate-change.html>

<sup>996</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation to Keep Communities Safe in the North and Across Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-to-keep-communities-safe-in-the-north-and-across-canada1.html>

<sup>997</sup> Canada Strengthens Wildfire Response Through Training, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 13 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/canada-strengthens-wildfire-response-through-training0.html>

<sup>998</sup> Briefing Note One (Updated September 2024) Canada's \$5.3 billion Climate Pledge: Project Commitments, April 2021 to September 2024, Aid Watch Canada (Waterville) September 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://aidwatchcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1.-September-2024-Briefing-Note-1-5.3B-Projects-to-date-Changes-Accepted-1.pdf>

<sup>999</sup> Planification écologique: lancement de l'appel à projets "Accompagnement des agriculteurs face au change climatique", Ministère de l'Agriculture de la Souveraineté Alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/planification-ecologique-lancement-de-lappel-projets-accompagnement-des-agriculteurs-face-au>

On 24 June 2024, the Public Health France released an updated national heatwave management plan to improve the management of health risks caused by heat waves as part of government-led climate adaptation efforts.<sup>1000</sup> The updates include measures to increase mobility and awareness strategies among the general public, workers and businesses.

On 4 July 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry announced a funding call for projects to protect forests from increased fire risk caused by climate change.<sup>1001</sup>

On 16 July 2024, the Ministries of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry announced that France joined the For Forest+ group.<sup>1002</sup> The group consists of like-minded EU Member States and aims to develop cooperation on forest-related issues, including adaptation to climate change through knowledge exchange and policy development.

On 16 July 2024, the French Development Agency (AFD) signed a EUR500,000 grant agreement to improve ecosystem recovery after natural disasters, including disasters caused by climate change.<sup>1003</sup>

On 16 July 2024, the Ministries of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry opened a consultation phase on the Mediterranean agriculture climate plan.<sup>1004</sup> The plan aims to support farmers in areas of climate disruptions such as floods, mudslides and fires to increase agricultural adaptation to climate change. This consultation period will allow interested parties to validate the plan's proposals and suggest necessary areas of improvement to improve the plan's effectiveness.

On 28 August 2024, Proparco, part of the AFD Group, announced EUR1 million in financing for projects in Pakistan including climate-related water management.<sup>1005</sup>

On 4 October 2024, the AFD announced an EUR54 million loan and an EUR675,000 grant to the Bank of Pakistan for cross-cutting climate finance that aims to “[enhance] Pakistan’s resilience to climate change impacts.”<sup>1006</sup>

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<sup>1000</sup> Vagues de chaleur: mise à jour du plan national, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 24 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/actualites/vagues-chaleur-mise-jour-du-plan-national>

<sup>1001</sup> Planification écologique: lancement de l'appel à projets “Défense des forêts contre les incendies”, Ministère de L'Agriculture de la Souveraineté Alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/planification-ecologique-lancement-de-lappel-projets-defense-des-forets-contre-les-incendies>

<sup>1002</sup> La France rejoint le groupe des États membres de l'Union européenne pour la forêt, « For Forest + », Ministère de L'Agriculture de la Souveraineté Alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/la-france-rejoint-le-groupe-des-etats-membres-de-lunion-europeenne-pour-la-foret-forest>

<sup>1003</sup> French Development Agency and DG Forest support integrated watershed management and rural development in Seyhan and Ceyhan basins, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/french-development-agency-and-dg-forest-support-integrated-watershed-management-and-rural-development-seyhan-and-ceyhan-basins>

<sup>1004</sup> Lancement de la concertation relative au plan pour l'adaptation de l'agriculture méditerranéenne aux impacts du dérèglement climatique (plan « agriculture climat Méditerranée »), Ministère de L'Agriculture de la Souveraineté Alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lancement-de-la-concertation-relative-au-plan-pour-ladaptation-de-lagriculture-mediterraneenne-aux>

<sup>1005</sup> Au Pakistan, Karandaz renforce le financement des petites et moyennes entreprises dirigées par des femmes et axées sur le climat, avec le soutien de Proparco, Proparco (Paris) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/au-pakistan-karandaz-renforce-le-financement-des-petites-et-moyennes-entreprises>

<sup>1006</sup> USD54 Million Credit Line and A €675,000 Grant Dedicated To Foster Low-Carbon And Climate-Resilient Growth In Pakistan, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/usd54-million-credit-line-and-eu675000-grant-dedicated-foster-low-carbon-and-climate-resilient-growth-pakistan>

On 25 October 2024, the Ministries of Territories, Ecology and Housing announced that the Third National Climate Change Adaptation Plan will open for public consultation on 25 October 2024 for a period of two months in order to allow interested parties to submit proposals for improvement of the Plan.<sup>1007</sup>

On 28 October 2024, the AFD and The Nature Conservancy announced a three-year joint action plan and a water management project in Brazil.<sup>1008</sup> In addition the organizations stressed alignment on sustainable finance including adaptation.

On 29 October 2024, the AFD granted Bancóldex, Colombia's export-import bank, access to a USD100 million line of credit.<sup>1009</sup> The line of credit is particularly geared towards supporting entrepreneurial projects that improve Colombia's climate adaptability.

On 7 November 2024, Proparco announced a USD50 climate finance loan, mainly to support adaptation measures.<sup>1010</sup>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1011</sup>

On 3 December 2024, the AFD announced an EUR2 million grant to aid adaptation efforts in Kazakhstan relating to the Aral Sea including water resource management.<sup>1012</sup>

On 3 December 2024, the AFD announced an EUR1.35 million grant towards water management efforts to adapt to climate impacts around Kazakhstan's Balkhash Lake watershed.<sup>1013</sup>

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<sup>1007</sup> Transition énergétique et climatique : les Français consultés, Ministères Territoires Ecologie Logement (Paris) 25 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 November 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/actualites/transition-energetique-climatique-francais-consultes>

<sup>1008</sup> The Nature Conservancy and the group Agence française de développement strengthen their partnership for the protection of biodiversity at CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/nature-conservancy-and-group-agence-francaise-de-developpement-strengthen-their-partnership-protection-biodiversity-cbd-cop16-cali-colombia>

<sup>1009</sup> BANCÓLDEX ACCÈDE À UNE LIGNE DE CRÉDIT TRANSFORMATIONNELLE DE L'AFD DE 100 MILLIONS DE DOLLARS, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/bancoldex-accede-une-ligne-de-credit-transformationnelle-de-lafd-de-100-millions-de-dollars>

<sup>1010</sup> Au Viêt Nam, Proparco soutient HD Bank pour ses projets de finance climat et de promotion de l'égalité de genre, Proparco (Paris) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/au-viet-nam-proparco-soutient-hd-bank-pour-ses-projets-de-finance-climat-et-de-promotion>

<sup>1011</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1012</sup> Joint Communiqué of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea and the French Development Agency, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/joint-communique-executive-committee-international-fund-saving-aral-sea-and-french-development-agency>

<sup>1013</sup> The French Development Agency announces its support to the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the sustainable management of the lake Balkhash, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/french-development-agency-announces-its-support-ministry-water-resources-and-irrigation-republic-kazakhstan-sustainable-management-lake-balkhash>

On 16 December 2024, Proparco provided USD5 million to the Equator Africa Fund to finance climate solutions, including for agriculture and mobility that contribute to adaptation finance.<sup>1014</sup>

On 18 December 2024, Proparco contributed USD30 million for a multilateral loan facility to improve adaptation and water accessibility in Jamaica.<sup>1015</sup>

On 22 January 2025, Proparco announced a USD37 million contribution to improve adaptation and water sanitation in Brazil.<sup>1016</sup>

On 25 February 2025, Minister of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Annie Genevard called for continued commitment to collectively implement climate-adaptive measures towards agriculture at the International Agricultural Show.<sup>1017</sup> Minister Genevard emphasized the need for efficient water resource management, as demonstrated by the Mediterranean Agriculture Climate Plan.

On 27 February 2025, the AFD and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a framework for enhanced cooperation between the two parties.<sup>1018</sup> As part of the Memorandum, the AFD and BADEA pledged to mobilize resources to support and finance climate adaptation in Africa.

On 10 March 2025, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced the launch of the third National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC).<sup>1019</sup> The PNACC will address 52 climate change initiatives, focusing on territorial anchoring and financing preparatory measures for climate adaptation.

France has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation, as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. France demonstrated domestic action through its announcement of funding for projects to strengthen its agricultural resilience and wildfire resistance and improve climate-related health management policies. France advanced international climate finance through its development finance institution and its subsidiaries but has not increased adaptation finance from the previous year, in line with the Glasgow Climate Pact and France's commitment to scale up finance.<sup>1020</sup>

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<sup>1014</sup> Proparco investit 5 millions USD dans le fonds Equator Africa pour renforcer la résilience climatique en Afrique subsaharienne, Proparco (Paris) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025.

<https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/proparco-investit-5-millions-usd-dans-le-fonds-equator-africa-pour-renforcer-la>

<sup>1015</sup> Proparco finances the Rio Cobre Water Treatment Plant, with IDB Invest and key local partners in Jamaica, Proparco (Paris) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/proparco-finances-rio-cobre-water-treatment-plant-idb-invest-and-key-local-partners>

<sup>1016</sup> Proparco s'associe à IDB Invest et BRK Ambiental Maranhão pour améliorer les services d'eau et d'assainissement au Brésil, Proparco (Paris) 22 January 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/proparco-sassocie-idb-invest-et-brk-ambiental-maranhao-pour-ameliorer-les-services-deau?origin=/fr/actualites?page=1>

<sup>1017</sup> #SIA2025 - Eau et changement climatique: Annie Genevard réaffirme l'importance d'accompagner les agriculteurs et présente des solutions pour adapter notre agriculture, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (Paris) 25 February 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 12 April 2025. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/sia2025-eau-et-changement-climatique-annie-genevard-reaffirme-limportance-daccompagner-les>

<sup>1018</sup> The AFD and BADEA sign a strategic partnership agreement for sustainable development in Africa, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/afd-and-badea-sign-strategic-partnership-agreement-sustainable-development-africa?origin=/en/actualites/communique-de-presse>

<sup>1019</sup> Le gouvernement lance un nouveau plan national d'adaptation au changement climatique, Ministère de la Transition Écologique, de la Biodiversité, de la Forêt, de la Mer, et de la Pêche (Paris) 10 March 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 12 April 2025. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/actualites/gouvernement-lance-nouveau-plan-national-dadaptation-changement-climatique>

<sup>1020</sup> France continues its commitment to climate finance for developing countries in 2023 (08.11.24), Ministère de L'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate-and-environment/news/2024/article/france-continues-its-commitment-to-climate-finance-for-developing-countries-in>

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Jackson Leung, Eliana Tiritilli and Beth Momot*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 15 July 2024, all federal ministries, under the leadership of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, jointly published the implementation plan for the German Strategy to Strengthen Resilience to Disasters.<sup>1021</sup> The plan consists of 420 measures that include investing in disaster relief, crisis management, international cooperation and strengthening the resilience of institutions, altogether improving climate resilience.

On 17 July 2024, the Federal Cabinet approved the government's draft for the 2025 federal budget.<sup>1022</sup> The budget included provisions for climate change adaptation, agricultural protection, coastal protection and protection of the seas.

On 23 July 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary Ophelia Nick announced an investment of around EUR750,000 into the research project "Diversified Arable Farming for Risk Reduction and Sustainable Climate Conditioning" (DIARNIKA) to make arable farming more climate resilient.<sup>1023</sup> DIARNIKA will investigate agricultural methods to make crop yields more stable and farming systems more resilient to extreme weather conditions.

On 31 August 2024, State Secretary and Special Representative for International Climate Policy Jennifer Morgan announced the aims of her upcoming visit to South Africa.<sup>1024</sup> She plans to discuss the impacts of climate change in South Africa, including water crises, droughts and floods and further Germany's climate cooperation with South Africa through developing climate resilience.

On 3 September 2024, Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Steffi Lemke announced the next round of funding through the project "Climate adaptation in social institutions," which supports climate adaptation in social institutions such as nursing homes or daycare centres.<sup>1025</sup> The funding aims to develop nature based solutions for municipalities, non-profit organizations and companies in the health, care and social sectors to support those most vulnerable to extreme weather conditions and other consequences of global warming.

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<sup>1021</sup> Resilienzstrategie: Bundesregierung setzt 420 Maßnahmen für ein krisenfestes Deutschland um, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 15 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/07/umsetzungsplan-resilienzstrategie.html>

<sup>1022</sup> Mit Rekordinvestitionen und Maßnahmen für mehr Wachstum hin zur Wirtschaftswende, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2024/07/2024-07-17-regierungsentwurf-bundeshaushalt-2025.html>

<sup>1023</sup> BMEL fördert Forschung zur Klimaanpassung im Ackerbau, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 23 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/076-foerderung-ackerbau.html>

<sup>1024</sup> Staatssekretärin und Sonderbeauftragte für internationale Klimapolitik Jennifer Morgan vor ihrer Abreise nach Südafrika, Auswärtigen Amt (Berlin) 31 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2674012>

<sup>1025</sup> BMUV setzt Förderung von Klimaanpassungsmaßnahmen in sozialen Einrichtungen fort, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 3 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/bmuv-setzt-foerderung-von-klimaanpassungsmassnahmen-in-sozialen-einrichtungen-fort>



On 4 September 2024, the Cabinet adopted an amendment to the Building Code in building affordable, climate resilient housing.<sup>1026</sup> This amendment provides opportunities for municipalities to adapt new housing to climate-related events, including floods, heavy rain or extreme heat.

On 4 September 2024, Minister of Food and Agriculture Cem Özdemir presented the “Future Plant Protection Program,” a programme aiming to reconcile sustainable agriculture and plant protection with high productivity and good outcomes for farms amidst a changing climate.<sup>1027</sup> Regarding adaptation, the program emphasizes strengthening natural resilience, diversifying crops, expanding organic farming, promoting agroecological approaches, enhancing biological pest control, improving water and soil health, leveraging precision agriculture technology, advancing integrated pest management, and monitoring progress through transparent indicators for sustainable and climate-adaptive agricultural practices.<sup>1028</sup>

On 5 September 2024, State Secretary Jan-Niclas Gesenhues announced a funding check for the renaturation of the Ibbenbürener Aa, a river through North Rhine-Westphalia, to protect its ecosystem.<sup>1029</sup> The project focuses on removing an artificial river step and adding a natural sand trap to reduce sediment in the Aasee, improving soil quality and floodplain creation and fostering climate adaptation.

On 9 September 2024, President of the Federal Office for Civil Protection Ralph Tiesler, Mayor of Ludwigshafen Jutta Steinruck, Mayor and Head of the Security Department of Mannheim Volker Proffen and State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior and Sport in Rhineland-Palatinate Daniel Stich presented the “Local Warning Concepts” guide, intended to support local warning agencies to develop regional adaptation warning plans.<sup>1030</sup> The guide will empower communities to adopt locally relevant warning plans for disasters, including climate-related disasters and improve their resilience.

On 16 September 2024, Minister Lemke granted EUR224,000 for the Salzlandkreis district, aimed to advance climate adaptation, climate protection and biodiversity in the region.<sup>1031</sup>

On 18 September 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for the Environment Bettina Hoffman allocated the annual grant notices for the city of Waldeck, the Waldeck- Frankenberg district and the Waldeck State Foundation through the “Climate-Adapted Forest Management” programme, amounting to

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<sup>1026</sup> Für einfacheres Bauen – Novelle des Baugesetzbuches, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/novelle-baugesetzbuch-2306066>

<sup>1027</sup> BMEL legt Zukunftsprogramm Pflanzenschutz vor, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 4 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/088-zukunftsprogramm-pflanzenschutz.html>

<sup>1028</sup> Zukunftsprogramm Pflanzenschutz des BMEL - Ergebnis nach dem Beteiligungsprozess, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://deutscher-weinbauverband.de/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/2024\\_Nr66\\_DWV-Info\\_Anhang\\_Zukunftsprogramm-Pflanzenschutz-des-BMEL.pdf](https://deutscher-weinbauverband.de/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/2024_Nr66_DWV-Info_Anhang_Zukunftsprogramm-Pflanzenschutz-des-BMEL.pdf)

<sup>1029</sup> Für Fluss und Klima: Renaturierung der Ibbenbürener Aa, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 5 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/fuer-fluss-und-klima-renaturierung-der-ibbenbuener-aa>

<sup>1030</sup> Damit die Warnung ankommt: Leitfaden für lokal angepasste Warnkonzepte vorgestellt, Bundesamt für Bevölkerungsschutz und Katastrophenhilfe (Bonn) 9 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bbk.bund.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/09/pm-09-lokale-warnkonzepte.html>

<sup>1031</sup> BMUV fördert Konzepte zur nachhaltigen Klimaanpassung und für Natürlichen Klimaschutz, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bmu-foerdert-konzepte-zur-nachhaltigen-klimaanpassung-und-fuer-natuerlichen-klimaschutz>

almost EUR1.3 million.<sup>1032</sup> These grants allow the district of Waldeck-Frankenberg to invest in the climate resilience of its 19,600 hectares of forest.

On 19 September 2024, State Secretary for the Environment Stefan Tidow and Head of Department Bettina Rechenberg awarded five prizes of EUR25,000 each to winners of the “Blue Compass” federal prize.<sup>1033</sup> Awardees comprise the best projects that addressed prevention and adaptation to climate change, with winning projects addressing heavy rain prevention, civil protection, heat resilience and flood protection.

On 1 October 2024, the Federal Government introduced the next phase of the Green Guarantee Group, a group established at the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to fund more projects in emerging and developing countries.<sup>1034</sup>

On 4 October 2024, Minister Lemke announced EUR27 million in funding for the “Peatland Climate Protection at the Baltic Sea Coast” project, intended to protect coastal bogs.<sup>1035</sup> Lemke emphasized the importance of healthy bog ecosystems to mitigate the impacts of heavy rains, floods, extreme heat and droughts.

On 10 October 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock presented a speech at a briefing on COP29, acknowledging the climate crisis as a complex, cross-national security threat and reaffirming the importance of international cooperation.<sup>1036</sup> In her speech, she reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to bilateral climate and energy partnerships across industrialized and developing nations for shared economic opportunities, in areas of climate mitigation and adaptation.

On 14 October 2024, the Federal Office for Civil Protection announced the second “Research for Civil Protection” conference, aimed at scientists who work on civil protection and to be held in February 2025.<sup>1037</sup> The newly released programme includes health protection, crisis and risk management and adaptation to hybrid threats, which relate to strengthening climate resilience.

On 16 October 2024, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture Silvia Bender travelled to the People’s Republic of China to begin Sino-German Agricultural Week.<sup>1038</sup> This annual political exchange is the central event of the Sino-German Agricultural Centre, focusing on topics including rural development, food security and the role of sustainable agriculture in climate protection and adaptation.

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<sup>1032</sup> Knapp 1,3 Millionen Euro Förderung für klimaangepasstes Waldmanagement im hessischen Waldeck, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/knapp-13-millionen-euro-foerderung-fuer-klimaangepasstes-waldmanagement-im-hessischen-waldeck>

<sup>1033</sup> Bundespreis "Blauer Kompass": Auszeichnung für herausragende Projekte zur Vorsorge und Klimaanpassung, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 19 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundespreis-blauer-kompass-auszeichnung-fuer-herausragende-projekte-zur-vorsorge-und-klimaanpassung>

<sup>1034</sup> Gemeinsame Presseerklärung des Auswärtigen Amts und des Bundesministeriums für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz zur Green Guarantee Group, Auswärtigen Amt (Berlin) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/green-guarantee-group/2678202>

<sup>1035</sup> Mehr Klimaschutz durch renaturierte Küstenmoore, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/mehr-klimaschutz-durch-renaturierte-kuestenmoore>

<sup>1036</sup> Rede von Außenministerin Annalena Baerbock beim Briefing zur 29. Weltklimakonferenz (COP29), Auswärtigen Amt (Baku) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/cop-briefing/2680906>

<sup>1037</sup> Anmeldung jetzt für Fachkongress „Forschung für den Bevölkerungsschutz“ im Februar 2025 möglich, Bundesamt für Bevölkerungsschutz und Katastrophenhilfe (Bonn) 14 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bbk.bund.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/10/pm-14-fachkongress-forschung-bevs.html>

<sup>1038</sup> Staatssekretärin Bender eröffnet 10. Deutsch-Chinesische Agrarwoche, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Yancheng) 16 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Meldungen/DE/Presse/2024/241015-dt-chn-agrarwoche.html>

On 1 November 2024, Minister Özdemir announced his travel to Ethiopia and Zambia to develop cooperation for sustainable and climate-adapted agriculture.<sup>1039</sup>

On 1 November 2024, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture began hearings for federal, state and associations for amendments to the Federal Forest Act.<sup>1040</sup> The act will be modernized to help forest owners adapt their forests to withstand future climate-related disasters, such as drought and extreme temperatures, by promoting mixed forests over monocultures.

On 1 November 2024, Minister Özdemir announced his travel to Ethiopia and Zambia to collaborate on sustainable and climate-adapted agriculture.<sup>1041</sup>

On 6 November 2024, the Federal Cabinet launched the KRITIS Umbrella Act, a draft law to increase resilience of critical facilities.<sup>1042</sup> The law will ensure greater protection for essential facilities providing water, food, electricity and telecommunications in the case of sabotage, terrorist attacks, or natural disasters, exacerbated by climate change.

On 19 November 2024, the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Foreign Office announced, at COP29 in Baku, a EUR60 million contribution to the Adaptation Fund.<sup>1043</sup> These funds will contribute to climate adaptation efforts in developing countries.

On 19 November 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection and the Federal Foreign Office launched the 2024 thematic call for International Climate Initiative (IKI) project proposals at COP29.<sup>1044</sup> This competition calls for innovative projects to help address greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change in developing countries.

On 21 November 2024, Minister Lemke spoke at COP29 on the importance of preserving nature to strengthen climate protection and adaptation.<sup>1045</sup>

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<sup>1039</sup> Bundesminister Özdemir reist nach Äthiopien und Sambia, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 1 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Meldungen/DE/Presse/2024/241101-afrikareise.html>

<sup>1040</sup> Bundeswaldgesetz: BMEL leitet Länder- und Verbändeanhörung ein, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 1 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/122-bundeswaldgesetz-laenderanhoeerung.html>

<sup>1041</sup> Bundesminister Özdemir reist nach Äthiopien und Sambia, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 1 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Meldungen/DE/Presse/2024/241101-afrikareise.html>

<sup>1042</sup> Kritische Infrastruktur schützen, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 6 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/kritis-dachgesetz-2318846>

<sup>1043</sup> COP 29: Deutschland investiert mit Beitrag zu internationalem Klimaanpassungsfonds in globale Resilienz und Stabilität, Auswärtigen Amt (Baku) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024.

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2685558-2685558>

<sup>1044</sup> COP29: Bundesregierung sucht internationale Vorreiterprojekte für Biodiversitäts- und Klimaschutz, Auswärtigen Amt (Baku) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/iki-2685418>

<sup>1045</sup> Von Cali über Baku nach Busan: Klimakrise untrennbar mit Artenaussterben und Rohstoffverbrauch verknüpft, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Baku) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/von-cali-ueber-baku-nach-busan-klimakrise-untrennbar-mit-artenaussterben-und-rohstoffverbrauch-verknuepft>

On 24 November 2024, the parties at COP29 set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1046</sup>

On 26 November 2024, the Commission on the Future of Agriculture published a series of strategic guidelines and recommendations for sustainable agriculture and for new ways of policy making.<sup>1047</sup> The report included policy recommendations addressing environmental protection, animal protection, economic resilience and climate adaptation goals.

On 2 December 2024, Minister Lemke and Federal Environment Agency President Dirk Messner opened the National Soil Monitoring Center, which aims to centralize data about German soil conditions.<sup>1048</sup> The data provided by the centre will allow for further development of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies.

On 6 December 2024, Development Minister Svenja Schulze announced the German contribution of EUR1.6 billion to the International Development Association (IDA) at the final replenishment meeting of the IDA's 21st replenishment.<sup>1049</sup> This funding supports IDA sustainable development projects worldwide, including climate adaptation projects.

On 6 December 2024, Minister Schulze announced the Resilient and Inclusive City Hub initiative as part of the UN Global Disability Fund at the European Regional Disability Summit in Berlin.<sup>1050</sup> This initiative will ensure that municipal crisis responses to heatwaves, droughts and floods are inclusive and accessible to people with disabilities.

On 11 December 2024, the Cabinet adopted the German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change for 2024, which sets clear and measurable goals for climate adaptation, including using green areas to combat heat, flood prevention measures and developing a functional warning system.<sup>1051</sup> It contains 33 targets and 45 sub-targets, including target-specific indicators to measure progress, and will be updated every four years.<sup>1052</sup>

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<sup>1046</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1047</sup> Zukunftskommission Landwirtschaft veröffentlicht strategische Leitlinien und Empfehlungen "Zukunft Landwirtschaft", Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 26 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/135-zkl.html>

<sup>1048</sup> Gesunde Böden als Lebensgrundlage zukünftiger Generationen, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 2 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/gesunde-boeden-als-lebensgrundlage-zukuenftiger-generationen>

<sup>1049</sup> Unterstützung für die Ärmsten, Investitionen in nachhaltige Entwicklung: IDA-Wiederauffüllung erreicht Rekordsumme, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Seoul) 6 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/ida-wiederauffuellung-erreicht-rekordsumme-240178>

<sup>1050</sup> "Inclusive City Hub" soll Städte weltweit barrierefrei machen, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 6 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

<https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/inclusive-city-hub-soll-staedte-weltweit-barrierefrei-machen-240176>

<sup>1051</sup> Klimaanpassungsstrategie 2024, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/klimaanpassungsstrategie-2024-2324828>

<sup>1052</sup> German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Bonn) n.d. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/en/topics/climate-adaptation/overview-climate-adaptation/german-strategy-for-adaptation-to-climate-change>

On 12 December 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary Hoffman announced EUR1.5 million in funding for climate protection and flood prevention in Thuringia.<sup>1053</sup> This funding will protect the Bad Sulza spa gardens from future extreme weather events, including drought and heavy rain and improve biodiversity and soil health.

On 18 December 2024, the Federal Government announced the National Biodiversity Strategy 2030.<sup>1054</sup> This strategy includes expanding climate-resilient forests and supporting municipalities to establish urban nature plans for climate adaptation.

On 23 December 2024, the Federal Ministry for the Environment announced up to EUR10 million annually for the new funding guideline “Climate-Adapted Forest Management Plus,” an extension of the existing “Climate-Adapted Forest Management” funding programme.<sup>1055</sup> This programme will allow private and municipal forest owners to improve forest resilience against climate change by increasing biodiversity and protecting forests’ natural carbon stores.

On 17 January 2025, Minister Özdemir presented the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture’s “Concept for our cooperation with African countries and region” strategy at Green Week.<sup>1056</sup> The Africa Concept emphasizes partnership between Germany and African countries and regions in promoting sustainable and climate-adapted agriculture.

On 21 January 2025, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the Federal Ministry for the Environment and the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry opened applications for the Climate Protection Companies Excellence Initiative.<sup>1057</sup> This initiative aims to foster climate mitigation and adaptation pursuits among its corporate members.

On 23 January 2025, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for the Environment Jan-Niclas Gesenhues announced around EUR1 million in funding for the revitalization of the Eschbach and Lobach valleys to promote biodiversity and further flood protection.<sup>1058</sup> Protecting these ecosystems will improve the region’s resilience to extreme weather events.

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<sup>1053</sup> Naturnah und klimaresilient: Kurpark Bad Sulza wird zum wertvollen Lebensraum für alle, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 12 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/naturnah-und-klimaresilient-kurpark-bad-sulza-wird-zum-wertvollen-lebensraum-fuer-alle>

<sup>1054</sup> Nationale Biodiversitätsstrategie 2030, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/biodiversitaetsstrategie-2326774>

<sup>1055</sup> Bundesumweltministerium unterstützt Waldbesitzende mit neuem Förderprogramm für Ökosystemleistungen des Waldes, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 23 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-unterstuetzt-waldbesitzende-mit-neuem-foerderprogramm-fuer-oekosystemleistungen-des-waldes>

<sup>1056</sup> BMEL stellt Zusammenarbeit mit afrikanischen Partnern auf neues Fundament, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 17 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2025/007-afrika-konzept.html>

<sup>1057</sup> Jetzt bewerben und Klimaschutz-Unternehmen werden, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 21 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/jetzt-bewerben-und-klimaschutz-unternehmen-werden>

<sup>1058</sup> Neue Lebensräume, mehr Klimaschutz: Aktivierung des Remscheider Eschbach- und Lobachtals, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 23 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/neue-lebensraeume-mehr-klimaschutz-aktivierung-des-remscheider-eschbach-und-lobachtals>

On 24 January 2025, Minister Lemke announced EUR26 million in funding for eight marine protection projects to further climate protection in the coastal sea.<sup>1059</sup> Minister Lemke emphasized that these projects, enacted through the Action Program for Natural Climate Protection, will promote biodiversity, climate protection and climate adaptation.

On 31 January 2025, the Federal Government presented its national report for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of wetlands under the international Ramsar Convention.<sup>1060</sup> This report includes elements of the National Bog Protection Strategy, the Action Program for Natural Climate Protection of the Federal Government under the Federal Environment Ministry and the International Climate Initiative to promote wetland preservation.

On 7 February 2025, the Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief announced the successful “Research for Civil Protection” conference.<sup>1061</sup> The conference concentrates on infrastructure and society resilience, improved crisis warning systems and crisis management, and the use of technological innovations like artificial intelligence to improve civil protection. This conference emphasized resilience in the face of new challenges in civil protection, including resilience to climate change.

On 5 March 2025, Minister Lemke announced the expansion of funding for the “Nature-based climate action in municipalities” measure, implemented through the Federal Action Plan on Nature-based Solutions for Climate and Biodiversity (ANK), subsidizing up to 90 per cent of urban green infrastructure costs.<sup>1062</sup> A total of EUR178 million will be made available for projects to increase cities’ resilience to extreme weather, including heavy rains and extreme heat.

On 14 March 2025, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture announced the reconstitution of the Scientific Advisory Board on Biodiversity and Genetic Resources, chaired by Professor Maria Finckh of the University of Kassel.<sup>1063</sup> This advisory board will advise the ministry on the application of biodiversity and genetic resources to food security, environmental and resource protection and climate adaptation.

On 26 March 2025, Minister Baerbock and the thirtieth Conference of the Parties President André Corrêa do Lago hosted the Petersberg Climate Dialogue, inviting ministers from 40 countries to discuss solutions to climate challenges and their implementation to achieve climate goals.<sup>1064</sup> Issues discussed include climate

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<sup>1059</sup> BMUV fördert natürlichen Klimaschutz und Lebensräume an Nord- und Ostseeküste, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 24 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bmu-foerdert-natuerlichen-klimaschutz-und-lebensraeume-an-nord-und-ostseekueste>

<sup>1060</sup> Ramsar-Nationalbericht zum Schutz von Feuchtgebieten vorgelegt, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 31 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/ramsar-nationalbericht-zum-schutz-von-feuchtgebieten-vorgelegt>

<sup>1061</sup> Erfolgreicher BBK-Fachkongress 2025: Wichtige Impulse für den Bevölkerungsschutz, Bundesamt für Bevölkerungsschutz und Katastrophenhilfe (Bonn) 7 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bbk.bund.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2025/02/pm-07-fachkongress-2025.html>

<sup>1062</sup> Natürlicher Klimaschutz in Kommunen: Neustart und Erweiterung des BMUV-Förderprogramms, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 5 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/natuerlicher-klimaschutz-in-kommunen-neustart-und-erweiterung-des-bmu-foerderprogramms>

<sup>1063</sup> Wissenschaftlicher Beirat für Biodiversität und Genetische Ressourcen konstituiert sich neu, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 14 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Meldungen/DE/Presse/2025/250314-wbbgr.html>

<sup>1064</sup> 16. Petersberger Klimadialog: Weichenstellung für eine erfolgreiche COP30, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 26 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ausenpolitik/klimaaussenpolitik/petersberger-klimadialog-2707048>

adaptation and climate finance, including Germany's commitment to its COP29 goals, such as supporting developing countries in climate protection and adaptation.<sup>1065</sup>

On 31 March 2025, the Federal Ministry for the Environment selected 100 model projects to receive a combined EUR11.85 million for climate adaptation in social institutions, including day care centers and nursing homes, through the funding guideline "Climate Adaptation in Social Institutions."<sup>1066</sup> This funding focuses on nature-based projects, including green roofs and facade greening, to further climate adaptation in vulnerable communities.

On 4 April 2025, the Federal Ministry for the Environment allocated EUR34 million from ANK to the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern to implement the "Moorspezialists" programme, which aims to train university graduates in bog protection.<sup>1067</sup> Bogs are essential natural water storage basins, protecting communities from drought and flooding and furthering climate adaptation.

On 7 April 2025, the Federal Ministry for the Environment published a call for funding under the funding guideline "Measures to adapt to the consequences of climate change."<sup>1068</sup> The funding aims to encourage municipalities to develop concepts for sustainable climate adaptation and climate protection and will cover up to 90 per cent of financing costs for the development of these climate adaptation projects.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. Germany has financed and supported various domestic measures to increase climate adaptation, especially in agriculture and the improved management of natural disasters. Germany has engaged in international forums addressing climate adaptation and has invested in international projects and climate funds, such as the Adaptation Fund. However, Germany has not increased its contributions to climate adaptation finance from the previous year.<sup>1069</sup>

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elizabeth Riddolls*

## Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 9 July 2024, the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the Rwandan Ministry of Finance officially signed a EUR50 million financing agreement to support the country through the Italian Climate

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<sup>1065</sup> Wachstum und Klimaschutz miteinander verbinden, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 26 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/rede-des-kanzlers-petersberer-klimadialog-2339288>

<sup>1066</sup> BMUV fördert 100 neue Vorhaben zur Klimaanpassung in sozialen Einrichtungen, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 31 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bmu-foerdert-100-neue-vorhaben-zur-klimaanpassung-in-sozialen-einrichtungen>

<sup>1067</sup> Mehr Fachleute für den Moor-Klimaschutz, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 4 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/mehr-fachleute-fuer-den-moor-klimaschutz>

<sup>1068</sup> Förderung für Kommunen: Neue Konzepte für nachhaltige Klimaanpassung und Natürlichen Klimaschutz, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 7 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/foerderung-fuer-kommunen-neue-konzepte-fuer-nachhaltige-klimaanpassung-und-natuerlichen-klimaschutz>

<sup>1069</sup> Germany again contributes fair share of climate finance for emerging economies and developing countries, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-again-contributes-fair-share-of-climate-finance-230700>

Fund.<sup>1070</sup> The investment is a component of Italy's larger Mattei Plan and aims to assist the Rwandan government in implementing its National Climate Plan to reduce Carbon emissions.

On 18 September 2024, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security issued Directive No. 77 to fund projects aimed at improving the electrical grid's resilience to extreme weather events, to prevent prolonged power outages and mitigate social and economic consequences.<sup>1071</sup> This action strengthens infrastructure and aligns with commitments to enhance climate resilience.

On 14 November 2024, the Italian and Kenyan governments signed an agreement utilizing funding from the Italian Climate Fund (FIC).<sup>1072</sup> The FIC will provide a EUR150 million loan to the government of Kenya to support climate adaptation measures such as developing sustainable urban transport, encouraging reforestation and developing financial instruments aimed at combating climate change.

On 20 November 2024, the Minister of Environment and Energy Security, Gilberto Pichetto, launched the G7 Adaptation Accelerator Hub, which promotes global climate adaptation through investments, collaborations and support for vulnerable communities.<sup>1073</sup> This initiative helps address potential collateral damages caused by climate change, including food security, water resource management and community resilience issues.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1074</sup>

On 11 February 2025, Minister Pichetto spoke at the Kurdistan-Italy Economic Forum, emphasizing Italy's commitment to support climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in the Autonomous Region of Iraqi Kurdistan.<sup>1075</sup>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. Italy has demonstrated limited action in strengthening and funding the resilience of domestic electrical grids. Internationally, it has taken action to increase climate

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<sup>1070</sup> Rwanda e Italia firmano un accordo da 50 milioni di euro per sostenere progetti di resilienza climatica, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/rwanda-e-italia-firmano-un-accordo-da-50-milioni-di-euro-sostenere-progetti-di>

<sup>1071</sup> PNRR Missione 7 REPOWER EU Investimento 2 Misura rafforzata: Interventi su resilienza climatica delle reti, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 11 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/pnrr-missione-7-repower-eu-investimento-2-misura-rafforzata-interventi-su-resilienza>

<sup>1072</sup> Piano Mattei: dal Fondo Italiano per il Clima nuovo accordo da 150 milioni per la resilienza climatica del Kenya, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Baku) 14 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/piano-mattei-dal-fondo-italiano-il-clima-nuovo-accordo-da-150-milioni-la-resilienza>

<sup>1073</sup> Cop29: Pichetto lancia il G7 Adaptation Accelerator Hub, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Baku) 20 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/cop29-pichetto-lancia-il-g7-adaptation-accelerator-hub>

<sup>1074</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1075</sup> Clima - Energia: il ministro Pichetto al Forum Economico Kurdistan-Italia, "opportunità per rafforzare cooperazione", Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 12 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/clima-energia-il-ministro-pichetto-al-forum-economico-kurdistan-italia-opportunita>



finance through its collaboration with the Kenyan, Ethiopian, Rwandan and Turkish governments but remains short of increasing its contributions to climate adaptation finance.<sup>1076</sup>

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Yipin Wang*

## **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 15 August 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) released its Annual Plan for the 2024 Fiscal Year.<sup>1077</sup> The plan outlines several planned actions undertaken by JICA, including actions aimed at agricultural production and climate change adaptation. The JICA requested increased funds to allocate to partnerships with development partners totaling JPY27 billion, a JPY6 billion increase from the 2023 fiscal year plan.

On 5 November 2024, the Ministry of the Environment, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Financial Services Agency and the National Institute for Environmental Studies, announced the symposium Climate Change Risk Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration Network symposium.<sup>1078</sup> The network will serve as a platform for companies, government agencies and research institutions to exchange views and collaborate on enhancing the information infrastructure and meeting the needs for climate change risk data and related services to raise awareness of initiatives and challenges to strengthen corporate resilience against climate change risks.

On 24 October 2024, the National Institute for Environmental Studies held its 5th International Climate Change Adaptation Platforms Meeting. The two-day meeting included discussions about collaborating with international stakeholders on climate adaptation initiatives.

On 11 November 2024, Japan provided a USD600 million guarantee to the African Development Bank (AfDB) alongside a USD1 billion United States guarantee to enable an additional USD7.2 billion in climate finance.<sup>1079</sup>

On 21 November 2024, Japan committed USD5.1 million to the World Food Programme for a project to support 37,000 smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe affected by the climate crisis and drought.<sup>1080</sup> The funding will be used to provide food assistance and enable climate-adaptation “by establishing water-based infrastructure, developing value chains and strengthening agricultural extension service capacity.”

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for

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<sup>1076</sup> Climate Italy, Donor Tracker by SEEK Development (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 January 2025.

[https://donortracker.org/donor\\_profiles/italy/climate](https://donortracker.org/donor_profiles/italy/climate)

<sup>1077</sup> JICA Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2024, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/basic/jica/\\_icsFiles/afiedfile/2024/08/15/JICA\\_Annual\\_Plan\\_2024\\_1.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/basic/jica/_icsFiles/afiedfile/2024/08/15/JICA_Annual_Plan_2024_1.pdf)

<sup>1078</sup> 気候変動リスク産官学連携ネットワーク公開シンポジウム ～サステナビリティ情報開示における気候関連データの活用と「リスクと機会」への実践～ 開催のお知らせ, Ministry of Environment (Tokyo) 5 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate.

Access Date: 19 November 2024. [https://www.env.go.jp/press/press\\_03966.html](https://www.env.go.jp/press/press_03966.html)

<sup>1079</sup> Exclusive: ADB increases climate finance after US, Japan give world's first sovereign guarantees, Reuters (Baku) 11 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/sustainable-finance-reporting/adb-increases-climate-finance-after-us-japan-give-worlds-first-sovereign-2024-11-11/>

<sup>1080</sup> Japan Supports Climate Resilience and Sustainable Agriculture in Zimbabwe, World Food Programme (Harare) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-supports-climate-resilience-and-sustainable-agriculture-zimbabwe>

developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1081</sup>

On 18 December 2024, JICA granted JPY2.831 million to Pakistan for future flood risk reduction in the Indus Basin.<sup>1082</sup>

On 9 January 2024, JICA announced discussions with the Bangladesh regarding a project to strengthen coastal resilience through technology-based forest management.<sup>1083</sup>

On 17 January 2025, JICA announced the Action Agenda on Financing for Climate Resilience with a Focus on Extreme Heat in partnership with the US Department of the Treasury, US Agency for International Development and multilateral development banks.<sup>1084</sup> The agenda recognizes the threat posed by extreme heat and calls on stakeholders to take action to advance climate-resilient development.

On 24 February 2025, JICA, in cooperation with partners from India, announced collaboration on climate-resilient forest management training for Nepal.<sup>1085</sup> This partnership is part of JICA's "Project for Climate Change Adaptation through Sustainable Forest Management in Nepal," which aims to enhance the capacity of government agencies responsible for climate change adaptation.

On 13 March 2025, Japanese Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Nakamura Ryo and Brazilian Director for Climate and Minister of Foreign Affairs Liliam Chagas held the 23rd Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change.<sup>1086</sup> The conference facilitated open and informal discussions among chief negotiators and officials from several countries concerning the prospects and challenges of climate mitigation, adaptation and implementation mechanisms.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. Japan has demonstrated commitment by announcing the development of climate forecasts and related corporate resilience efforts as well as highlighting proposals aimed at increasing agricultural resilience. Additionally, Japan demonstrated some budget increases in the 2024 Fiscal Year for JICA. Japan directly allocated adaptation finance in Pakistan and Zimbabwe and provided a sovereign guarantee to the AfDB but has not increased climate finance from the previous year.<sup>1087</sup>

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<sup>1081</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1082</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Pakistan : Contributing to the reduction of flood risk through the strengthening of flood management, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241216\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241216_31.html)

<sup>1083</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with People's Republic of Bangladesh: Enhancing coastal resilience through technology-based forest management, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241225\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241225_31.html)

<sup>1084</sup> 「極暑に焦点をあてた気候変動への強靱性のためのファイナンス」に係る行動計画を米国財務省、米国国際開発庁 (USAID)、国際開発金融機関 (MDBs) と公表ー極暑を開発課題として位置づけ、気候変動に強靱な開発を推進ー、独立行政法人 国際協力機構 (Tokyo) 20 January 2025. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 February 2025.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250116\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250116_21.html)

<sup>1085</sup> India-Japan Collaborate on Climate-Resilient Forest Management Training for Nepal, Japan International Cooperation Agency (New Dehli). 24 February 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2024.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/india/information/press/2024/1563705\\_53431.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/india/information/press/2024/1563705_53431.html)

<sup>1086</sup> The 23rd Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/imfa/index.html>

<sup>1087</sup> Climate Japan, Donor Tracker by SEEK Development (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 January 2025.

[https://donortracker.org/donor\\_profiles/japan/climate#funding-outlook](https://donortracker.org/donor_profiles/japan/climate#funding-outlook)

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Yipin Wang*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 18 June 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office invited proposals for umbrella reviews on plausible priority endeavours to support climate change adaptation in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>1088</sup>

On 25 June 2024, British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution announced a USD75 million contribution to a “green basket bond” that supports climate related agriculture and forestry projects in addition to other climate finance.<sup>1089</sup> The financing instrument will operate “across Africa, South and South-East Asia..., with a particular focus on India.”

On 11 July 2024, the Environment Agency announced its partnership with Eastbourne Borough Council to improve protections against flooding in coastal communities in Sussex due to rising sea levels.<sup>1090</sup> This initiative is part of the Pevensey Bay to Eastbourne Coastal Management Scheme, which aims to improve climate adaptation efforts to rising sea levels and increasing flood risks.

On 15 July 2024, BII announced a USD10 million loan with allocations towards climate adaptive agriculture practices in Zimbabwe.<sup>1091</sup>

On 24 July 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy met with Indian government officials in New Delhi to establish a new partnership with India including on global climate resilience initiatives.<sup>1092</sup>

On 31 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office through the Mobilising Institutional Capital Through Listed Product Structures program provided USD7 million for the Helios Climate, Energy Access, and Resilience Fund which invests in Africa.<sup>1093</sup>

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<sup>1088</sup> Effectiveness of climate change adaptation interventions in low- and middle-income countries: rapid umbrella review, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/effectiveness-of-climate-change-adaptation-interventions-in-low-and-middle-income-countries-rapid-umbrella-review>

<sup>1089</sup> British International Investment and Symbiotics strengthen partnership with launch of second Green Basket Bond across Asia and Africa, British International Investment (London) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/british-international-investment-and-symbiotics-strengthen-partnership-with-launch-of-second-green-basket-bond-across-asia-and-africa/>

<sup>1090</sup> 10,000 properties in East Sussex better protected from flooding, Environment Agency (Bristol) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/10000-properties-in-east-sussex-better-protected-from-flooding>

<sup>1091</sup> British International Investment supports NMB Bank Zimbabwe to boost agricultural exports and support sustainable farming, British International Investment (London) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/british-international-investment-supports-nmb-bank-zimbabwe-to-boost-agricultural-exports-and-support-sustainable-farming/>

<sup>1092</sup> Foreign Secretary travels to India to cement stronger partnership on tech, climate and growth, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-travels-to-india-to-cement-stronger-partnership-on-tech-climate-and-growth>

<sup>1093</sup> CLEAR Fund, Mobilising Institutional Capital Through Listed Product Structures (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.mobilistglobal.com/investment/clear-fund/>

On 31 July 2024, BII provided a portion of the USD200 million raised by the Helios Climate, Energy Access, and Resilience Fund to provide cross-cutting climate finance.<sup>1094</sup>

On 15 August 2024, UK Export Finance announced a GBP22 million investment to support the development of clean water projects in the Quiminha region of Angola.<sup>1095</sup> The projects aim to bring clean reliable water to over one hundred thousand residents in drought-heavy Quiminha and help the region become more resilient to climate-induced irregular weather events such as increased drought.

On 27 August 2024, Minister for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West announced GBP12.9 million in climate finance for Tonga including funds for adaptation.<sup>1096</sup>

On 27 August 2024, British Ambassador to Honduras Nick Whittingham launched the Resilient and Biodiverse Landscapes of Northern Mesoamerica project.<sup>1097</sup> The project aims to strengthen the adaptive strategies of rural communities to extreme weather events.

On 4 September 2024, Minister for Africa Ray Collins announced new financing for agricultural projects in Africa.<sup>1098</sup> GBP25 million will be given to AgDevCo, an investment group which seeks to improve food security and agribusiness in Africa. Funding will be used to aid farmers in the continent in adapting to the effects of climate change.

On 5 September 2024, Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Peter Kyle celebrated the launch of a satellite part of the Copernicus Sentinel 2 mission.<sup>1099</sup> Extracted satellite imaging will be used to monitor the status of climate change through tracking wildfires, floods and gas leaks in an effort to expedite emergency response systems.

On 17 September 2024, Minister Collins announced GBP1 million for drought response in Ghana.<sup>1100</sup>

On 27 September 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer addressed the United Nations General Assembly, emphasizing the growing need to increase adaptation finance rework the international financial system so it can better serve developing countries.<sup>1101</sup>

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<sup>1094</sup> UK backing enables new Africa-focused climate fund to achieve \$200 million first close, British International Investment (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/uk-backing-enables-new-africa-focused-climate-fund-to-achieve-200-million-first-close/>

<sup>1095</sup> UKEF puts €22 million loan behind Angolan clean water project, UK Export Finance (London) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukef-puts-22-million-loan-behind-angolan-clean-water-project>

<sup>1096</sup> UK announces new climate funding for Pacific as minister visits New Zealand and Tonga, Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-new-climate-funding-for-pacific-as-minister-visits-new-zealand-and-tonga>

<sup>1097</sup> Biodiverse Landscapes Fund starts activities in Moskitia, British Embassy Guatemala City (for Honduras) (Guatemala City) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biodiverse-landscapes-fund-starts-activities-in-moskitia>

<sup>1098</sup> Minister for Africa pledges funding to accelerate growth in Africa agriculture sector, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-pledges-funding-to-accelerate-growth-in-africa-agriculture-sector>

<sup>1099</sup> New satellite to image the Earth and strengthen Europe's Copernicus programme, UK Space Agency (London) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-satellite-to-image-the-earth-and-strengthen-europes-copernicus-programme>

<sup>1100</sup> Minister for Africa Lord Collins Reaffirms UK-Ghana Partnership, Government of United Kingdom (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-lord-collins-reaffirms-uk-ghana-partnership>

<sup>1101</sup> PM United Nations General Assembly Speech: 26 September 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-united-nations-general-assembly-speech-26-september-2024>

On 30 September 2024, Minister for Food Security and Rural Affairs Daniel Zeichner announced a new legislation, which will allow widespread use of innovative precision breeding technology across the UK.<sup>1102</sup> These technologies encourage the development of crops that are more resilient to climate change, improving agricultural adaptability.

On 15 October 2024, the Environment Agency hosted drop-in events for the communities of Pevensy and Eastbourne to assess the Agency's proposed plans for flood prevention.<sup>1103</sup> Measures include the reinstallation of displaced sand and shingle to beaches, as well as raising the height of timber groves to stop sediment from moving.

On 24 October 2024, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Andrew Gwynne released a letter outlining the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) priorities for the coming fiscal year.<sup>1104</sup> The UKHSA will provide advice on measures needed to reduce adverse effects on health caused by extreme weather events such as flooding. The UKHSA will also support the rollout of the National Adaptation Programme and help to implement the Adverse Weather and Health Plan.

On 13 November 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs responsible for Water and Flooding Emma Hardy announced increased financial aid for farmers and small towns experiencing flooding.<sup>1105</sup> This funding includes GBP50 million to internal drainage boards to manage flooding and ensure water levels are suitable for agriculture in these areas.

On 13 November 2024, Secretary Lammy announced that GBP280 million in climate financing would be allocated in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank to the Innovative Finance Facility for Climate in Asia and the Pacific.<sup>1106</sup> The Facility aims to increase the scale and efficiency of donor funds mobilized through projects aimed at addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation.

On 15 November 2024, Minister Dodds announced GBP30 million for the Weather and Climate Information Services network in Africa including GBP4 dedicated to Kenya.<sup>1107</sup> This funding helps African states to accelerate and strengthen responses to extreme weather events.

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<sup>1102</sup> New legislation to support precision breeding and boost Britain's food security, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legislation-to-support-precision-breeding-and-boost-britains-food-security>

<sup>1103</sup> Updated plans to protect Pevensy and Eastbourne from flooding, Environment Agency (London) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/updated-plans-to-protect-pevensey-and-eastbourne-from-flooding>

<sup>1104</sup> Letter from Andrew Gwynne MP to Professor Dame Jenny Harries, UKHSA Chief Executive, Department of Health & Social Care (London) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsa-priorities-in-2024-to-2025/letter-from-andrew-gwynne-mp-to-professor-dame-jenny-harries-ukhsa-chief-executive>

<sup>1105</sup> Reforms to flood funding and investment to protect farming communities, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reforms-to-flood-funding-and-investment-to-protect-farming-communities>

<sup>1106</sup> Asian Development Bank event: Foreign Secretary's speech at COP29, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/asian-development-bank-event-foreign-secretarys-speech-at-cop29>

<sup>1107</sup> UK pledges Ksh 660 million to Kenya to boost weather and information services, British High Commission Nairobi (Nairobi) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-ksh-660-million-to-kenya-to-boost-weather-and-information-services>

On 20 November 2024, UK Special Representative for Climate Rachel Kyte met with Guatemala's Vice Minister of the Environment Edwin Castellanos and Climate Change Special Envoy Rita Mishaaan at COP29 to discuss climate financing, including the need for financial support of adaptation initiatives.<sup>1108</sup>

On 21 November 2024, Minister for the Middle East Hamish Falconer announced funding worth GBP108 million to help local Pakistani businesses adapt to climate change.<sup>1109</sup> The investment aims to mobilize up to six times that number in private capital.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1110</sup>

On 29 November 2024, Secretary Lammy discussed the shared partnership between the UK and New Zealand with New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs Winston Peters at the 2024 Foreign Ministers Dialogue.<sup>1111</sup> The discussion yielded increased funding for the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service, to pursue commitments to climate adaptation through strengthening the resilience of biodiversity in Oceania. The ministers also discussed new innovations in the field of earthquake detection in New Zealand, made possible because of the UK's International Science Partnership Fund.

On 3 December 2024, UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations Barbara Woodward delivered a speech at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.<sup>1112</sup> Representative Woodward announced that the UK intends to increase its commitment to the International Development Association by 40 per cent, to a total of GBP2.5 billion over a period of three years. Representative Woodward also called for increased private capital invested in states particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

On 4 December 2024, Environment Agency Project Manager Karl Ickeringill publicized the agency's planning application for improved flood defences in Tadcaster.<sup>1113</sup> Ickeringill asserted the importance of improving the city's flood defence system due to its increased vulnerability to frequent flooding due to climate change. An online portal allows residents to share their input with the North Yorkshire Council.

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<sup>1108</sup> UK and Guatemala discussed shared priorities at COP29, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-guatemala-discussed-shared-priorities-at-cop29>

<sup>1109</sup> World-leading climate initiatives to be developed through UK programme in Pakistan, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-climate-initiatives-to-be-developed-through-uk-programme-in-pakistan>

<sup>1110</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1111</sup> UK secures another signatory for its 'Shadow Fleet' call to action as New Zealand and UK Foreign Secretaries pledge closer cooperation, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-secures-another-signatory-for-its-shadow-fleet-call-to-action-as-new-zealand-and-uk-foreign-secretaries-pledge-closer-cooperation>

<sup>1112</sup> We must foster a bigger, better and fairer financial system: UK statement at the FfD4 Second Preparatory Committee, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (New York) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-foster-a-bigger-better-and-fairer-financial-system-uk-statement-at-the-ffd4-second-preparatory-committee>

<sup>1113</sup> Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme consultation gets underway, Environment Agency (Bristol) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tadcaster-flood-alleviation-scheme-consultation-gets-underway>

On 9 December 2024, Minister Dodds announced GBP2.5 million in humanitarian aid to Malawi to support climate resilience in communities facing extreme weather events as part of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office's Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Change programme.<sup>1114</sup>

On 11 December 2024, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Steve Reed confirmed a GBP343 million investment for rural farming initiatives to bolster climate-resilient food production.<sup>1115</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the Environment Agency released data on areas in England with an increased flood risk and updated the National Coastal Erosion Risk Map.<sup>1116</sup> The new data will inform government policies to improve resilience to flooding.

On 19 December 2024, British High Commissioner to Belize Christine Rowlands announced the renewal of EUR100,000 in funding granted to Belize through the Blue Social Challenge Fund.<sup>1117</sup> This action is part of the federal government's pact to support initiatives from Small Island Developing States in improving climate resilience.

On 1 January 2025, Flood Duty Manager at the Environment Agency Dane Broomfield revealed that the Floods Resilience Task Force protected upwards of 78,000 properties from flooding during the week.<sup>1118</sup> Data from the floods will be recorded and implemented by the Taskforce for future floods.

On 7 January 2025, Floods Minister Emma Hardy met with Environment Agency Chief Executive Philip Duffy to discuss flooding concentrated in the Midlands.<sup>1119</sup> Minister Hardy affirmed the government's commitment to devote GBP2.4 billion to constructing flood defences.

On 17 January 2025, the Environment Agency began refortifying Lancing Beach by transplanting shingle from Shoreham Fort and the nearby nature reserve to the beach as part of flood-resilience efforts.<sup>1120</sup>

On 17 January 2025, British Ambassador to Guatemala Juliana Correa announced that 40 countries, including Guatemala, would receive USD30 million provided by the UK through the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme for initiatives dedicated to climate action.<sup>1121</sup>

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<sup>1114</sup> UK Development Minister focuses on "Driving Growth" in trip to Malawi and Zambia, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-development-minister-focuses-on-driving-growth-in-trip-to-malawi-and-zambia>

<sup>1115</sup> Rural boost: Government injects nearly £350 million into farming in boost to Britain's food security, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Rural Payments Agency (London) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rural-boost-government-injects-nearly-350-million-into-farming-in-boost-to-britains-food-security>

<sup>1116</sup> Environment Agency publishes major update to national flood and coastal erosion risk assessment, Environment Agency (Bristol) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environment-agency-publishes-major-update-to-national-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-assessment>

<sup>1117</sup> New seaweed mariculture project launched with UK Support, British High Commission Belmopan (Belmopan) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-seaweed-mariculture-project-launched-with-uk-support>

<sup>1118</sup> More than 78,000 properties protected by Environment Agency during this month's flooding, Environment Agency and Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Bristol) 1 January 2025. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/environment-agency-urges-caution-ahead-of-new-year-celebrations>

<sup>1119</sup> Floods Minister and Environment Agency hold further meeting to bolster flood response and recovery, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Environment Agency (London) 7 January 2025. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/floods-minister-and-environment-agency-hold-further-meeting-to-bolster-flood-response-and-recovery>

<sup>1120</sup> Shifting Shoreham shingle to reduce Lancing coastal flood risk, Environment Agency (Bristol) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/shifting-shoreham-shingle-to-reduce-lancing-coastal-flood-risk>

<sup>1121</sup> UK will support Guatemala to increase its climate ambitions, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-support-guatemala-to-increase-its-climate-ambitions>

On 20 January 2025, Minister for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West visited Jakarta to announce the Climate and Ocean Adaptation and Sustainable Transition Programme Indonesia, which will dedicate GBP18 million towards ensuring the resilience of ocean habitats.<sup>1122</sup>

On 30 January 2025, the Environment Agency announced that GBP282,000 would be allocated to create a floodplain near the River Yare in partnership with the Norfolk Water Strategy Programme.<sup>1123</sup> This project will connect the river to the floodplain to improve flood response and biodiversity.

On 31 January 2025, Secretary Reed announced the Land Use Framework initiative, which aims to bolster flood response on farmland and ensure the resilience of the UK's food production system.<sup>1124</sup>

On 6 February 2025, British Ambassador to Guatemala Julia Correa and Vice Minister of Environment and Climate Change Edwin Castellanos visited Guatemala to celebrate the launch of projects to improve the climate resilience of indigenous communities in the dry corridor and Alta Verapaz region.<sup>1125</sup> The projects are funded through the Global Centre on Biodiversity for Climate by way of DEFRA and will invest upwards of USD1 million over a period of three years.

On 7 February 2025, the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) released a report of recommendations for the Scottish government to improve its responses to climate change.<sup>1126</sup> GAD recommended that Scotland improve its planning abilities for acute hazards, including heatwaves, floods, wildfires and droughts.

On 12 February 2025, the Environment Agency launched the Working with Natural Processes Evidence Directory, dedicated to compiling and synthesizing evidence for natural flood management initiatives.<sup>1127</sup> The Directory endorses the creation of catchment woodlands, which can significantly reduce flood overflow.

On 19 February 2025, the Environment Agency invited residents to view new designs for the Hebden Bridge Flood Alleviation Scheme.<sup>1128</sup> Residents were encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback about the flood defences.

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<sup>1122</sup> UK and Indonesia build on solid foundations with new infrastructure initiative, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-indonesia-build-on-solid-foundations-with-new-infrastructure-initiative>

<sup>1123</sup> River Yare receives £282,000 for creation of floodplain wetlands, Environment Agency (Bristol) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/river-yare-receives-282000-for-creation-of-floodplain-wetlands>

<sup>1124</sup> Government launches "national conversation" on land use, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-national-conversation-on-land-use>

<sup>1125</sup> UK project will improve livelihoods and climate resilience of communities in Alta Verapaz and the dry corridor, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-project-will-improve-livelihoods-and-climate-resilience-of-communities-in-alta-verapaz-and-the-dry-corridor>

<sup>1126</sup> Future climate scenarios, Government Actuary's Department (London) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/future-climate-scenarios>

<sup>1127</sup> Working with nature to boost nation's flood resilience: New evidence of natural flood management benefits, Environment Agency (Bristol) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/working-with-nature-to-boost-nations-flood-resilience-new-evidence-of-natural-flood-management-benefits>

<sup>1128</sup> Hebden Bridge Flood Alleviation Scheme designs to be put on show, Environment Agency (Bristol) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hebden-bridge-flood-alleviation-scheme-designs-to-be-put-on-show>



On 28 February 2025, Special Representative for Nature Ruth Davis presented an agreement to mobilize resources meant to protect and revitalize nature at the COP16 summit.<sup>1129</sup> The agreement is essential in helping maintain food security and improving flood and drought defences for COP16 countries.

On 10 March 2025, British International Investment announced a GBP75 million finance facility with Pakistan bank HBL to increase access to finance for climate adaptation efforts for vulnerable farmers in Pakistan.<sup>1130</sup>

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Development Jennifer Chapman, alongside the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, held a roundtable to discuss how attending countries could work together to address the water crisis affecting many parties worldwide.<sup>1131</sup> This initiative will help the participants work towards their SDGs by combating desertification and preserving wetlands. The panel also discussed how countries could mobilize private capital and collaborate with multilateral development banks.

On 26 March 2025, Ambassador to the Philippines Laure Beaufils met with the Filipino Environment Secretary and Official Representative of the President to the Climate Change Commission, Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga.<sup>1132</sup> The two signed a renewed partnership statement on climate and nature, permitting the UK to enhance financing and mobilize additional private capital for climate-adaptive initiatives in the Philippines.

On 31 March 2025, Minister Hardy announced that an additional GBP16 million will be dedicated to funding internal drainage boards, which will help communities adapt to flooding exacerbated by climate change.<sup>1133</sup>

On 31 March 2025, Minister Hardy announced that the Government's Plan for Change will allocate GBP2.65 billion to repair more than a thousand flood defences.<sup>1134</sup> GBP140 million will be immediately mobilized to expedite the renewal of stalled projects.

On 4 April 2025, the Environment Agency, along with the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Research and Development Programme, presented research from the Cambridge Coastal Research Unit (CCRU).<sup>1135</sup> The CCRU, used to inform policy decisions, shows coastal wetlands' critical role in protecting communities from storms and flooding exacerbated by climate change.

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<sup>1129</sup> COP16 concludes in Rome with a landmark agreement to mobilise resources for people and nature, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 28 February 2024. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cop16-concludes-in-rome-with-a-landmark-agreement-to-mobilise-resources-for-people-and-nature> BII announces \$75 million facility with HBL to enhance food security and farmers climate resilience in Pakistan,

<sup>1130</sup> British International Investment (London) 10 March 2025. Access Date 16 April 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/bii-announces-75-million-facility-with-hbl-to-enhance-food-security-and-farmers-climate-resilience-in-pakistan/?fl=true>

<sup>1131</sup> Ministerial Roundtable on Water Security, 13 March 2025: outcome statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ministerial-roundtable-on-water-security-13-march-2025-outcome-statement>

<sup>1132</sup> UK, Philippines hold 5th Climate Change and Environment Dialogue, British Embassy Manila (Manila) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-philippines-hold-5th-climate-change-and-environment-dialogue>

<sup>1133</sup> £16 million boost to improve flood protection for farmers and rural communities, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/16-million-boost-to-improve-flood-protection-for-farmers-and-rural-communities>

<sup>1134</sup> Government to build over 1,000 flood schemes across the country, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-build-over-1000-flood-schemes-across-the-country>

<sup>1135</sup> Wetlands and Coastal Protection, Environment Agency (London) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/wetlands-and-coastal-protection>

On 4 April 2025, the Environment Agency announced the results of the Flood Hydrology Roadmap.<sup>1136</sup> The Roadmap aims to increase the flood resilience of communities across the UK by helping policymakers determine geographic locations to implement flood risk management strategies.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. The United Kingdom has taken many actions to increase the resilience of its regions and cities, such as water system reforms, constructions of flood resistant infrastructure and forest fire management. On the international stage, the United Kingdom has contributed to adaptation infrastructure partnerships and has also mobilized investments towards multilateral development initiatives to aid developing countries in improving their climate adaptation. The total adaptation finance provided by the UK in the compliance period represents a scale up in finance compared to previous years.<sup>1137</sup>

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

*Analyst: Amelia Dease*

### **United States: -1**

The United States has not complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 20 June 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its 2024–2027 Climate Adaptation Plan, which includes methods for building a climate-resilient country.<sup>1138</sup> The plan focuses on improving climate literacy, resilience in supply chains and integrating climate data and considerations into legislation. Additionally, the plan outlines the proposed budget for 2025, demonstrating an increase of over USD 2 million in climate adaptation funding.

On 21 June 2024, EPA Regional Administrator Lisa F. Garcia awarded USD500,000 to Nos Quedamos under the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving Cooperative Agreement Program.<sup>1139</sup> The grant will support a project focused on climate resilience and emergency preparedness.

On 26 June 2024, the EPA partnered with King County and Seattle, signing an agreement committing to expanding their effluent and stormwater discharge reduction efforts.<sup>1140</sup> The projects are intended to mitigate untreated sewage from flowing into local waterways and make wastewater storage more resilient to increasing rainfall and flooding due to climate change.

On 27 June 2024, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman announced USD66.8 million in funding to Zambia in response to current drought conditions

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<sup>1136</sup> Flood Hydrology Roadmap, Environment Agency (London) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/flood-hydrology-roadmap>

<sup>1137</sup> UK International Climate Finance results 2023, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 October 2023.

Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-international-climate-finance-results-2023/uk-international-climate-finance-results-2023>.

<sup>1138</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Releases Agency Climate Adaptation Plans, Demonstrates Leadership in Building Climate Resilience, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/06/20/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-releases-agency-climate-adaptation-plans-demonstrates-leadership-in-building-climate-resilience/>

<sup>1139</sup> EPA to Award a Half Million Dollars to South Bronx Organization to Combat Impacts of Climate Change, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-award-half-million-dollars-south-bronx-organization-combat-impacts-climate-change>

<sup>1140</sup> Seattle & King County to expand wastewater treatment in new agreement with EPA, DOJ, Ecology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/seattle-king-county-expand-wastewater-treatment-new-agreement-epa-doj-ecology>

in the country.<sup>1141</sup> This money will not only provide humanitarian aid to alleviate the ongoing crisis but to also support the country's agricultural base and future drought resilience.

On 2 July 2024, President Joe Biden announced a series of actions to mitigate climatic effects, including nearly USD1 billion in grants to facilitate them.<sup>1142</sup> President Biden announced a new Department of Labor federal safety standard for heat waves, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) improvements of national resilience against flooding and provision of USD1 billion in adaptation and resilience funding projects.<sup>1143</sup>

On 8 July 2024, the EPA declared over USD3.6 million in funding to be allocated to 38 organizations under the Environmental Education Grants Program.<sup>1144</sup> Notable projects include programmes fostering watershed stewardship design and nature-based flooding solutions in Houston.

On 8 July 2024, the EPA revealed its chosen candidates from the University of Maine and Learning Endeavors to receive grants to conduct environmental education projects in the Pacific Islands.<sup>1145</sup> The selected projects aim to increase environmental literacy on wetland restoration across Pacific Island communities and empower local adaptation efforts.

On 9 July 2024, the EPA announced it would grant USD5 million to establish four Centres of Excellence for Stormwater Control Infrastructure Technologies and a national clearinghouse managing innovations in stormwater control technologies.<sup>1146</sup> The facilities are projected to play an influential role in cleaning aquatic pollution and improving water quality through the national implementation of enhanced infrastructure and increased research to promote climate resilience.

On 11 July 2024, the EPA proclaimed a USD14.8 million loan to the Palmdale Water District in southern California to assist with the area's advanced water augmentation programme.<sup>1147</sup> The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan will establish a critical drought-resistant potable water supply for its residents through recycled water purification.

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<sup>1141</sup> USAID Announces More Than \$66 Million to Support Zambia in Efforts to Combat Drought, Support Resilience, and Strengthen Food Security as a Feed the Future Accelerator Country, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-27-2024-usaid-announces-more-66-million-support-zambia-efforts-combat-drought-support-resilience-and-strengthen-food-security-feed-future-accelerator-country>

<sup>1142</sup> President Biden Announces \$1 Billion in Project Selections to Make Communities More Resilient to Climate Change and Natural Hazards Through His Investing in America Agenda, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20240702/president-biden-announces-1-billion-project-selections-make-communities-more>

<sup>1143</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces New Actions to Protect Workers and Communities from Extreme Weather, The White House (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/02/fact-sheet-president-biden-announces-new-actions-to-protect-workers-and-communities-from-extreme-weather/>

<sup>1144</sup> EPA Selects Educational Organizations to Receive Over \$3.6 million to Support Environmental Projects Nationwide, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-selects-educational-organizations-receive-over-36-million-support-environmental>

<sup>1145</sup> EPA Awards Funding to Two Educational Organizations for Environmental Projects in Pacific Islands, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-funding-two-educational-organizations-environmental-projects-pacific>

<sup>1146</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Establishes Four Stormwater Centers of Excellence with \$5 Million in Grants under Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-establishes-four-stormwater-centers-excellence-5-million>

<sup>1147</sup> EPA Announces \$14 Million WIFIA Loan to Develop Drought Solutions in California, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-14-million-wifia-loan-develop-drought-solutions-california>

On 18 July 2024, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) investment of USD90 million in 53 Conservation Innovation Grant projects.<sup>1148</sup> These projects include actions to develop irrigation technologies that minimize water use and sustainable agriculture to increase agricultural resilience to climate change.

On 18 July 2024, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recommended USD220 million in funding to support 32 habitat restoration and coastal resilience projects.<sup>1149</sup> This funding will support projects that restore habitats in coastal and urban ecosystems, with a focus on engaging underserved communities to improve climate resilience.

On 22 July 2024, the Climate and Fisheries Adaptation programme announced USD6 million in funding for eight new three-year projects focused on understanding and developing climate resilience in US marine fisheries and fishing communities.<sup>1150</sup> These projects will assess management strategies for resilient fish stocks, fisheries and fishing communities and foster an understanding of climate adaptation in frontline fishing communities.

On 22 July 2024, the Department of the Interior announced a funding opportunity for ecosystem and habitat restoration projects in the Upper Colorado River Basin addressing the effects of long-term drought.<sup>1151</sup> These funds will increase water security by restoring habitats and engaging in species recovery, while supporting community and landscape resiliency.

On 23 July 2024, President Biden announced a collaborative agreement with the NOAA that will build advanced wildfire detection capabilities with satellite technology, supported by a USD20 million investment.<sup>1152</sup> The Department of the Interior and the USDA's Forest Service will use NOAA satellites to detect and report wildfire starts, improving wildfire warning systems.

On 23 July 2024, the Department of Housing and Urban Development announced USD19 million in grant and loan awards to 32 properties through the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program.<sup>1153</sup> These awards will empower low-income individuals, families and seniors in over 4,260 homes to carry out renovations improving climate resilience and energy efficiency.

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<sup>1148</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$90 Million in Innovative Projects that Help Conserve Natural Resources and Address Climate Change as Part of Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Reading) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/07/18/biden-harris-administration-announces-90-million-innovative>

<sup>1149</sup> Biden-Harris Administration announces nearly \$220 million for transformational habitat restoration and coastal resilience projects, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-220-million-for-transformational-habitat-restoration>

<sup>1150</sup> NOAA Research Climate Program Office and NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology announce \$6.0 million in funding for eight projects under the Climate and Fisheries Adaptation Program, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/noaa-research-climate-program-office-and-noaa-fisheries-office-of-science-and-technology-announce-6-0-million-in-funding-for-eight-projects-under-the-climate-and-fisheries-adaptation-program/>

<sup>1151</sup> Interior Department Announces Next Steps to Implement President Biden's Investing in America Agenda for Ecosystem and Habitat Restoration in the Upper Colorado River Basin, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-announces-next-steps-implement-president-bidens-investing-america>

<sup>1152</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Advances Early Wildfire Detection by Expanding Use of Satellites as Part of Investing in America agenda, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-advances-early-wildfire-detection-expanding-use>

<sup>1153</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$19 Million in New Housing Investments, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Washington D.C.) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_24\\_190](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_24_190)

On 24 July 2024, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced a USD16 million investment in the Yakima River Basin for increased drought resilience.<sup>1154</sup> This investment will support conservation efforts and habitat restoration in basins suffering from long-term drought and will increase the resiliency of communities reliant on the Yakima River.

On 25 July 2024, the EPA announced over USD325 million in funding for 21 selected applications in the Community Change Grants Program.<sup>1155</sup> This programme will empower disadvantaged communities to address issues of environmental and climate justice through projects that increase climate resilience and reduce pollution.

On 26 July 2024, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced that the Department of Commerce and NOAA are recommending USD575 million to fund 19 projects that address climate resilience across coastal and Great Lakes states and territories.<sup>1156</sup> This will be achieved through NOAA's Climate Resilience Regional Challenge, a competitive grant programme that awards funds to communities and regions advancing coastal resilience.

On 26 July 2024, the Department of the Treasury and the Brazilian Ministry of Finance issued a joint statement announcing the Brazil Fazenda – US Treasury Climate Partnership.<sup>1157</sup> This partnership will help develop policies and drive reform in international institutions, in terms of clean energy supply chains, high-integrity carbon markets, nature and biodiversity finance and multilateral climate funds, working towards goals of climate adaptation and mitigation. This includes investment in multilateral climate finance funds such as the Climate Investment Funds, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund.

On 29 July 2024, Secretary Haaland announced a USD20 million investment for ecosystem restoration and enhanced food security in Hawai'i.<sup>1158</sup> By incorporating Indigenous Knowledge, the Department aims to build climate resilience across vulnerable ecosystems and address the threats from increased fire risk and changing ocean conditions due to climate change.

On 1 August 2024, Secretary Vilsack announced the USDA's investment of USD400 million to support farmers in sustainable commodity production.<sup>1159</sup> This funding will support the use of innovative water savings technologies and farming practices, helping conserve water across western states to improve drought resilience in the face of climate change.

On 1 August 2024, Secretary Raimondo and NOAA administrator Rick Spinrad announced USD1.5 million in funding for federally recognized tribes to participate in regional ocean partnerships, increasing Indigenous input

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<sup>1154</sup> Secretary Haaland Travels to Washington to Announce \$16 Million from President Biden's Investing in America Agenda for Drought Resilience in the Yakima River Basin, U.S. Department of the Interior (Toppenish) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-haaland-travels-washington-announce-16-million-president-bidens-investing>

<sup>1155</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$325 Million in Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-325-million-environmental-and-climate>

<sup>1156</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA propose \$575 million to increase coastal climate resilience, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-ira-crrc-awards-2024>

<sup>1157</sup> Joint Statement on the Brazil Fazenda – U.S. Treasury Climate Partnership, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2496>

<sup>1158</sup> Interior Department Announces \$20 Million from President's Investing in America Agenda to Bolster Climate Resilience in Hawai'i, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-announces-20-million-presidents-investing-america-agenda-bolster>

<sup>1159</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests Up to \$400 Million to Address Drought, Conserve Water through Production of Water-Saving Commodities, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/08/01/biden-harris-administration-invests-400-million-address-drought>

in regional databases and coastal management in the face of climate change.<sup>1160</sup> This will ensure tribes have access to necessary resources to become climate resilient.

On 5 August 2024, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced USD600,000 in funding for citizen science projects helping fisheries and fishing communities prepare for the impacts of climate change.<sup>1161</sup> NOAA Fisheries will seek proposals for projects that address data gaps in assessing the health of marine fish stocks or the impacts of changing environmental conditions on fisheries and fishing communities, expanding the breadth and depth of observations available to assess climate-related impacts.

On 5 August 2024, the Department of the Interior announced a nearly USD105 million investment for 67 water conservation and efficiency projects across the nation intended to increase drought resilience.<sup>1162</sup> These projects are anticipated to save more than 111,000 acres of water annually, bolstering climate resilience in affected areas.

On 6 August 2024, the Climate Smart Communities Initiative announced the first round of awards, amounting to over USD1 million to 11 communities, to support their climate resilience efforts.<sup>1163</sup> Projects matched climate adaptation experts with local officials and community representatives in areas with relatively high climate risk to implement a climate resilience plan.

On 6 August 2024, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced an investment of USD2.2 billion into the US power grid for eight projects within 18 states that protect the grid against the threat of extreme weather events, increase affordability for communities and increase grid capacity.<sup>1164</sup>

On 14 August 2024, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced USD200,000 in funding to support extreme heat preparedness and response planning for communities.<sup>1165</sup> These funds will be allocated to up to 10 communities to develop situation manuals, allowing them to run simulated emergency drills known as heat tabletop exercises.

On 14 August 2024, Special Representative for Global Partnerships Dorothy McAuliffe, Ambassador to Jamaica N. Nick Perry, USAID Country Representative Jaidev Singh and the Branson Centre of Entrepreneurship launched a Coalition for Climate Entrepreneurship in Kingston, Jamaica.<sup>1166</sup> The coalition

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<sup>1160</sup> NOAA to make \$1.5 million available to tribes for regional ocean partnerships, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-to-make-15-million-available-to-tribes-for-regional-ocean-partnerships>

<sup>1161</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA to provide \$600,000 for citizen science, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/biden-harris-administration-noaa-to-provide-600000-for-citizen-science>

<sup>1162</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Delivers \$105 Million from Investing in America Agenda for Water Conservation and Efficiency Projects, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-delivers-105-million-investing-america-agenda-water>

<sup>1163</sup> Climate Smart Communities Initiative announces support for first 11 communities working to accelerate climate resilience, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/climate-smart-communities-initiative-announces-support-for-first-11-communities-working-to-accelerate-climate-resilience/>

<sup>1164</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$2.2 Billion in the Nation's Grid to Protect Against Extreme Weather, Lower Costs, and Prepare For Growing Demand, U.S. Department of Energy (Raleigh) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-invests-22-billion-nations-grid-protect-against-extreme>

<sup>1165</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA issue National Heat Strategy, provide \$200K for extreme heat preparedness, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/biden-harris-administration-noaa-issue-national-heat-strategy-provide-200k-for-extreme-heat>

<sup>1166</sup> Special Representative for Global Partnerships Dorothy McAuliffe, U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica N. Nick Perry, and USAID Country Representative Dr. Jaidev Singh Launch Coalition for Climate Entrepreneurship (CCE) Hub in Kingston, Jamaica, U.S. Department of State (Kingston) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/special-representative-for-global-partnerships-dorothy-mcauliffe-and-u-s-ambassador-to-jamaica-n-nick-perry-launch-coalition-for-climate-entrepreneurship-cce-hub-in-kingston-jamaica/>

will support over 130 climate entrepreneurs across at least 15 countries throughout the Caribbean in their work on climate resilience, climate-smart agriculture and climate finance, building on the U.S.-Caribbean Partnership to Address the Climate Crisis 2030.

On 14 August 2024, the National Integrated Heat Health Information System announced a National Heat Strategy for 2024-2030.<sup>1167</sup> This strategy will address the effects of extreme heat on humans, animals and ecosystems, alongside economic and social consequences, through proactive heat planning, response and resilience.

On 15 August 2024, the DOE announced USD10 million in funding for Climate Resilience Centers in 10 states.<sup>1168</sup> These centers empower university-led research teams to predict weather hazard risks to better prepare local communities for increasing extreme weather events.

On 20 August 2024, the EPA announced USD25.5 million in grants to support sixteen small, vulnerable communities in adapting drinking water infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of climate change related events including flooding, earthquakes, drought and blizzards.<sup>1169</sup>

On 21 August 2024, the DOE announced USD53.6 million for 14 states and territorial weatherization offices to provide low-income households with energy saving measures for their homes.<sup>1170</sup> This will help disadvantaged communities make their homes more sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change.

On 21 August 2024, the EPA awarded over USD7.3 million in grants in California to support drinking water systems in four disadvantaged communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change.<sup>1171</sup> These grants will help improve water security, in response to drought, wildfires and other impacts of climate change.

On 22 August 2024, the NOAA recommended USD45 million in funding to support 27 new Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities.<sup>1172</sup> This funding will empower tribes and underserved communities to restore coastal ecosystems and improve their resilience to climate change.

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<sup>1167</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Unveils National Heat Strategy to Protect Community Health from Extreme Heat, U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/08/14/biden-harris-administration-unveils-national-heat-strategy-protect-community-health-extreme-heat.html>

<sup>1168</sup> DOE Announces \$10 Million to Support Climate Resilience Centers Across America, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-10-million-support-climate-resilience-centers-across-america>

<sup>1169</sup> EPA Awards \$25.5M in New Grants to Combat Impact of Climate Change on Drinking Water Infrastructure, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Lenexa) 20 August 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-255m-new-grants-combat-impact-climate-change-drinking-water-infrastructure>

<sup>1170</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$53.6 Million to Expand Weatherization Assistance Program and Lower Costs for More American Households, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-536-million-expand-weatherization-assistance-program>

<sup>1171</sup> EPA Awarding \$7.3 Million in California to Combat Impacts of Climate Change on Drinking Water Infrastructure, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (San Francisco) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awarding-73-million-california-combat-impacts-climate-change-drinking-water>

<sup>1172</sup> NOAA proposes \$45 million for coastal habitat restoration and resilience projects for tribes and underserved communities as part of Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America agenda, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news/noaa-proposes-45-million-for-coastal-habitat-restoration-and-resilience-projects>

On 27 August 2024, the Biden-Harris administration announced the commitments made in the 53rd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Forum held in Tonga, strengthening the U.S.-Pacific Islands Partnership.<sup>1173</sup> Key commitments towards climate resilience include an investment of an additional USD20 million towards the Pacific Resilience Facility, USD2.65 million for the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project, two new climate finance activities, Climate Ready 2.0 and an effort through the USAID Climate Finance Development Accelerator, strengthened disaster preparedness and support for climate-smart agriculture throughout the Pacific.

On 27 August 2024, the DOE announced over USD240 million in funding for nineteen state and local governments to adopt the latest energy efficient and innovative building codes.<sup>1174</sup> Improved building energy codes aim to increase the resilience of the electric grid, especially during extreme weather events accelerated by climate change.

On 28 August 2024, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Community announced the planned expansion of the Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils movement to the Pacific Islands.<sup>1175</sup> This includes an investment of USD2.6 million from the United States and Australia in funding and complementary agricultural investments by New Zealand. These investments will be used to improve the climate resiliency of the region's agricultural and food systems.

On 29 August 2024, the Department of the Interior announced the availability of over USD55 million for projects supporting water management flexibility and reliability across western states.<sup>1176</sup> This will help communities develop new infrastructure and technology to address water scarcity challenges and improve drought resilience.

On 5 September 2024, the DOE announced an investment of USD430 million for 293 hydroelectric improvement projects across 33 states to upgrade hydropower facilities.<sup>1177</sup> This will improve dam safety and strengthen existing infrastructure against extreme weather events, increasing climate resilience.

On 6 September 2024, the Department of the Interior announced the availability of up to USD43.5 million for small water storage projects that will improve water security for communities in western states.<sup>1178</sup> Improved forms of storage for surface water and groundwater will increase water management flexibility, allowing for greater climate resilience.

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<sup>1173</sup> FACT SHEET: Following Through on the U.S.-Pacific Islands Partnership 53rd Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders Meeting in Nuku’Alofa, Tonga August 26-30, 2024, The White House (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/08/27/fact-sheet-following-through-on-the-u-s-pacific-islands-partnership-53rd-pacific-islands-forum-pif-leaders-meeting-in-nukualofa-tonga-august-26-30-2024/>

<sup>1174</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$240 Million for New and Innovative Building Codes to Save Consumers Money, Reduce Impacts of Climate Change, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-over-240-million-new-and-innovative-building-codes>

<sup>1175</sup> Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils Expands to the Pacific Islands Region, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/vision-for-adapted-crops-and-soils-expands-to-the-pacific-islands-region/>

<sup>1176</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Provides \$55 Million from the President’s Investing in America Agenda to Strengthen Drought Resilience, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-provides-55-million-presidents-investing-america-agenda>

<sup>1177</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$430 Million to Upgrade America’s Hydropower Infrastructure, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-invests-430-million-upgrade-americas-hydropower-infrastructure>

<sup>1178</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Makes Up to \$43.5 Million Available for Water Storage Projects in the West Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-makes-435-million-available-water-storage-projects-west>



On 10 September 2024, Acting Deputy Secretary of the Interior Laura Daniel-David announced USD236 million in funding to support wildland fire management across the country.<sup>1179</sup> The funding will reduce risk from wildfires, improve wildland firefighter training, expand rehabilitation of burned areas and advance wildfire science.

On 10 September 2024, Secretary Vilsack announced an investment of USD100 million in 21 new projects to expand the USDA Forest Service's Wildfire Crisis Strategy, minimizing the threat of wildfire in high-risk areas.<sup>1180</sup> These projects will improve forest health and minimize wildfire risk in collaboration with local Tribes, communities and partners.

On 11 September 2024, the EPA announced the launch of the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Funding Toolbox, a website helping federal funding applicants and recipients to develop and implement climate-resilient investments.<sup>1181</sup> The website provides support for federal funding applicants and recipients in navigating EPA's funding opportunities, centering climate resilience and adaptation in investments and engaging communities.

On 14 September 2024, the Biden-Harris administration released outcomes of the first-ever White House Summit on Extreme Heat, gathering over 100 participants from across the country and government.<sup>1182</sup> National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi, at the Summit, announced a new Extreme Heat Call to Action, calling for state, local, Tribal and Territorial governments to use their resources to protect people from extreme heat in the coming year. The White House also announced the publication of a Draft Community Heat Action Checklist to support local governments in improving adaptation to extreme heat.

On 18 September 2024, the White House launched the US Strategy on Global Development, aiming to sustain development progress around the world.<sup>1183</sup> The Strategy includes five objectives which, among many sub-objectives, involve reducing poverty through investing in climate resilient infrastructure, decarbonizing the economy and increasing climate resilience.

On 19 September 2024, the Department of the Interior announced nearly USD1.3 million in awards in the Slip-on Tanker pilot programme designed to support local governments' wildfire response.<sup>1184</sup> This programme converts vehicles into wildland fire engines, helping small, remote emergency response agencies that are facing intensifying wildfires and drought.

On 19 September 2024, the NOAA and the Climate Mayors, a network of mayors advocating for climate action, announced a memorandum of understanding that will allow cities across the nation to respond to the impacts

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<sup>1179</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Daniel-Davis Announces \$236 Million from President Biden's Investing in America Agenda for Wildfire Resilience and Recovery, U.S. Department of the Interior (Tucson) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/acting-deputy-secretary-daniel-davis-announces-236-million-president-bidens-investing>

<sup>1180</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$100 Million to Expand Work to Confront the Wildfire Crisis as part of Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/09/10/biden-harris-administration-invests-100-million-expand-work>

<sup>1181</sup> EPA Launches New Website to Support the Development of Climate-Resilient Projects, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-new-website-support-development-climate-resilient-projects>

<sup>1182</sup> Readout of First-Ever White House Summit on Extreme Heat, The White House (Washington D.C.) 14 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/14/readout-of-first-ever-white-house-summit-on-extreme-heat/>

<sup>1183</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Releases U.S. Strategy on Global Development, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/18/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-releases-u-s-strategy-on-global-development/>

<sup>1184</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards Nearly \$1.3 Million Through Slip-on Tanker Pilot Program to Strengthen Local Governments' Wildfire Response, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-awards-nearly-13-million-through-slip-tanker-pilot>

of climate change.<sup>1185</sup> The NOAA is set to provide regional and local climate information to support communities when faced with climate-related events, while Climate Mayors aim to use these resources to improve climate resilience in their communities.

On 20 September 2024, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced USD1.1 million in funding for flood and ice-jam management in Alaska, involving satellite-based monitoring.<sup>1186</sup> The improvement of flood monitoring will address Alaska's vulnerability to floods caused by increasing climate disasters.

On 20 September 2024, Senior Advisor to the President for International Climate Policy John Podesta and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Jake Sullivan announced the new US Framework for Climate Resilience and Security.<sup>1187</sup> This new framework recommends three actions to protect US national security, economic and strategic interests in the face of climate hazards: assessing climate-related threats and opportunities, partnering for an integrated approach and investing in collective resilience. These efforts towards climate change adaptation will transform climate vulnerabilities into new opportunities.

On 23 September 2024, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of over USD24 million to support 50 ecosystem restoration projects throughout the United States that improve climate resiliency of national communities and ecosystems threatened by climate change.<sup>1188</sup>

On 24 September 2024, the Department of Interior announced a nearly USD92 million investment for 19 projects focused on aquatic ecosystem restoration.<sup>1189</sup> Improving aquatic ecosystems can help mitigate impacts of drought and improve climate resiliency.

On 24 September 2024, the United States and the European Union co-hosted an event in the 79th United Nations General Assembly on the future of humanitarian aid in the context of increasing impacts of climate change.<sup>1190</sup> Here, the United States formally joined the Humanitarian Aid Donors' Declaration on Climate and Environment, which details how donors may support humanitarian actors to operate in a climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable fashion.

On 24 September 2024, Department of State Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy and Environment Jose W. Fernandez announced USD5 million in food security assistance to enhance sustainable agricultural

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<sup>1185</sup> NOAA, Climate Mayors join forces to advance climate resilience, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/noaa-climate-mayors-join-forces-to-advance-climate-resilience>

<sup>1186</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA invest \$1.1 million to improve satellite-based flood monitoring in Alaska, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/biden-harris-administration-noaa-invest-11-million-to-improve-satellite-based-flood-monitoring>

<sup>1187</sup> A U.S. Framework for Climate Resilience and Security, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2024/09/20/a-u-s-framework-for-climate-resilience-and-security/>

<sup>1188</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$24 Million from Investing in America Agenda to Restore Our Nation's Lands and Waters, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-24-million-investing-america-agenda>

<sup>1189</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$92 Million from the President's Investing in America Agenda to Restore and Protect Rivers and Other Aquatic Habitats, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-92-million-presidents-investing-america-agenda>

<sup>1190</sup> United States Co-hosts UNGA Side Event on Making Humanitarian Assistance More Resilient to Climate Impacts, Joins Donor Declaration, U.S. Department of State (New York City) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-co-hosts-unga-side-event-on-making-humanitarian-assistance-more-resilient-to-climate-impacts-joins-donor-declaration/>

practices in Guatemala.<sup>1191</sup> This project will implement innovative agricultural practices and technologies, strengthening soil health and increasing crop diversity to bolster resilience to the impacts of climate change.

On 25 September 2024, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton signed five water conservation agreements with the Imperial Irrigation District, Bard Water District, Metropolitan Water District and Gila River Indian Community.<sup>1192</sup> These agreements will enhance the resilience of the Colorado River System to drought and climate change.

On 25 September 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced new investments to restore and conserve freshwater resources and improve climate resilience across the nation.<sup>1193</sup> The package includes investments to further long-term Colorado River Basin resilience, reconnect waterways and restore aquatic ecosystems and collaborate with stakeholders to protect freshwater systems aimed at adapting to water-related impacts of climate change.

On 25 September 2024, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration expanded their experimental Flood Inundation Mapping to cover 30 percent of the US population.<sup>1194</sup> The expansion will help weather forecasters issue more accurate and rapid flood watches and warnings, improving extreme weather forecasting.

On 27 September 2024, the Ocean Foundation, in partnership with the NOAA Climate Program Office's Adaptation Sciences programme, the National Marine Protected Areas Center, the Local2030 Islands Network and the U.S. Department of State, announced it would grant USD118,266 through the Regenerative Tourism Catalyst Grant Program to eight regenerative tourism initiatives on island nations.<sup>1195</sup> The grants will support island nations in developing regenerative tourism projects that build climate resilience and advance island adaptation efforts.

On 30 September 2024, the Department of State announced the "The Climate Crisis: Working Together for Future Generations" International Visitor Leadership Program initiative, bringing together over 80 climate experts and advocates across 60 countries.<sup>1196</sup> From 30 September to 19 October, participants are expected to discuss strategies to address climate resilience and clean energy, strengthening land and ocean stewardship and innovative climate solutions.

On 2 October 2024, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced USD22.78 million in funding for NOAA labs, programmes, cooperative institutes and other research partners to address water-driven climate

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<sup>1191</sup> Guatemala: \$5 Million in Food Security Assistance through the Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/guatemala-5-million-in-food-security-assistance-through-the-vision-for-adapted-crops-and-soils/>

<sup>1192</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Marks Major Progress for Colorado River System Health, Signs Five New Water Conservation Agreements, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-marks-major-progress-colorado-river-system-health-signs>

<sup>1193</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Investments to Protect Freshwater Resources, Enhance Drought and Climate Resilience, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/25/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-announces-new-investments-to-protect-freshwater-resources-enhance-drought-and-climate-resilience/>

<sup>1194</sup> NOAA expands Flood Inundation Mapping to 30% of the U.S. population, National Weather Service (Silver Spring) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.weather.gov/news/242509-flood-inundation-map>

<sup>1195</sup> Regenerative Tourism Catalyst Grant Program awards funding to eight island-led initiatives, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/regenerative-tourism-catalyst-grant-program-awards-funding-to-eight-island-led-initiatives/>

<sup>1196</sup> Department of State Hosts International Climate Advocates for Exchange Program, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/department-of-state-hosts-international-climate-advocates-for-exchange-program/>

impacts.<sup>1197</sup> Their research includes coastal and inland flood and inundation mapping and modern water modelling activities and will be used to develop adaptation strategies.

On 8 October 2024, Secretary Raimondo announced USD15.3 million in funding for NOAA to produce transparent climate projections for the public.<sup>1198</sup> These projections inform infrastructure development, energy systems development and financial decisions in the face of increasing extreme weather.

On 16 October 2024, the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) provided USD1 billion to El Salvador as part of a debt-for nature swap with USD350 million in environmental adaptation spending including biodiversity restoration, water access enhancement and regenerative agriculture.<sup>1199</sup>

On 18 October 2024, Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm announced nearly USD2 billion for 38 projects that will protect the US power grid from extreme weather events caused by climate change, while increasing affordability for communities and increasing grid capacity.<sup>1200</sup>

On 22 October 2024, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Michael Brain announced an investment of USD9 million in groundwater recharge, storage and recovery.<sup>1201</sup> Improved water security will enhance Kansas communities' resilience to drought and the effects of climate change.

On 23 October 2024, the USDA announced USD1.5 billion for 92 conservation projects driving solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural land due to climate change.<sup>1202</sup> These projects include addressing water conservation in western states in the face of increased drought and wildlife habitat conservation and restoration in the context of drought, wildfire and climate uncertainty.

On 25 October 2024, Acting Deputy Secretary of the Interior Laura Daniel-Davis announced USD6.5 million in funding to improve wildland fire management in Colorado.<sup>1203</sup> This funding will be used to reduce wildfire risk, increase wildland firefighter training, expand current efforts to rehabilitate burned areas and advance wildfire science.

On 25 October 2024, Secretary Granholm announced the distribution of USD473.6 million to 49 states, five territories, 254 Tribal Nations and the District of Columbia to modernize the electric grid.<sup>1204</sup> The investments

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<sup>1197</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA funds over \$22.78 M to advance research of water-related climate impacts, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/biden-harris-administration-noaa-funds-over-2278-m-to-advance-research>

<sup>1198</sup> Biden-Harris Administration awards \$15.3 in million to improve climate projections of future extreme weather, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/biden-harris-administration-awards-15-3-in-million-to-improve-climate-projections-of-future-extreme-weather/>

<sup>1199</sup> World's Largest Debt Conversion for Conservation of a River and its Watershed Completed in El Salvador, United States International Development Finance Corporation (San Salvador) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025.

<https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/worlds-largest-debt-conversion-conservation-river-and-its-watershed-completed>

<sup>1200</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Additional \$2 Billion to Protect the Grid Against Growing Threats of Extreme Weather, Expand Transmission, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-additional-2-billion-protect-grid-against-growing>

<sup>1201</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$9 Million from President Biden's Investing in America Agenda for Drought Mitigation in Kansas, U.S. Department of the Interior (Wichita) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-9-million-president-bidens-investing-america>

<sup>1202</sup> USDA Invests \$1.5 Billion in 92 Partnership Projects to Advance Conservation and Climate-Smart Agriculture as Part of the Biden-Harris Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/10/23/usda-invests-15-billion-92-partnership-projects-advance>

<sup>1203</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Daniel-Davis Visits Colorado and Nevada to Highlight Investments through the President's Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of the Interior (Denver) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/acting-deputy-secretary-daniel-davis-visits-colorado-and-nevada-highlight-investments>

<sup>1204</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Delivers Nearly \$474 Million in New Grid Resilience Funding to States and Tribes as Part of Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-delivers-nearly-474-million-new-grid-resilience-funding-states>

aim to protect America's power grid against wildfires, extreme weather events and other natural disasters incurred by climate change.

On 25 October 2024, the EPA announced over USD1 million in awards to advance climate resilience in disadvantaged communities through the Southeast New England Program Opportunity to Advance Resilience Fund.<sup>1205</sup> These awards will be distributed to four community-driven projects across Rhode Island and Southeast Massachusetts. Adaptation projects include sea-level rise relocation plans.

On 25 October 2024, the EPA announced USD2.8 million in funding for the Small Business Innovation Research programme, allowing seven small businesses to develop and commercialize their environmental technologies.<sup>1206</sup> These projects address issues such as wildfire management, wildfire air filtering, and disaster response.

On 29 October 2024, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of over USD375 million for 36 projects that conserve wildlife habitat, increase recreational opportunities, reduce hazardous fuels and prevent wildfires in Nevada and California.<sup>1207</sup> This funding will allow federal, local and educational entities to increase climate resilience with an emphasis on wildfire management.

On 30 October 2024, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of nearly USD46 million for ecosystem restoration of the Klamath Basin through southern Oregon and northern California.<sup>1208</sup> This investment will allow for more resilient agriculture and greater drought resilience.

On 1 November 2024, the Center for Collaborative Heat Monitoring opened applications for communities to monitor and evaluate factors influencing heat risk, granting USD10,000 to support their efforts.<sup>1209</sup> This programme will empower communities to improve adaptation to extreme heat through informed decision-making, advocacy, education and the implementation of local cooling solutions.

On 8 November 2024, the Climate Program Office opened a call for proposals for the implementation of the NOAA's Tropical Pacific Observing System Equatorial Pacific Experiment.<sup>1210</sup> This action will foster a greater understanding of tropical Pacific variability and improve disaster preparedness in the context of increased climate-related disasters.<sup>1211</sup>

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<sup>1205</sup> EPA announces over \$1 million in new awards to advance climate resilience in disadvantaged communities across Rhode Island and Southeast Massachusetts, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Providence) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-over-1-million-new-awards-advance-climate-resilience-disadvantaged>

<sup>1206</sup> EPA Awards \$2.8 Million to Small Businesses for Developing Environmental Technologies, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-28-million-small-businesses-developing-environmental-technologies>

<sup>1207</sup> Interior Department Announces \$375 Million for Recreation and Restoration Projects in Nevada and California, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-announces-375-million-recreation-and-restoration-projects-nevada>

<sup>1208</sup> Interior Department Delivers \$46 Million for Klamath Basin Restoration as Part of the President's Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of the Interior (Klamath Falls) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-delivers-46-million-klamath-basin-restoration-part-presidents>

<sup>1209</sup> Applications now open nationwide for community-led heat-monitoring campaigns, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring). 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/applications-now-open-nationwide-for-community-led-heat-monitoring-campaigns/>

<sup>1210</sup> NOAA scientists host collaborative pre-proposal planning meetings for the Climate Variability and Predictability Program's FY25 Notice of Funding Opportunity, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/noaa-scientists-host-collaborative-pre-proposal-planning-meetings-for-the-climate-variability-and-predictability-programs-fy25-notice-of-funding-opportunity/>

<sup>1211</sup> Tropical Pacific Observing System (TPOS) Equatorial Pacific Experiment (TEPEX), Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) n.d. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/tropical-pacific-observing-system-tpos-equatorial-pacific-experiment-tepex/>

On 11 November 2024, the United States provided a USD1 billion guarantee to the African Development Bank (AfDB) alongside a USD600 million guarantee from Japan to enable an additional USD7.2 billion in climate finance.<sup>1212</sup>

On 12 November 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced a slate of climate funding actions including USD7.25 million for the Enterprises for Development, Growth and Empowerment Fund to support natural climate solutions, USD27.7 million for the Columbia Invest for Climate activity, allocating funds to climate-smart businesses, USD6.1 million to the Partnerships for Green Investment initiative, which aims to reduce emissions, bolster climate resilience and protect biodiversity across Southeast Asia, nearly USD500,000 through the NOAA and Department of State to expand technical support for the Local2030 Islands Network, composed of Small Island Developing States, and USD9.3 million through USAID to bolster climate finance for African agriculture and food systems.<sup>1213</sup> The Biden-Harris Administration also announced a USD1 billion guarantee for the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Innovative Finance Facility for Climate in Asia and the Pacific to sponsor projects aimed at addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation. This US guarantee will allow a further USD4.5 billion in new lending from the ADB. In addition, the US aims to access to climate information for developing countries through the President's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience. New efforts include the new SERVIR Central America Hub, set to launch in December, to increase climate resilience for over 50 million people in vulnerable communities, USD4.7 million for early warning capabilities in Pacific Islands and the launch of the Global Sea Level Explorer, a platform to inform decision-making, resource management and emergency operations for coastal countries.

On 12 November 2024, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency announced a grant to Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Finance for a feasibility study for Côte d'Ivoire Energies to develop a power grid emergency control system, to ensure reliable energy in the country.<sup>1214</sup> This system will help mitigate and prevent blackouts in the face of extreme weather events or climate disruptions, improving the power grid's resilience to climate change.<sup>1215</sup>

On 13 November 2024, the Subnational Climate Action Leaders' Exchange partnership announced the Zero Emissions and Resilient Buildings Accelerator, an initiative to increase climate resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the buildings sector.<sup>1216</sup> Organizations, including the DOE's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the State Department, C40 Cities and subnational jurisdictions such as Maryland and Washington, have announced that they will collaborate to implement policies for climate resilience in the building sector to climate risks such as severe storms, heat stress, flooding and fires.

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<sup>1212</sup> Exclusive: ADB increases climate finance after US, Japan give world's first sovereign guarantees, Reuters (Baku) 11 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/sustainable-finance-reporting/adb-increases-climate-finance-after-us-japan-give-worlds-first-sovereign-2024-11-11/>

<sup>1213</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Leverages Historic U.S. Climate Leadership at Home and Abroad to Urge Countries to Accelerate Global Climate Action at the 29th U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/12/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-a>

<sup>1214</sup> USTDA, Côte d'Ivoire Partner on Grid Strengthening, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (Arlington) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ustda.gov/ustda-cote-divoire-partner-on-grid-strengthening/>

<sup>1215</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Leverages Historic U.S. Climate Leadership at Home and Abroad to Urge Countries to Accelerate Global Climate Action at the 29th U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/12/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-leverages-historic-u-s-climate-leadership-at-home-and-abroad-to-urge-countries-to-accelerate-global-climate-action-at-the-29th-u-n-climate-change-con/>

<sup>1216</sup> Zero Emissions and Resilient Buildings (ZERB) Accelerator Launched at COP 29, U.S. Department of State (Baku) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/zero-emissions-and-resilient-buildings-zerb-accelerator-launched-at-cop-29/>

On 18 November 2024, the Department of the Interior announced USD125 million for five projects in California and Utah related to large-scale water recycling.<sup>1217</sup> These programmes will help create new sources of water and allow communities to develop drought resilience.

On 19 November 2024, the EPA announced USD800,000 in funding for two small Southern California businesses, Water Illumination, Inc. and Holochip Corporation, to develop environmental technologies that address wildfires, recycling, food waste and disaster response.<sup>1218</sup> Holochip Corporation is developing an AI-powered mobile app for emergency responders that creates 3D indoor maps for disaster response, including climate-related disasters.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of the Interior released five proposed alternatives to address the critical condition of the Colorado River.<sup>1219</sup> These alternatives represent the next step to allow communities reliant on the Colorado River system for their water supply to adapt to the region's megadrought, fueled by climate change.

On 21 November 2024, Acting Deputy Secretary Daniel-Davis of the U.S. Department of the Interior participated in meetings advocating for international coalitions to enhance adaptation at COP29.<sup>1220</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Daniel-Davis further emphasized the importance of adaptation to water-related climate crises, including drought and flooding, met with officials from the Republic of Uzbekistan to discuss cooperation on climate adaptation through various scientific projects and met with leaders of the Asian Development Bank, discussing climate resilience for migratory bird wetland habitats throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

On 21 November 2024, Secretary Haaland and Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor finished their visit to Columbia, where they emphasized the conservation of biodiversity, wildlife trafficking and the role of Indigenous communities.<sup>1221</sup> Secretary Haaland also discussed shared priorities of climate resilience, economic opportunity and access to nature for Indigenous communities in meetings with Colombian Indigenous leaders and Afro-Columbian Indigenous youth.

On 21 November 2024, the EPA announced over USD20 million for New Mexico to upgrade its water infrastructure.<sup>1222</sup> This funding will allow communities to protect critical water infrastructure systems, address local water quality concerns and increase climate resilience.

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<sup>1217</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$125 Million Investment for Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-125-million-investment-large-scale-water>

<sup>1218</sup> EPA Awards \$800,000 to SoCal Small Businesses to Advance Innovative Environmental Technologies, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Los Angeles) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-800000-socal-small-businesses-advance-innovative-environmental-technologies>

<sup>1219</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Puts Colorado River on Path to Success, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-puts-colorado-river-path-success>

<sup>1220</sup> Acting Deputy Secretary Daniel-Davis Focuses on Bolstering Climate Resilience, Strengthening International Partnerships at COP29, U.S. Department of the Interior (Baku) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/acting-deputy-secretary-daniel-davis-focuses-bolstering-climate-resilience>

<sup>1221</sup> Secretary Haaland, Assistant Secretary Cantor Travel to Colombia to Highlight Collaborative Efforts to Conserve Biodiversity, Empower Indigenous Communities, U.S. Department of the Interior (Bogotá) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-haaland-assistant-secretary-cantor-travel-colombia-highlight-collaborative>

<sup>1222</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$20 Million in New Mexico Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-over-20-million-new-mexico-through-investing>

On 21 November 2024, the EPA announced over USD26 million in funding for Arkansas to improve its water infrastructure and protect its communities.<sup>1223</sup> The funding will permit communities to address critical water infrastructure systems, water quality concerns and increase climate resilience.

On 21 November 2024, the EPA announced over USD32 million for Oklahoma to upgrade its water infrastructure.<sup>1224</sup> The investment will address local challenges, including the protection of critical water infrastructure systems, water quality concerns and climate resilience.

On 21 November 2024, the EPA announced over USD40 million would be spent upgrading Louisiana's water infrastructure.<sup>1225</sup> This funding will allow communities to protect critical water infrastructure systems, address water quality concerns and increase climate resilience.

On 21 November 2024, the EPA announced over USD184 million for Texas to improve its water infrastructure and protect communities.<sup>1226</sup> This funding will allow communities to have access to clean water by protecting critical water infrastructure systems, addressing water quality concerns and increasing climate resilience.

On 22 November 2024, Secretary Vilsack announced the three Congressionally authorized Indian Irrigation Projects through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Water-Saving Commodities programme, to support acequias in southwestern states.<sup>1227</sup> This programme aims to implement water-saving strategies across western states to adapt to worsening drought caused by climate change.

On 22 November 2024, USAID announced USD11.8 million for the Climate Smart and Disaster Ready programme across West Africa, Central America, Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Pacific Islands. These funds will support young people in the Pacific Islands in reducing disaster risk and further climate adaptation in their communities.<sup>1228</sup>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1229</sup>

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<sup>1223</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$26 Million in Arkansas Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<sup>1224</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$32 Million in Oklahoma Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<sup>1225</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$40 Million in Louisiana Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<sup>1226</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$184 Million in Texas Through Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-over-184-million-texas-through-investing-america>

<sup>1227</sup> USDA Announces Investments for Tribal Communities and Acequias and Finalizes Agreements with Irrigation Districts to Produce Water-Saving Commodities, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/11/22/usda-announces-investments-tribal-communities-and-acequias-and>

<sup>1228</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Leverages Historic U.S. Climate Leadership at Home and Abroad to Urge Countries to Accelerate Global Climate Action at the 29th U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/12/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-leverages-historic-u-s-climate-leadership-at-home-and-abroad-to-urge-countries-to-accelerate-global-climate-action-at-the-29th-u-n-climate-change-con/>

<sup>1229</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>



On 3 December 2024, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of USD849 million for 77 projects aiming to revitalize water delivery systems throughout Western states.<sup>1230</sup> This investment aims to increase western communities' resilience to climate change through improved water transport and storage, hydropower generation and water treatment, leading to greater drought resilience.

On 4 December 2024, the Climate Program Office's Climate Variability & Predictability program announced USD2.6 million in grants for four new three-year climate prediction systems.<sup>1231</sup> These systems forecast extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and marine heatwaves that are worsened by climate change, allowing for appropriate adaptation responses.

On 4 December 2024, the Department of the Interior announced over USD20 million to help small, remote emergency response agencies address wildfires.<sup>1232</sup> This investment will allow agencies to convert vehicles into wildland fire engines, improving wildfire response capacity in the face of climate change and drought.

On 9 December 2024, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced an investment of USD1.95 million to support tribal communities in Washington, Montana and South Dakota in addressing drought resilience.<sup>1233</sup>

On 11 December 2024, the USDA announced approximately USD335 million in awards to increase financial incentives for private forest landowners to manage forests sustainably and reduce wildfire risks.<sup>1234</sup>

On 12 December 2024, the EPA celebrated the Community Change Grant Award, valued at USD20 million, for the Clean Water is Safe Water Community Initiative in North Carolina, which will address water security across the state.<sup>1235</sup> The grant will reduce flooding impacts, enhance natural water filtration and support biodiversity, creating a more resilient watershed.

On 12 December 2024, the EPA announced the 105 successful Community Change Grants program applicants, encompassing almost USD1.6 billion in awards.<sup>1236</sup> These awards will advance local projects to reduce pollution, bolster community climate resilience and improve community capacity. The projects include coastal adaptation.<sup>1237</sup>

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<sup>1230</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$850 Million to Revitalize Aging Water Infrastructure, Advance Drought Resilience, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<sup>1231</sup> CVP: Advancing Understanding Of Multi-Year To Decadal Climate Variability And Predictability For US Climate Prediction, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/cvp-advancing-understanding-of-multi-year-to-decadal-climate-variability-and-predictability-for-us-climate-prediction/>

<sup>1232</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$20 Million is Available to Strengthen Local Governments' Wildfire Response, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<sup>1233</sup> Biden-Harris Administration, NOAA award \$1.95 million to support tribal drought resilience, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/biden-harris-administration-noaa-award-1-95-million-to-support-tribal-drought-resilience/>

<sup>1234</sup> Biden-Harris Administration announces nearly \$335M in grants to support private forestland management and conservation as part of President Biden's Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2024/12/11/biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-335m-grants-support-private-forestland-management-and>

<sup>1235</sup> EPA highlights \$20 million award for the Clean Water is Safe Water Community Initiative in North Carolina, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Supply) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-highlights-20-million-award-clean-water-safe-water-community-initiative-north>

<sup>1236</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$1.6 Billion in Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-16-billion-environmental-and-climate>

<sup>1237</sup> Community Change Grants Selections, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-grants-selections>

On 17 December 2024, the DFC provided USD1 billion as part of a debt conversion agreement with Ecuador that aims to finance USD460 million for conservation and resilience in the Amazon.<sup>1238</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the EPA announced USD2.5 million to fund the UPLIFT Climate and Environmental Community Action Grant, which supports communities and their partners in higher education in working on community-driven projects to address climate-related impacts.<sup>1239</sup> This grant will allow communities to strengthen climate resilience and build community capacity.

On 20 December 2024, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of USD37.4 million for three water conservation projects in Oregon.<sup>1240</sup> These projects will enclose open canals into pipelines, reduce water losses to evaporation and seepage and allow for more efficient water transportation, improving drought resilience.

On 20 December 2024, the DOE announced USD28.7 million to protect the electric grid in Florida from extreme weather events.<sup>1241</sup> This grant supports the City of Tallahassee Electric & Gas Utility project, which will provide backup power to facilities providing critical services, improving climate resilience.

On 23 December 2024, Secretary Vilsack announced the Timber Production Expansion Guaranteed Loan Program, providing a maximum loan of USD25 million for projects that promote forest health and reduce wildfire threats.<sup>1242</sup> The USDA encourages projects that increase resilience to climate change impacts for rural communities and improve infrastructure.

On 7 January 2025, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of over USD41 million for 21 projects targeting water resources and ecosystem health.<sup>1243</sup> These projects include instream and riparian restoration, canal lining and piping, improvements to fish habitats and passage and bolstering climate resilience for communities facing drought.

On 8 January 2025, the Department of State announced the signing of a USD27 million Millennium Challenge Corporation Threshold Program agreement with Mauritania.<sup>1244</sup> This program will provide debt-free grants for environment resilience projects and incorporate climate change and social considerations into environmental impact assessments.

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<sup>1238</sup> DFC Announces \$1 Billion in Political Risk Insurance for Ecuador's First Debt Conversion to Support Terrestrial and Freshwater Conservation in the Amazon, United States International Development Finance Corporation (Quito) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-announces-1-billion-political-risk-insurance-ecuadors-first-debt>

<sup>1239</sup> EPA Announces \$2.5 Million to Fund Climate and Environmental Community Action Grant as Part of Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-25-million-fund-climate-and-environmental-community-action-grant-part>

<sup>1240</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$37 million from President's Investing in America Agenda to Conserve Water in Oregon, Strengthen Drought Resilience, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-37-million-presidents-investing-america>

<sup>1241</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Additional \$28.7 Million to Protect the Grid Against Extreme Weather, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-announces-additional-287-million-protect-grid-against-extreme>

<sup>1242</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Launches New Program to Support Wood Processing Facilities and Help Reduce Wildfire Threats, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 23 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2024/12/23/biden-harris-administration-launches-new-program-support-wood-processing-facilities-and-help-reduce>

<sup>1243</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$41 Million Investment in Water Resources and Ecosystem Health, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 7 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-41-million-investment-water-resources-and>

<sup>1244</sup> United States and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania Sign Agreement to Enhance Power Sector Resilience and Climate Adaptation, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://2021-2025.state.gov/united-states-and-the-islamic-republic-of-mauritania-sign-agreement-to-enhance-power-sector-resilience-and-climate-adaptation/>

On 8 January 2025, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of USD121 million to help tribal communities adapt to climate-related threats.<sup>1245</sup> This investment will allow tribes to proactively address climate-related environmental threats to their homelands and safely relocate critical community infrastructure, increasing climate resilience.

On 8 January 2025, the Department of the Interior announced an investment of USD514 million for five water security projects across the West, including water storage and conveyance projects.<sup>1246</sup> This investment will provide clean, reliable drinking water for Western communities and lead to improved drought resilience.

On 8 January 2025, the NOAA released its Arctic Vision and Strategy, a plan to advance climate resilience in ecosystems and communities across the Arctic.<sup>1247</sup> The plan includes three goals: advancing environmental science, promoting collaborative stewardship with state, public and private sector partners and Indigenous communities and supporting communities through climate adaptation.

On 10 January 2025, the Department of State released the new National Adaptation and Resilience Planning Strategy to support state, tribal, territorial and local adaptation actions to climate change.<sup>1248</sup>

On 14 January 2025, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced USD700,000 in funding for extreme heat preparedness and response planning.<sup>1249</sup> USD200,000 will be allocated to ten communities to develop manuals for extreme heat response planning and USD500,000 will be allocated to Duke University's Heat Policy Innovation Hub for heat policy research and outreach.

On 14 January 2025, the Department of the Interior announced USD223 million in funding for eighteen water recycling and desalination projects across eight states.<sup>1250</sup> These projects will increase drought resilience, resulting in 305,936 acre-feet of recycled water annually.

On 17 January 2025, the Bureau of Reclamation released the final alternatives report to guide post-2026 operations for the Colorado River to promote community resilience to the ongoing megadrought in the region.<sup>1251</sup>

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<sup>1245</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$121 Million to Help Tribes Build Climate Resilience, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-121-million-help-tribes-build-climate>

<sup>1246</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$514 Million to Ensure Clean, Reliable Drinking Water for Western Communities, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-514-million-ensure-clean-reliable-drinking>

<sup>1247</sup> From vision to action: New NOAA strategic framework sets path for more resilient Arctic, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Washington D.C.) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.noaa.gov/news/from-vision-to-action-new-noaa-strategic-framework-sets-path-for-more-resilient-arctic>

<sup>1248</sup> U.S. National Adaptation and Resilience Planning Strategy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://2021-2025.state.gov/office-of-the-spokesperson/releases/2025/01/u-s-national-adaptation-and-resilience-planning-strategy>

<sup>1249</sup> NOAA awards \$700,000 to communities, academia for extreme heat planning, research, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/noaa-awards-700000-to-communities-academia-for-extreme-heat-planning-research/>

<sup>1250</sup> President's Investing in America Agenda Delivers More Than \$223 Million to Bolster Resilience to Drought and Boost Water Supplies, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/presidents-investing-america-agenda-delivers-more-223-million-bolster-resilience>

<sup>1251</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Leaves Colorado River Basin On Path to Success, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-leaves-colorado-river-basin-path-success>

On 17 January 2025, the NOAA and the National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) Regional Collaboration Network held the NIHHIS Heat Tabletop Exercise Planning Challenge.<sup>1252</sup> The Caribbean Climate Adaptation Network, a NOAA Caribbean Climate Adaptation Partnerships team, submitted their Situational Manual and received USD20,000. This award promotes further work on heat adaptation in Puerto Rico.

On 17 January 2025, the DOE announced a USD584.5 million loan guarantee to subsidiaries of Convergent Energy and Power Inc. to finance a solar photovoltaic system with an integrated battery storage system (BESS), alongside three stand-alone BESS projects in Puerto Rico.<sup>1253</sup> These projects will increase Puerto Rico's electric grid stability and resilience, especially in the face of extreme weather events.

On 17 January 2025, the Department of the Treasury and USAID announced the Action Agenda on Financing for Climate Resilience with a Focus on Extreme Heat in partnership with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency and multilateral development banks.<sup>1254</sup> The agenda recognizes the threat posed by extreme heat and calls on stakeholders to take action to advance climate-resilient development.

On 18 January 2025, the White House released the National Resilience Strategy, acknowledging the importance of fostering climate resilience to address the increasingly complex threats to national resilience.<sup>1255</sup>

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump rescinded many executive orders, including Executive Order 13990 (Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis), Executive Order 14008 (Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad), Executive Order 14013 (Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration), Executive Order 14027 (Establishment of the Climate Change Support Office), Executive Order 14030 (Climate-Related Financial Risk), Executive Order 14082 (Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022) and Executive Order 14096 (Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All).<sup>1256</sup> President Trump also paused the financial expenditures under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. These actions contravene the United States' commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 20 January 2025, President Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and every financial commitment made under the

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<sup>1252</sup> The Caribbean Climate Adaptation Partnerships team has been selected for the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Heat Tabletop Exercise Planning Challenge, Climate Program Office (Silver Spring) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://cpo.noaa.gov/the-caribbean-climate-adaptation-partnerships-team-has-been-selected-for-the-national-integrated-heat-health-information-system-heat-tabletop-exercise-planning-challenge/>

<sup>1253</sup> DOE Announces \$584.5 Million Loan Guarantee to Subsidiaries of Convergent Energy and Power Inc. to Build Solar PV and Energy Storage in Puerto Rico, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/lpo/articles/doe-announces-5845-million-loan-guarantee-subsidiaries-convergent-energy-and-power-inc>

<sup>1254</sup> 「極暑に焦点をあてた気候変動への強靱性のためのファイナンス」に係る行動計画を米国財務省、米国国際開発庁 (USAID)、国際開発金融機関 (MDBs) と公表—極暑を開発課題として位置づけ、気候変動に強靱な開発を推進—, 独立行政法人 国際協力機構 (Tokyo) 20 January 2025. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250116\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250116_21.html)

<sup>1255</sup> National Resilience Strategy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/18/national-resilience-strategy/>

<sup>1256</sup> Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/initial-rescissions-of-harmful-executive-orders-and-actions/>

UNFCCC.<sup>1257</sup> President Trump also revoked and rescinded the U.S. International Climate Finance Plan,<sup>1258</sup> which aimed to triple climate adaptation finance by 2024.<sup>1259</sup> These actions contradict the US commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact

On 26 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the suspension of all foreign aid provided by the Department of State and USAID.<sup>1260</sup> This includes the suspension of foreign aid commitments made under the Biden Administration that aim to help developing countries improve climate resilience. This action contradicts the United States' commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact

On 27 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio withdrew outstanding American pledges to the Green Climate Fund, canceling USD4 billion in US pledges.<sup>1261</sup> Since 2010, the Green Climate Fund has approved USD16 billion worth of projects, allocating funding to clean energy and climate adaptation projects. The GCF devotes 50 per cent of its funding to adaptation financing with over half of that going to Least Developed Countries.<sup>1262</sup>

On 14 February, Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced the termination of 78 contracts, totaling over USD132 million.<sup>1263</sup> This included a USD91,000 contract to increase women's participation in climate adaptation activities in the African, Middle Eastern, Latin American, and Caribbean Regions.

On 18 February 2025, the EPA announced a USD147 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan to the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority to improve drinking water infrastructure.<sup>1264</sup> This loan will allow the Authority to complete projects that include improving infrastructure resilience to hurricanes and other extreme weather events, upgrading transmission mains, storage tanks and a water treatment facility and improving drinking water quality.

On 26 February 2025, Secretary Rollins announced a USD75 million Stewardship Agreement between the USDA and Sierra Pacific Industries to construct and maintain strategic fuel breaks in forests across California

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<sup>1257</sup> Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/putting-america-first-in-international-environmental-agreements/>

<sup>1258</sup> Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/putting-america-first-in-international-environmental-agreements/>

<sup>1259</sup> EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: U.S. International Climate Finance Plan, The White House (Washington D.C.) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/executive-summary-u-s-international-climate-finance-plan/>

<sup>1260</sup> Implementing the President's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://www.state.gov/implementing-the-presidents-executive-order-on-reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>1261</sup> Trump rescinds \$4B in US pledges for UN climate fund, Politico (Washington D.C.) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.politico.eu/article/donald-trump-rescind-4-billion-us-pledge-un-climate-fund/>

<sup>1262</sup> Adaptation, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) n.d. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/theme/adaptation>

<sup>1263</sup> Secretary Rollins Takes Bold Action to Stop Wasteful Spending and Optimize USDA to Better Serve American Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2025/02/14/secretary-rollins-takes-bold-action-stop-wasteful-spending-and-optimize-usda-better-serve-american>

<sup>1264</sup> EPA Announces \$147M WIFIA Loan to Increase Drinking Water Reliability in South Florida, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-147m-wifia-loan-increase-drinking-water-reliability-south-florida>

and Oregon.<sup>1265</sup> This agreement will reduce wildfire risk in these states, protecting communities, watersheds and critical infrastructure.

On 12 March 2025, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin directed staff to revisit the Exceptional Events rulemaking to allow prescribed fires within State and Tribal Implementation Plans.<sup>1266</sup> These changes will help manage forests and decrease future wildfire risk.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. The United States has shown extensive financial support for domestic initiatives targeting water security, extreme heat and natural disasters and internationally, investing in climate resilience across countries including several Pacific Islands, Guatemala, Jamaica, El Salvador, Ecuador and Zambia as well as providing a sovereign guarantee to the AfDB. However, the United States has withdrawn USD4 billion in adaptation finance from the Green Climate Fund and from all climate change agreements associated with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Furthermore, the United States has suspended all international investments in climate resilience further undermining their commitment. On a domestic level, the United States has also paused funding under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which provides adaptation financing for projects nationwide. These cancellations amount to a net decrease in total international adaptation financing and contravene the need to continue to scale up action and finance for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

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

*Analyst: Elizabeth Riddolls*

### **European Union: 0**

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

On 18 June 2024, Commissioner for Agriculture and Food Janusz Wojciechowski addressed the Committee of the Regions at the opening plenary session to debate the Common Agricultural Policy.<sup>1267</sup> Wojciechowski expressed verbal support for increased climate adaptation policies, listing risk management systems and agricultural reserves as crucial to environmentally conscious farming.

On 19 June 2024, the EU Commission released its 2025 EU budget, with EUR2.4 billion set aside for the environment and climate action.<sup>1268</sup> The budget allocates EUR771 million towards the LIFE programme to support climate change adaptation and mitigation.

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<sup>1265</sup> Secretary Rollins Initiates New Public-Private Partnership to Reduce Wildfire Risk, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2025/02/26/secretary-rollins-initiates-new-public-private-partnership-reduce-wildfire-risk>

<sup>1266</sup> Administrator Zeldin Takes Action to Decrease Risk of Future Catastrophic Wildfires ("Exceptional Events"), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-zeldin-takes-action-decrease-risk-future-catastrophic-wildfires>

<sup>1267</sup> Opening speech by Mr Janusz Wojciechowski at plenary debate on the future of the CAP, organised by the European Committee of the Regions, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_3388](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_3388)

<sup>1268</sup> EU Budget 2025 aims to reinforce funding for Europe's priorities, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3247](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3247)

On 20 June 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB) approved a EUR12.8 billion budget to support funding European sustainability and climate adaptation projects.<sup>1269</sup> The funding includes support for natural disaster preparedness against floods and landslides in Italy.

On 24 June 2024, the Council of the European Union endorsed the selection of priorities for the European Union for advancement during the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>1270</sup> Priorities emphasizing climate adaptation include the upscaling of sustainable development and financing for development.

On 25 June 2024, the European Commission announced the debut of the Climate City Capital Hub to provide adaptation and mitigation financing to EU cities.<sup>1271</sup>

On 5 July 2024, the EIB partnered with authorities in Athens to help the city make decisions to construct more climate adaptive water systems.<sup>1272</sup> This consultancy follows a EUR2 Billion investment over ten years to improve the water supply of Athens.

On 14 July 2024, Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič attended the EU Day for the Victims of the Global Climate Crisis.<sup>1273</sup> Lenarčič gave a speech reaffirming the EU's commitment to strengthen actions relating to climate adaptation.

On 31 July 2024, the European Investment Bank provided a portion of the USD200 million raised by the Helios Climate, Energy Access, and Resilience Fund to provide cross-cutting climate finance.<sup>1274</sup>

On 26 July 2024, the European Union and members of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States affirmed their shared commitment to work together on sustainable development and climate resilience.<sup>1275</sup>

On 3 September 2024, the European Commission approved a preliminary assessment for EUR998.6 million grants for Greece, to aid the country in creating forest fire prevention systems and improved water management infrastructure.<sup>1276</sup>

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<sup>1269</sup> EIB Board of Directors approves €12.8 billion new financing for transport, energy and business investment, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-212-eib-board-of-directors-approves-eur12-8-billion-new-financing-for-transport-energy-and-business-investment>

<sup>1270</sup> 79th UN General Assembly: Council approves conclusions on EU priorities, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/79th-un-general-assembly-council-approves-conclusions-on-eu-priorities/>

<sup>1271</sup> New finance hub to support ambitions of pioneering cities in climate mitigation and adaptation, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3482](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3482)

<sup>1272</sup> Greek capital Athens to get more climate-resilient water network under EIB advisory agreement with EYDAP, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-270-greek-capital-athens-to-get-more-climate-resilient-water-network-under-eib-advisory-agreement-with-eydap>

<sup>1273</sup> Address by Commissioner Lenarčič at the EU Day for the Victims of the Global Climate Crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_3828](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_3828)

<sup>1274</sup> UK backing enables new Africa-focused climate fund to achieve \$200 million first close, British International Investment (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/uk-backing-enables-new-africa-focused-climate-fund-to-achieve-200-million-first-close/>

<sup>1275</sup> Joint press release - European Union and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States join forces to implement outcomes of the 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/26/joint-press-release-european-union-and-the-organisation-of-african-caribbean-and-pacific-states-join-forces-to-implement-outcomes-of-the-4th-international-conference-on-small-island-developing-states/>

<sup>1276</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Greece's fourth payment request for €998.6 million in grants under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4522](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4522)

On 11 September 2024, the European Commission hosted a roundtable discussion regarding possible solutions to adapt to the rapidly increasing experienced effects of climate change in preparation for the European Climate Adaptation Plan.<sup>1277</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Commissioner Lenarčič addressed the European Parliament. In response to flooding in Central and Eastern Europe, Commissioner Lenarčič emphasized the need for improvements in emergency flood and wildfire response systems.<sup>1278</sup>

On 24 September 2024, European Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra addressed the United Nations General Assembly and expressed verbal support for increased climate adaptive actions to help communities adjust to rising sea levels.<sup>1279</sup> Commissioner Hoekstra affirmed the need to create flood resistant infrastructure and evacuation procedures.

On 8 October 2024, the Council of the European Union endorsed the findings on climate finance in preparation for the United Nations framework convention on climate change including developed countries collective provision of EUR100 billion annually.<sup>1280</sup>

On 14 October 2024, the Council of the European requested that the European Commission provide the EU with a comprehensive action plan to reduce desertification, land degradation and drought.<sup>1281</sup> The Council called for reform of the financing strategy for land management and urged the Commission to pivot the agriculture and food sectors towards resilience and adaptation. Increased global collaboration to preserve biodiversity and aid other countries in becoming more resilient to climate change was also a topic broached by the Council.

On 21 October 2024, the European Commission allocated EUR380 million to projects headed by the LIFE Programme for environment and climate action.<sup>1282</sup> Approximately EUR62 million is designated for climate mitigation and adaptation.

On 28 October 2024, the EIB Group President Nadia Calvino and the President of the Government of Catalonia, Salvador Illa met to discuss the funding of a water infrastructure project in Barcelona.<sup>1283</sup> The proposed project would help to protect the region's water supply in the face of droughts.

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<sup>1277</sup> How to protect people and prosperity: European roundtable on managing climate risks, European Commission (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/how-protect-people-and-prosperity-european-roundtable-managing-climate-risks-2024-09-18\\_en](https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/how-protect-people-and-prosperity-european-roundtable-managing-climate-risks-2024-09-18_en)

<sup>1278</sup> Address by Commissioner Lenarčič to the European Parliament on the devastating floods in Central and Eastern Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_4743](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_4743)

<sup>1279</sup> Statement by Commissioner Hoekstra at the UNGA High-level meeting on Sea Level Rise, European Commission (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_4871](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_4871)

<sup>1280</sup> Climate finance: Council approves conclusions ahead of COP29, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/08/climate-finance-council-approves-conclusions-ahead-of-cop29/>

<sup>1281</sup> Combating desertification in the EU: Council urges action for a sustainable future, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/combating-desertification-in-the-eu-council-urges-action-for-a-sustainable-future/>

<sup>1282</sup> EU invests over €380 million in 133 new LIFE projects to support the green transition all around Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 20 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5381](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5381)

<sup>1283</sup> Spain: EIB and Government of Catalonia expand cooperation to improve water infrastructure, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-400-el-bei-y-la-generalitat-de-cataluna-refuerzan-su-colaboracion-para-mejorar-las-infraestructuras-de-agua>



On 1 November 2024, President of the European Council Charles Michel delivered a speech at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Presidential Lecture.<sup>1284</sup> Michel expressed verbal support for increasing the strength of multilateral development banks and advocated for the reform of multilateral institutions, including the WTO. Reforms would increase inclusivity and equity in financing developing countries. President Michel emphasized the effects of climate change that are here to stay, such as wildfires, typhoons, and floods.

On 12 November 2024, European Investment Bank President Nadia Calvino issued a joint statement alongside other Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) at the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Baku.<sup>1285</sup> Calvino embraced the need for MDB reform, and the statement underscored the need to upscale financing for adaptation. MDB goals include dedicating USD42 billion for climate adaptation financing by 2030.

On 12 November 2024, the Council of the European Union approved a proposal put forth by Hungarian Minister for Agriculture Istvan Nagy to allow member states to utilize leftover funding from the 2014-2020 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to repair damage to farms and forests caused by natural disasters exacerbated by climate change.<sup>1286</sup>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to COP29 set a New Collective Quantified Goal to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1287</sup>

On 25 November 2024, the EIB approved the first payment of a EUR1 billion loan to Italy to repair regions hit by earthquakes and landslides in 2022 and 2017.<sup>1288</sup> The first payment of EUR150 million will be used to rebuild and improve infrastructure resilience and adaptation capacities in the affected regions.

On 29 November 2024, the EIB approved a EUR350 million loan to a bank in the Czech Republic. The funding will finance adaptive and mitigation initiatives in the country.<sup>1289</sup>

On 2 December 2024, the European Council published 46 projects that it will support in 2025 under the Global Gateway strategy.<sup>1290</sup> From 2021 to 2027, the Global Gateway intends to mobilize upwards of EUR300 billion in public and private investment for projects worldwide. Adaptive initiatives include private financial mobilisation to improve water systems, sustainable food systems and land use practices in developing countries.

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<sup>1284</sup> ‘Rebuilding trust, boosting trade and transforming our multilateral institutions’ – speech by Charles Michel, President of the European Council, at WTO Presidential Lecture, European Council (Brussels) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/01/rebuilding-trust-boosting-trade-and-transforming-our-multilateral-institutions-speech-by-charles-michel-president-of-the-european-council-at-wto-presidential-lecture/>

<sup>1285</sup> Multilateral Development Banks to Boost Climate Finance, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-443-multilateral-development-banks-to-boost-climate-finance>

<sup>1286</sup> Assistance to member states affected by natural disasters: Council gives go-ahead to proposal, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/12/assistance-to-member-states-affected-by-natural-disasters-council-gives-go-ahead-to-proposal/>

<sup>1287</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d’ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1288</sup> Italy: Ischia - EIB provides €1 billion for post-earthquake and landslide reconstruction, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-469-ischia-dalla-bei-1-miliardo-di-euro-per-la-ricostruzione-post-sisma-e-frana>

<sup>1289</sup> Czech Republic: Businesses to get €350 million financing support with EIB loan to bank CSOB, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-480-czech-businesses-to-get-eur350-million-financing-support-with-eib-loan-to-bank-csob>

<sup>1290</sup> Global Gateway: Council endorses flagship project list for 2025, European Council (Brussels) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/02/global-gateway-council-endorses-flagship-project-list-for-2025/>

On 3 December 2024, the EIB, along with eight Multilateral Development Banks, released a joint declaration committing to increasing support for water security internationally from 2025 to 2030.<sup>1291</sup> The programme will also aim to address issues of countries most affected by climate change and enhance flood resilience.

On 6 December 2024, Eurogroup President Paschal Donohoe delivered a speech at the Coalition for Capacity on Climate Action symposium.<sup>1292</sup> Donohoe expressed verbal support for scaling up climate adaptive financing for developing countries.

On 9 December 2024, the Council of the EU announced that they will approve a future-focused Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).<sup>1293</sup> The CAP is a farmer-first plan with recommendations to help farmers grasp and adapt to extreme weather events.

On 9 December 2024, Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism Apostolos Tzitzikostas delivered a speech at the Rhodes Forum delineating the necessity of adapting the EU's tourism industry to ensure preparation for climate change-induced environmental disaster.<sup>1294</sup>

On 18 December 2024, the Council of the EU adopted the Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction regulation.<sup>1295</sup> The programme will provide additional funding for EU members affected by climate-induced natural disasters between 2024-2025.

On 28 January 2025, The European Commission debuted the Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme, absorbed into the Global Gateway Strategy, with a EUR100 Million investment.<sup>1296</sup> The initiative will allow African nations to utilize imaging from the Copernicus and Galileo satellites to improve disaster responses and anticipate extreme-weather events.

On 30 January 2025, the EIB announced that it would provide a EUR100 million loan to Calabria to refurbish the agricultural system in the region and encourage climate-resilient agricultural practices.<sup>1297</sup>

On 3 February 2025, Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy Jessika Roswall presented to Members of Parliament a tripartite report to address numerous issues in the

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<sup>1291</sup> One Water Summit: EIB joins Multilateral Development Banks in commitment to water security, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-485-one-water-summit-eib-joins-multilateral-development-banks-in-commitment-to-water-security>

<sup>1292</sup> 'The role of Ministries of Finance in the green transition' - opening remarks by the Eurogroup President, Paschal Donohoe, at the Coalition for Capacity on Climate Action (C3A) Symposium, European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/06/the-role-of-ministries-of-finance-in-the-green-transition-opening-remarks-by-the-eurogroup-president-paschal-donohoe-at-the-coalition-for-capacity-on-climate-action-c3a-symposium/>

<sup>1293</sup> A competitive EU farming sector based on a farmer-focused common agricultural policy: Council approves conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/09/a-competitive-and-farmer-focused-common-agricultural-policy-council-approves-conclusions/>

<sup>1294</sup> Commissioner Tzitzikostas speech at Rhodes Forum: EU tourism – climate change resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_254](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_254)

<sup>1295</sup> Council gives final green light to package of measures to assist member states affected by natural disasters, European Council (Brussels) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/18/council-gives-final-green-light-to-package-of-measures-to-assist-member-states-affected-by-natural-disasters/>

<sup>1296</sup> Global Gateway: EU reinforces partnership with Africa through "Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme", European Commission (Brussels) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_401](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_401)

<sup>1297</sup> Italy: Regional authorities in Calabria receive €100 million for sustainable agriculture and infrastructure, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-041-bei-100-milioni-alla-regione-calabria-per-agricoltura-e-infrastrutture-sostenibili>

European water cycle.<sup>1298</sup> The package encourages collaboration across multiple policy areas, hoping to bolster adaptive responses in times of ecological crisis and for farm and business owners.

On 4 February 2025, Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans Costas Kadis delivered a speech to members of the European Parliament regarding the creation of a European Ocean Pact.<sup>1299</sup> Kadis proposed that one of the key mandates of the Pact should be a commitment to improving the resiliency of coastlines and marine ecosystems, which are imperative for regulating our climate.

On 6 February 2025, the EIB announced a loan of EUR30 million to a utility company in Abruzzo.<sup>1300</sup> Funding will be used to strengthen and rework existing water infrastructure to ensure its resilience to future environmental disasters.

On 19 February 2025, the European Commission pledged EUR98.6 million to aid farmers in Spain, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia and Hungary in recovering from natural disasters such as floods and droughts last year.<sup>1301</sup> The funding will be delivered through the Common Agricultural Policy, which has an agricultural reserve designed to help with unforeseen circumstances.

On 27 February 2025, the EIB, alongside the Africa Finance Corporation, confirmed that USD52.48 million will be allocated to the Infrastructure Climate Resilient Fund.<sup>1302</sup> The fund will support climate-resilient infrastructure projects from conception to construction.

On 10 March 2025, the EIB signed an agreement with Montenegro's Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, and Northern Region Development.<sup>1303</sup> The agreement will dedicate EUR22.5 million to bolstering water infrastructure in key Montenegrin cities, increasing climate resilience in the Western Balkans.

On 19 March 2025, the EIB dedicated over EUR1.2 million in technical support to East African cities through the City Climate Finance Gap Fund.<sup>1304</sup> The financing will help realize climate-resilient infrastructure projects.

On 4 April 2025, European Council President António Costa delivered a speech at the International Climate Forum in Samarkand.<sup>1305</sup> Costa's speech expressed the importance of collaboration between Europe and Central Asia in tackling the triple-planetary crisis and improving the resilience of infrastructure to climate-related disasters.

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<sup>1298</sup> Statement by Commissioner Roswall on the state of water in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_25\\_416](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_25_416)

<sup>1299</sup> Opening Speech by Commissioner Costas Kadis at the SEArca Conference in the European Parliament, European Commission (Brussels) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_25\\_423](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_423)

<sup>1300</sup> Italy: EIB provides €30 million to improve water service efficiency and resilience in Pescara, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-053-dalla-bei-30-milioni-di-euro-per-migliorare-efficienza-e-resilienza-del-servizio-idrico-a-pescara>

<sup>1301</sup> Commission Allocates €99 million in emergency support to farmers in Spain, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia and Hungary, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_540](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_540)

<sup>1302</sup> EIB backs Africa Finance Corporation \$750 Million Climate Resilient Infrastructure Fund, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-106-eib-backs-africa-finance-corporation-usd750-million-climate-resilient-infrastructure-fund>

<sup>1303</sup> Montenegro: European Union provides a €22 million grant to enhance sustainable water use and climate resilience on an EIB Global-financed project, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-129-montenegro-european-union-provides-a-eur22-million-grant-to-enhance-sustainable-water-use-and-climate-resilience-on-an-eib-global-financed-project>

<sup>1304</sup> EIB Global helps cities develop climate-resilient urban projects in East Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-153-eib-global-assists-cities-develop-climate-resilient-urban-projects-in-east-africa>

<sup>1305</sup> Remarks by President António Costa at the inauguration of the International Climate Forum, European Council (Brussels) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/04/04/remarks-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-inauguration-of-the-international-climate-forum/>

On 14 April 2025, the European Commission announced the investment of EUR86 million in projects to improve climate resilience initiatives such as fire and flood protection in Denmark, Estonia, Poland, Slovenia, and Iceland.<sup>1306</sup>

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to scale up action and support, including financing for climate adaptation as called for in the Glasgow Climate Pact. The European Union has improved climate resilience within its member states and extranational developing countries through international partnerships, including flood and wildlife management capabilities and climate-adapted infrastructure. However, the European Union has failed to increase its international adaptation finance from previous years in line with the goals of the Glasgow Pact and its commitment to scale up finance.<sup>1307, 1308, 1309</sup>

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Amelia Dease*

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<sup>1306</sup> Commission invests €86 million to improve climate resilience and water security, European Commission (Brussels) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_1060](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1060)

<sup>1307</sup> Council publishes 2023 international climate finance figures, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/council-publishes-2023-international-climate-finance-figures/>

<sup>1308</sup> Countries, Reportnet (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/countries>

<sup>1309</sup> Note that the EU Institutions 2023 Adaptation Finance baseline for comparison is EUR1.5519 billion. This information can be verified by subtracting all individual EU member states' reporting on Reportnet (citation 913) for 2023 the EU+Member States figures from citation 912

## 6. Energy: Clean Energy in Developing Countries

“We are determined to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean, and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa, [recognizing the opportunity that the clean energy transition presents to spur a new era of productivity, industrial growth, and economic development, and to advance the priority of clean cooking in the continent.]”

*Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean energy in developing countries is crucial as it promotes sustainable economic growth and contributes to global environmental protection.<sup>1310</sup> By supporting clean energy transitions, the G7 aims to address energy poverty, improve energy access and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This commitment reflects the G7's long-standing recognition of the need for innovative approaches and partnerships to enhance energy resilience in developing nations, ensuring a just and sustainable path to energy security for all.

At the 1976 San Juan Summit, G7 leaders first introduced their commitment to enhancing efforts in developing, conserving and efficiently utilizing diverse energy resources, focusing on supporting developing countries' energy development goals.<sup>1311</sup>

At the 1977 London Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to conserving energy while increasing and diversifying energy production to reduce dependence on oil.<sup>1312</sup> Recognizing the growing global energy demands, the G7 leaders emphasized the need to expand nuclear energy as a key component in meeting these requirements. They agreed on the importance of increasing the supply of nuclear energy while reducing the risks of nuclear proliferation.

At the 1978 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders recognized the energy challenges faced by developing countries and committed to intensifying assistance programs in the energy sector.<sup>1313</sup> They emphasized the need for coordinated efforts to deploy renewable energy technologies and proposed using the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as a platform to facilitate collaboration. Additionally, they

<sup>1310</sup> Ensuring Universal Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy, United Nations (New York) Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/energy/>

<sup>1311</sup> San Juan G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (San Juan) 28 June 1976. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1976sanjuan/communique.html>

<sup>1312</sup> London G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (London) 8 May 1977. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1977london/communique.html>

<sup>1313</sup> Bonn G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bonn) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

called on the World Bank to explore innovative financing approaches to better address the energy needs of developing nations.

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to help developing countries increase their use of renewable energy, welcoming the World Bank's coordination of these efforts to advance sustainable energy development.<sup>1314</sup>

At the 1980 Venice Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed the need for a major international effort to help developing countries increase their energy production.<sup>1315</sup> The G7 called on the World Bank to assess the adequacy of existing resources and mechanisms for the exploration, development and production of both conventional and renewable energy sources in oil-importing developing countries.

At the 1982 Versailles Summit, G7 leaders encouraged the development of programs designed to increase energy production in developing countries with limited access.<sup>1316</sup> They emphasized the importance of developing alternative energy sources such as nuclear.

At the 1983 Williamsburg Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed the importance of conserving energy and developing economic alternative energy sources despite the fall in oil prices.<sup>1317</sup> They emphasized the need to encourage the growth of indigenous energy production in developing countries, particularly those that currently lack it, highlighting the ongoing commitment to supporting sustainable energy development in these regions.

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to increasing resource flows, including official development assistance, to developing countries, with a particular focus on the poorest nations.<sup>1318</sup> They emphasized the importance of encouraging practical measures in these countries to conserve resources and enhance indigenous energy production.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders pledged to secure stable energy supplies globally and to promote high environmental standards within the energy field.<sup>1319</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed the importance of working together with existing institutions to facilitate investment in sustainable energy development, particularly in developing countries.<sup>1320</sup> The G8 called on stakeholders to identify barriers and solutions to increasing renewable energy supply and distribution in developing nations and invited them to join a Task Force to prepare concrete recommendations for advancing the use of renewables in these regions.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the importance of helping developing countries strengthen institutional capacity and implement market-oriented strategies to attract private sector investment in renewable

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<sup>1314</sup> Tokyo G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Tokyo) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1315</sup> Venice G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Venice) 23 June 1980. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1980venice/communique/index.html>

<sup>1316</sup> Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Community, G7 Information Centre (Versailles) 6 June 1982. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1982versailles/communique.html>

<sup>1317</sup> Williamsburg G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Williamsburg) 30 May 1983. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1983williamsburg/communique.html>

<sup>1318</sup> London G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (London) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

<sup>1319</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (London) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

<sup>1320</sup> Okinawa G7 Summit Final Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Okinawa) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

energy.<sup>1321</sup> They called on multilateral development banks to develop innovative financing mechanisms to support clean energy projects in developing regions.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the need to promote rapid innovation and the market introduction of clean technologies in both developed and developing countries.<sup>1322</sup> They highlighted the importance of involving the private sector through international forums to accelerate the adoption of clean energy solutions in developing regions.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders committed to urgently addressing global energy challenges by developing markets for clean energy technologies and increasing their availability in developing countries.<sup>1323</sup> They welcomed the involvement of emerging economies in fostering international cooperation on clean energy solutions between the developed and developing world.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to alleviating energy poverty in developing countries, highlighting the importance of improving energy efficiency.<sup>1324</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm summit, G8 leaders highlighted that energy is a fundamental driver of development worldwide and reaffirmed their commitment to alleviating global energy poverty, especially in developing countries.<sup>1325</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 leaders recognized the need for substantial finance and investment to address the urgent challenges of mitigation, adaptation and access to clean energy in developing countries.<sup>1326</sup> G8 leaders welcomed the establishment of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) to scale up public and private financing for low-carbon economies in developing regions.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders recognized the necessity of developing and deploying technologies and know-how in developing countries to improve and capitalize on clean energy technologies.<sup>1327</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders pledged to continue promoting growth and infrastructure improvements, primarily in Africa's energy sector.<sup>1328</sup>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to accelerating access to renewable energy in Africa and other developing regions to reduce energy poverty.<sup>1329</sup> This effort aimed to drive renewable energy adoption and address energy challenges in developing countries.

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<sup>1321</sup> Genoa Summit Final Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Genoa) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqu.html>

<sup>1322</sup> Sustainable Development, G7 Information Centre (Evian) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable\\_development\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html)

<sup>1323</sup> Gleneagles Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>1324</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (St. Petersburg) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/summary.html>

<sup>1325</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Heiligendamm) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

<sup>1326</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Hokkaido-Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1327</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (L'Aquila) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>1328</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 15 September 15, 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>1329</sup> Elmau Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to further promoting initiatives on climate risk in Africa, including promoting the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative.<sup>1330</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders renewed their commitment to expand reliable access to energy across Africa.<sup>1331</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the United States' commitment to working closely with other countries to support cleaner and more efficient use of fossil fuels while promoting the deployment of renewable and other clean energy sources.<sup>1332</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting developing countries and emerging markets in making just transitions to clean energy through ambitious development partnerships and increased access to financing.<sup>1333</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to working with other countries to end new unabated coal-fired power generation projects globally as soon as possible.<sup>1334</sup> This initiative aimed to accelerate the clean energy transition in a just manner, further supporting global efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainable energy solutions.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean, and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa, [recognizing the opportunity that the clean energy transition presents to spur a new era of productivity, industrial growth, and economic development, and to advance the priority of clean cooking in the continent.]”<sup>1335</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment outlines five attributes for energy: “affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern.” Only actions to achieve the above energy dimensions in developing countries contribute to compliance. Given the focus on Africa, G7 members must take strong action in Africa to achieve full compliance. Their actions must address economic development and clean cooking in Africa. It is assumed that investing in energy will address economic development. There are therefore seven criteria for this commitment: 1) energy that is affordable, 2) energy that is reliable, 3) energy that is sustainable, 4) energy that is clean, 5) energy that is modern, 6) action must affect Africa, and 7) action must address clean cooking.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Ensure” is understood to mean assuring and securing the fulfillment of an objective and task.<sup>1336</sup>

“Affordable” is understood to mean low-cost and attainable for most people with average incomes.<sup>1337</sup>

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<sup>1330</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1331</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Taormina). 27 May 2017. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>1332</sup> Charlevoix Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>1333</sup> Elmau Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>1334</sup> Hiroshima Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Hiroshima) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>1335</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>1336</sup> Ensure, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/ensure>

<sup>1337</sup> Affordable, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/affordable>



“Reliable” is understood to mean something that can be depended on for its consistent and expected behaviour and performance.<sup>1338</sup>

“Sustainable” is understood to mean little or no impact on the environment, allowing for long-term use.<sup>1339</sup>

“Clean” is understood to mean clean of any contaminants, including dirt, pollution and bacteria.<sup>1340</sup> This generally refers to renewable energy.

“Modern” is understood to mean developed with the latest innovations and approaches.<sup>1341</sup> For example, an oil lamp is not considered modern energy.

“Energy” is understood to mean “usable power.”<sup>1342</sup>

“Developing countries” are understood to mean states with limited industrial and economic development, resulting in low average income levels.<sup>1343</sup> The OECD list of developing countries defines the commitment scope.<sup>1344</sup>

“Clean cooking” is understood to mean options such as liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas, electricity, cleaner processed forms of bioenergy such as biogas and biofuels and improved biomass stoves.<sup>1345</sup> It does not include polluting fuels and stoves, such as with the traditional use of biomass in poorly ventilated spaces, kerosene, coal and firewood.

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action in at least six of the seven dimensions to ensure energy in developing countries, including strong action towards energy in Africa. Only actions related to developing countries contribute to compliance. Examples of strong actions include, but are not limited to: investing in clean energy infrastructure incentivizing energy investment from private organizations; developing energy supply chains, addressing and reducing obstacles and gaps in energy security and reliability; measures that enhance energy affordability; funding sustainable and modern innovation of energy types; growing energy accessibility to people in developing countries; supporting Africa’s growth as a global energy hub; and advancing clean cooking in Africa.<sup>1346</sup> Multilateral examples of strong actions include establishing international initiatives to spur global investment across developing countries, strengthen supply

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<sup>1338</sup> Reliable, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/reliable>

<sup>1339</sup> Sustainable, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sustainable>

<sup>1340</sup> Clean, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/clean>

<sup>1341</sup> Modern, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/modern>

<sup>1342</sup> Energy, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 17 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/energy>

<sup>1343</sup> Developing country, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/developing-country>

<sup>1344</sup> Countries defined as developing by the OECD, Government of the United Kingdom Home Office (London) 26 April 2021. Access Date: 17 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/countries-defined-as-developing-by-the-oecd/countries-defined-as-developing-by-the-oecd>

<sup>1345</sup> World Energy Outlook 2019 Chapter 8, OECD iLibrary (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 2 October 2024.

<https://doi.org/10.1787/29e811cb-en>

<sup>1346</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apuli) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

chains with global partners and lead global meetings to integrate Africa and other developing countries into global energy markets.<sup>1347</sup>

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that exemplify weak action in most of the components or strong action in between three and five of the seven dimensions to ensure energy in developing countries, or to members that do not take strong action towards energy in Africa. Examples of weak actions include, but are not limited to, attending meetings on ensuring energy development in developing countries, verbally committing to ensuring energy development in developing countries; and verbally reaffirming support for energy funding and investment in Africa and other developing countries.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member takes action in less than three dimensions to ensure energy in developing countries or takes action that is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has not taken action or has taken action in fewer than three of the seven criteria to ensure energy access 1) is affordable, 2) is reliable, 3) is sustainable, 4) is clean or 5) is modern, 6) is in Africa or 7) advances clean cooking.
0	The G7 member has taken weak action on most or strong action on between two and five of the seven criteria to ensure energy access 1) is affordable, 2) is reliable, 3) is sustainable, 4) is clean or 5) is modern, 6) is in Africa or 7) advances clean cooking.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action on at least six of the seven criteria to ensure energy access 1) is affordable, 2) is reliable, 3) is sustainable, 4) is clean or 5) is modern, 6) is in Africa or 7) advances clean cooking.

*Compliance Director: Eliza Yip  
Lead Analyst: Divya Gupta*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 17 July 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD100 million loan to support clean electricity distribution and sustainable transport through FirstRand Bank.<sup>1348</sup> The funding aligns with the Seventh Sustainable Development Goal on clean and affordable energy.

On 17 October 2024, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mary Ng announced an upcoming Trade Mission to Australia and subsequent trade missions to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Brunei to explore opportunities in sectors including but not limited to clean energy and technologies.<sup>1349</sup> The mission helps bring Canadian clean energy technology to developing countries in the Indo-Pacific, aiding in a sustainable clean energy transition.

<sup>1347</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>1348</sup> FinDev Canada announces US\$ 100M commitment to FirstRand Bank to support climate finance in Sub-Saharan Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-announces-us-100m-commitment-firststrand-bank-support-climate-finance-sub-saharan>

<sup>1349</sup> Minister Ng announces 2025 Team Canada Trade Missions to Bring more of Canada to the Indo-Pacific, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 17 October 2024. Access Date 31 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/minister-ng-announces-2025-team-canada-trade-missions-to-bring-more-of-canada-to-the-indo-pacific.html>

On 5 November 2024, FinDev Canada and international partners including Proparco signed a USD100 million financing agreement to advance wind and solar production in Argentina.<sup>1350</sup> The funding supports affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in Argentina.

On 7 November 2024, FinDev Canada committed CAD18.8 billion in a multilateral funding arrangement for clean and reliable electricity in the Dominican Republic.<sup>1351</sup> The funding supports modern solar power production and storage capabilities to increase sustainable energy in the country.

On 12 November 2024, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault launched the USD1.5 billion GAIA climate finance platform.<sup>1352</sup> GAIA aims to mobilize climate investment including for clean energy in 25 developing and emerging economies.<sup>1353</sup>

On 16 November 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to strengthening the Canadian Trade Gateway for Nuclear Development in the Indo-Pacific region at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' Summit.<sup>1354</sup> This commitment enhances Canada's existing commitment to supporting the clean energy transition in the Indo-Pacific by strengthening collaborative relationships in nuclear sectors.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1355</sup>

On 4 December 2024, Minister Ng concluded the Canada Trade Mission to Indonesia and the Philippines, where she explored opportunities relating to a clean energy transition within the region.<sup>1356</sup> Minister Ng reaffirmed Canada's support for Indonesia's energy transition as part of the trade mission.

On 18 December 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD35 million financing agreement to fund sustainable projects including the energy transition in Sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>1357</sup>

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<sup>1350</sup> FMO, FinDev Canada and Proparco support Argentinian renewable energy sector with US\$ 100 million FMO-syndicated loan to Gennei, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/fmo-findev-canada-and-proparco-support-argentinian-renewable-energy-sector-us-100-million-fmo>

<sup>1351</sup> FinDev Canada, IDB Invest and FMO invest in Enertur to boost renewable energy in the Dominican Republic, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-idb-invest-and-fmo-invest-enertur-boost-renewable-energy-dominican-republic>

<sup>1352</sup> During the World Leaders Climate Action Summit at COP29, Minister Guilbeault announces major Canadian-led climate finance platform, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Baku) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/11/during-the-world-leaders-climate-action-summit-at-cop29-minister-guilbeault-announces-major-canadian-led-climate-finance-platform.html>

<sup>1353</sup> GAIA – US\$ 1.48 billion blended finance platform for climate projects in emerging markets and developing economies – commercial agreement on significant terms, FinDev Canada (Baku) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/gaia-us-148-billion-blended-finance-platform-climate-projects-emerging-markets-and-developing>

<sup>1354</sup> Expanding Canadian Trade, investment and jobs in the Indo-Pacific region through Canadian Trade Gateway for Nuclear Development, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024 <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/expanding-canadian-trade-investment-and-jobs-in-the-indo-pacific-region-through-canadian-trade-gateway-for-nuclear-development.html>

<sup>1355</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1356</sup> Minister Ng strengthens trade relations with Indonesia during Team Canada trade mission, Global Affairs Canada (Jakarta) 4 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/12/minister-ng-strengthens-trade-relations-with-indonesia-during-team-canada-trade-mission.html>

<sup>1357</sup> FinDev Canada invests US\$ 35 million in Pembani Remgro Infrastructure Fund II to develop sustainable infrastructure in South Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-us-35-million-pembani-remgro-infrastructure-fund-ii-develop-sustainable>

On 21 February 2025, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD10 million in funding for the Caribbean Community Resilience Fund, which aims to finance climate-resilient infrastructure in sectors such as energy.<sup>1358</sup> This action supports modern energy in developing countries.

On 21 February 2025, Minister Ng announced an additional CAD7.3 million toward the Canadian Trade Gateway for Nuclear Development under Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy.<sup>1359</sup> This will continue to support the delivery of Canadian Nuclear expertise in the region, aiding in the clean energy transition.

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. Canada advanced strong action to support clean, reliable, affordable, and modern energy development and sustainability in developing countries, particularly through partnerships and funding initiatives aimed at the Caribbean and Indo-Pacific regions in addition to Africa.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Abigail Chan*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 5 July 2024, the French Development Agency (AFD) committed EUR800,000 to a Franco-Moroccan partnership in decarbonized hydrogen.<sup>1360</sup> This investment supports decarbonization and increased sustainability as part of Morocco's energy transition.

On 17 July 2024, the AFD committed EUR60 million to finance the Seven Forks Solar Power Plant project in Kenya.<sup>1361</sup> This project will produce environmentally sustainable energy while also reducing the cost of electricity and contributing to the economic development of Kenya.

On 15 October 2024, the AFD strengthened its partnership with Microfinance Solidaire, providing an additional EUR2 Million in loans.<sup>1362</sup> These loans help Microfinance Solidaire to assist entrepreneurs who work to provide access to clean energy across Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia and Haiti.

On 28 October 2024, President Emmanuel Macron signed three agreements with Morocco to promote clean energy.<sup>1363</sup> One agreement provides assistance towards developing Morocco's green hydrogen energy sector.

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<sup>1358</sup> Minister Hussen announces new funding for multiple countries in the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/backgrounder-minister-hussen-announces-new-funding-for-multiple-countries-in-the-caribbean.html>

<sup>1359</sup> Minister Ng strengthens trade, investment and nuclear partnerships in Singapore and Brunei under Indo-Pacific Strategy, Global Affairs Canada (Brunei) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/globalaffairs/news/2025/02/minister-ng-strengthens-trade-investment-and-nuclear-partnerships-in-singapore-and-brunei-under-indo-pacific-strategy.html>

<sup>1360</sup> Innovating in decarbonized hydrogen: partnership between AFD, IRESEN and SATT Paris-Saclay, France in Morocco (Rabat) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://ma.ambafrance.org/Innover-dans-l-hydrogene-decarbone-partenariat-entre-l-AFD-l-IRESEN-et-la-SATT>

<sup>1361</sup> Kenya: Seven Forks Solar Power Plant, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/en/carte-des-projets/kenya-seven-forks-power-plant>

<sup>1362</sup> Microfinance Solidaire pursues its support for microentrepreneurs, backed by Proparco, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/microfinance-solidaire-pursues-its-support-microentrepreneurs-backed-proparco>

<sup>1363</sup> HM King Mohammed VI, President Emmanuel Macron Chair Signing Ceremony of Several Bilateral Agreements, Kingdom of Morocco, Ministry of Foreign Affairs African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates (Rabat) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://diplomatie.ma/en/hm-king-mohammed-vi-president-emmanuel-macron-chair-signing-ceremony-several-bilateral-agreements>

The next agreement supports a partnership between France and Morocco on energy transition, connection and cooperation, with the aim of improving renewable energy policy and regulation and low-carbon hydrogen production. Lastly, the final agreement aims to establish an energy transition partnership between the ENGIE Company and the OCP Group, covering green hydrogen.

On 1 November 2024, the AFD and European Union concluded an implementation agreement for an economic cooperation program with Indonesia.<sup>1364</sup> Over the course of five years, starting in 2025, the AFD and EU will provide funding of at least EUR3 million to support Indonesia's clean energy transition, with a particular focus on infrastructure investments to facilitate decarbonization and green hydrogen use.

On 5 November 2024, Proparco, a development finance institution of the French government, and international partners including FinDev Canada signed a USD100 million financing agreement to advance wind and solar production in Argentina.<sup>1365</sup> The funding supports affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in Argentina.

On 8 November 2024, the AFD approved a loan of USD400 million to the government of South Africa, to facilitate South Africa's transition to a low-emission economy.<sup>1366</sup> This loan builds on the EUR300 million public policy loan provided in 2022, bringing France's total contribution to the Just Energy Transition Partnership with South Africa to EUR700 million out of the EUR1 billion pledged at COP26 in Glasgow. The finding aims to ensure an inclusive transition process for communities in South Africa that primarily use, or benefit economically from, coal-powered energy.

On 12 November 2024, AFD officials participated in the fourth ASEAN-France Development Partnership Committee meeting.<sup>1367</sup> At this meeting, the AFD committed EUR2.5 million to support the development of an integrated electricity network across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

On 19 November 2024, the AFD concluded a partnership with the government of Montenegro valued at EUR50.95 million.<sup>1368</sup> The funding aims to support Montenegro's climate adaptability, renewable energy investments and infrastructure modernization.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries

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<sup>1364</sup> L'INDONÉSIE, LA FRANCE ET L'UE RENFORCENT LEUR PARTENARIAT POUR ACCÉLÉRER LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiquede-presse/lindonesie-la-france-et-lue-renforcent-leur-partenariat-pour-acceler-la-transition-energetique>

<sup>1365</sup> FMO, FinDev Canada and Proparco support Argentinian renewable energy sector with US\$ 100 million FMO-syndicated loan to Gennei, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/fmo-findev-canada-and-proparco-support-argentinian-renewable-energy-sector-us-100-million-fmo>

<sup>1366</sup> L'AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT CONCLUT LES NÉGOCIATIONS POUR LE PRÊT DE POLITIQUE PUBLIQUE DE 7,6 MILLIARDS DE RANDS (400 MILLIONS D'EUROS) POUR LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE JUSTE DE L'AFRIQUE DU SUD, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiquede-presse/lagence-francaise-de-developpement-conclut-les-negociations-pour-le-pret-de-politique-publique-de-76-milliards-de-rands-400-millions-deuros-pour-la-transition>

<sup>1367</sup> QUATRIÈME RÉUNION DU COMITÉ DE PARTENARIAT DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ASEAN-FRANCE : LA FRANCE RENFORCE LE PARTENARIAT POUR UN DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ET RÉSILIENT EN ASIE DU SUD-EST, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 12 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiquede-presse/quatrieme-reunion-du-comite-de-partenariat-de-developpement-asean-france-la-france-renforce-le-partenariat-pour-un-developpement-durable-et-resilient-en-asie-du-sud>

<sup>1368</sup> MONTÉNÉGRO ET FRANCE : UN PARTENARIAT AMBITIEUX POUR UNE TRANSITION VERTE, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiquede-presse/montenegro-et-france-un-partenariat-ambitieux-pour-une-transition-verte>

to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1369</sup> France agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing. Additionally, France pledged to continue to commit EUR6 billion per year to support developing countries including through its shareholding of multilateral development banks. During COP29, France also held a Coal Transition Accelerator session to organize transition finance and support developing countries in exiting the use of coal to focus on other energy sources.

On 27 March 2025, France met with China to discuss cooperation on climate change and the Paris Agreement.<sup>1370</sup> Both sides discussed the need for transitioning to green and low-carbon energy and development, away from fossil fuels and toward decarbonization to combat climate change.

On 8 April 2025, France and Egypt announced an investment agreement for an integrated green hydrogen complex with a projected value of EUR7 billion.<sup>1371</sup> The project aims to produce green ammonia from solar and wind energy to support renewable energy and sustainable development.

France has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. France has supported clean and sustainable energy transitions and policies in North Africa, specifically Morocco and South Africa, and has worked with partners to support clean energy transitions across other developing regions. France has taken strong action to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy including in Africa.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Lindsay Liu*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 17 June 2024, State Secretary and Special Representative for International Climate Policy Jennifer Morgan committed to discussing climate and energy transition with China.<sup>1372</sup> The discussions focused on provincial and sector-level opportunities in expanding renewable energies but also addressed issues about China's key role in high greenhouse gas emissions.

On 19 June 2024, State Secretary for Development Jochen Flasbarth signed an agreement with Mozambican Foreign Minister César Francisco de Gouveia Júnior for climate and development cooperation between Germany and Mozambique.<sup>1373</sup> German involvement aims to expand renewable production, invest in power

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<sup>1369</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1370</sup> Déclaration conjointe entre la République française et la République populaire de Chine sur les changements climatiques à l'occasion du dixième anniversaire de l'Accord de Paris (27 mars 2025), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 27 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/chine/evenements/article/declaration-conjointe-entre-la-republique-francaise-et-la-republique-populaire>

<sup>1371</sup> Egypt and France Launch €7 Billion Fully Private Green Hydrogen Megaproject in Ras Shukeir, Egypt State Information Service (Cairo) 8 April 2025. Access date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.sis.gov.eg/Story/206994/Egypt-and-France-Launch-€7-Billion-Fully-Private-Green-Hydrogen-Megaproject-in-Ras-Shukeir?lang=en-us>

<sup>1372</sup> Staatssekretärin und Sonderbeauftragte für internationale Klimapolitik Jennifer Morgan vor ihrer Abreise nach Japan und China, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2662370>

<sup>1373</sup> Deutschland und Mosambik schließen Klima- und Entwicklungspartnerschaft, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 19 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/deutschland-und-mosambik-klima-und-entwicklungspartnerschaft-215620>

grid infrastructure, train skilled specialists for building up renewable energy sources, and adapt to climate change.

On 28 June 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze together with the Ministry for Environment and Climate concluded a cooperation agreement on climate and renewable energies with the government of Morocco.<sup>1374</sup> As part of this agreement, Germany will support the development of a green hydrogen industry in Morocco and facilitate electricity trading between Morocco and the European Union given Morocco's wind and solar conditions.

On 31 August 2024, Secretary Morgan committed to prioritizing Germany's global partnership for climate policy and energy transition in Africa.<sup>1375</sup> The strengthened connections allow for climate cooperation and explore opportunities such as accelerating the energy transition and providing sufficient resources for all countries to achieve green energy.

On 10 September 2024, Germany and Indonesia hosted Indonesia Sustainable Energy Week (ISEW) 2024.<sup>1376</sup> At ISEW 2024, the German government emphasized the importance of green energy initiatives within Indonesia and pledged Germany's continued support in promoting clean energy.

On 15 September 2024, Minister Schulze travelled to India to meet with Indian government officials and promote German-Indian cooperation on renewable energies.<sup>1377</sup> During a meeting with Indian Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi, Minister Schulze launched the "India-Germany Platform for Investments in Renewable Energy Worldwide," to promote further public and private-sector cooperation on renewables between the two countries.

On 16 September 2024, State Secretary Thomas Bagger and Colombian Deputy Foreign Minister Jorje Rojas discussed cooperation in climate and environmental protection.<sup>1378</sup> The discussion focused on how Germany could support Columbia's efforts for sustainable energy.

On 8 October 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the United Nations Development Programme jointly hosted the first Hamburg Sustainability Conference, which reached more than 15 agreements aimed at helping with a more sustainable future globally and within developing countries.<sup>1379</sup> The Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonization of Global Shipping is one of the significant investments from Germany aimed at helping develop and research sustainable shipping and green aviation hubs. Other notable agreements include new alliances that would allow for a decrease in carbon dioxide emissions for shipping, environmentally friendly batteries and private investments for energy transition.

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<sup>1374</sup> Deutschland und Marokko vereinbaren Allianz für Klima und Energie, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/06/20240628-deutschland-marokko-allianz-fuer-klima-und-energie.html>

<sup>1375</sup> Staatssekretärin und Sonderbeauftragte für internationale Klimapolitik Jennifer Morgan vor ihrer Abreise nach Südafrika, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 31 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2674012>

<sup>1376</sup> Partnerships for Progress: Indonesia and Germany Drive Sustainable Energy, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Jakarta) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/156724.html>

<sup>1377</sup> Minister Schulze said, India's boom in renewables benefits India, Germany and ultimately the entire world, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/minister-travels-to-energy-transition-conference-in-india-225218>  
[https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/About-us/News/News-Details\\_823680.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/About-us/News/News-Details_823680.html)

<sup>1378</sup> Deutsch-Kolumbianische Staatssekretärskonsultationen am 16.09.2024, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2675816>

<sup>1379</sup> "More Than 15 Agreements for a Sustainable Future," Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hsc-more-than-15-agreements-for-a-sustainable-future-230740>

On 23 October 2024, Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Robert Habeck traveled to India to begin government consultations on expanding relations between Germany, India and the Indo-Pacific regions. The initiative aims to simultaneously strengthen relations in climate and energy protection and lead to potential green hydrogen projects.

On 25 October 2024, Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi announced a joint declaration of the Seventh German-Indian Government Consultations, focusing on green and sustainable development and the energy transition.<sup>1380</sup> The agreement paved the way for the green hydrogen idea, where the roadmap will support India's effort to produce and export green hydrogen as a sustainable energy source.

On 12 November 2024, the KfW announced a EUR23 million loan to Axian Energy to develop a solar energy system in the Casamance region of Senegal.<sup>1381</sup> The investment, facilitated by the KfW's Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft subsidiary, seeks to increase the energy supply in Senegal by mobilizing low-carbon energy sources.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1382</sup>

On 25 November 2024, the Federal Government released a review of Germany's involvement at COP29, including a USD220 million German pledge "for developing low-carbon production processes and green lead markets in developing and emerging countries."<sup>1383</sup> This is a part of a joint initiative totalling USD1.3 billion.

On 27 November 2024, Germany reached an agreement with South Africa to support South Africa's transition towards renewable energy sources.<sup>1384</sup> Under the Just Energy Transition Partnership Germany agreed to provide South Africa with a EUR200 million loan to invest in wind and solar power.

On 27 November 2024, Minister Habeck met with Turkish Minister of Energy Alparslan Bayraktar to inaugurate the sixth German-Turkish Energy Forum.<sup>1385</sup> Minister Habeck expressed support for the various private-sector clean-energy partnerships to be concluded during the meeting and resolved to continue advancing German-Turkish cooperation on renewable energy and green hydrogen.

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<sup>1380</sup> Gemeinsame Erklärung der siebten deutsch-indischen Regierungskonsultationen, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/deutsch-indische-regierungskonsultationen/2681840>

<sup>1381</sup> DEG to finance solar energy and energy storage in Senegal, Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (Cologne) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_828992-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_828992-2.html)

<sup>1382</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministères Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1383</sup> More money for global climate protection, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/cop29-2321838>

<sup>1384</sup> Germany remains important partner for South Africa's socially just energy transition, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-supports-south-africas-socially-just-energy-transition-239574>

<sup>1385</sup> Deutschland und Türkei wollen zu Erneuerbaren Energien enger zusammenarbeiten, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/11/20241127-deutsch-tuerkisches-energieforum.html>



On 1 December 2024, Minister Habeck commenced a trip to Kenya for the German-African Economic Summit.<sup>1386</sup> Per a statement from the Economics Ministry, expanded cooperation on renewable energy development and climate protection factored highly on Minister Habeck's agenda.

On 1 January 2025, Germany and Japan became co-leads of the International Partners Group (IPG) in Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership.<sup>1387</sup> The IPG aims to mobilize USD20 billion for Indonesia's transition.

On 20 March 2025, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Udo Philipp and Advisor to the Thai Minister of Energy Samerjai Suksumek, signed a joint declaration of intent in Berlin for the bilateral German-Thai energy dialogue.<sup>1388</sup> The energy dialogue aims to deepen bilateral cooperation on decarbonizing energy systems, improving energy efficiency and increasing energy security. This collaboration reflects Germany's commitment to advancing sustainable energy solutions and fostering business opportunities in renewable energy, contributing to developing clean, reliable and modern energy systems.

On 28 March 2025, Secretary Philipp provided an additional EUR7.27 million to the Ukraine Energy Support Fund to help repair energy infrastructure damaged by ongoing Russian attacks.<sup>1389</sup> This contribution reflects Germany's commitment to providing sustainable and reliable energy solutions, focusing on green energy transition projects that enhance Ukraine's energy security.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. Germany complied with the commitment by supporting renewable energy projects and fostering international collaboration on green energy initiatives. Germany has supported clean and sustainable energy transitions in developing countries by supporting green energy initiatives and enhancing international relationships on renewable energy projects. Germany has funded infrastructure to advance sustainable production, decarbonization and clean energy in the region of Africa. Germany supported projects that meet the commitment compliance criteria by advancing at least four of affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nanor Pontigian*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

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<sup>1386</sup> Habeck reist zum Deutsch-Afrikanischen Wirtschaftsgipfel (GABS) nach Kenia, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 1 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/11/20241201-habeck-reist-zum-deutsch-afrikanischen-wirtschaftsgipfel-gabs.html>

<sup>1387</sup> Mission Statement: Germany Assumes Co-Lead of Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), Kedutaan Besar Republik Federal Jerman Jakarta (Jakarta) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 6 June 2025. <https://jakarta.diplo.de/id-id/jetp-2701808>

<sup>1388</sup> Deutschland und Thailand etablieren Energiedialog (Berlin) 20 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/20250320-deutschland-und-thailand-etablieren-energiedialog.html>

<sup>1389</sup> Nothilfe für die Energieversorgung der Ukraine –BMWK unterstützt erneut Ukraine Energy Support Fund (Berlin) 28 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/20250328-nothilfe-fuer-die-energieversorgung-der-ukraine-bmwk-unterstuetzt-erneut-ukraine-energy-support-fund.html>

On 6 July 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani emphasized Africa as a priority for Italy's foreign policy during a meeting in Cape Town.<sup>1390</sup> Minister Tajani highlighted its commitment to launch major development projects in Southern Africa, focusing on equal partnerships to promote energy sustainability and economic growth through the Mattei Plan.

On 9 July 2024, the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the Rwandan Ministry of Finance officially signed a EUR50 million financing agreement to support the country through the Italian Climate Fund.<sup>1391</sup> The investment is a component of Italy's larger Mattei Plan and aims to assist the Rwandan government in implementing its National Climate Plan to reduce Carbon emissions.

On 25 July 2024, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, together with the United Nations Development Programme, launched the Platform of the Italian Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security (PISTA) to support investments and provide technical assistance to African developing countries for decarbonization and transition, with climate finance potentially worth EUR500 million.<sup>1392</sup> The PISTA platform aids African countries in their efforts to transition to climate-resilient economies.

On 15 October 2024, Minister of Economy and Finance Giancarlo Giorgetti submitted a draft budgetary plan for 2025 to the Italian Cabinet.<sup>1393</sup> The plan outlines several spending proposals, including increased spending and investment in clean energy. It also includes steps to achieve the goals of the Roadmap to Connect Africa to Europe for Clean Energy Production project.

On 10 October 2024, the Italian Export Credit Agency, the European Investment Bank and Enel announced up to USD300 million in funding for Enel Colombia's power grids and renewable energy generation projects.<sup>1394</sup> This funding will be used to develop two solar photovoltaic plants with a capacity of approximately 486 megawatts to support individuals in the Bogotá Region. By adding grid capacity, this project will make energy more affordable in Columbia.

On 18 November 2024, President Meloni committed to increasing Italy's contribution to the three-year renewal of the International Development Association.<sup>1395</sup> The measure aims to boost Italy's support for projects within the framework of the Mattei Plan which includes support for clean energy in Africa.

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<sup>1390</sup> Tajani: "Africa is a priority for Italy." The area meeting of the Ambassadors and Directors of Italian Cooperation in Southern Africa organised in Cape Town, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 6 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/nota-farnesina-tajani-africa-priorita-per-italia-a-citta-del-capo-la-riunione-darea-degli-ambasciatori-e-direttori-cooperazione-italiana-dellafrica-australe/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/nota-farnesina-tajani-africa-priorita-per-italia-a-citta-del-capo-la-riunione-darea-degli-ambasciatori-e-direttori-cooperazione-italiana-dellafrica-australe/)

<sup>1391</sup> Rwanda e Italia firmano un accordo da 50 milioni di euro per sostenere progetti di resilienza climatica, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/rwanda-e-italia-firmano-un-accordo-da-50-milioni-di-euro-sostenere-progetti-di>

<sup>1392</sup> Clima: MASE, parte Pista, Piattaforma per investimenti e assistenza tecnica nei Paesi in via di sviluppo, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 25 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/clima-mase-parte-pista-piattaforma-investimenti-e-assistenza-tecnica-nei-paesi-di>

<sup>1393</sup> ITALY'S DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 15 October 2024. Access Date 19 December 2024. [https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/\\_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/Attivit--i/Contabilit\\_e\\_finanza\\_pubblica/DPB/2025/DBP-2025-ENG.pdf](https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/Attivit--i/Contabilit_e_finanza_pubblica/DPB/2025/DBP-2025-ENG.pdf)

<sup>1394</sup> Colombia: EIB Global provides Enel Colombia with \$300 million loan for renewable energy generation and power grid improvements, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-371-eib-global-provides-enel-colombia-with-usd300-million-loan-for-renewable-energy-generation-and-power-grid-improvements>

<sup>1395</sup> Vertice G20, incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Presidente della Banca Mondiale, Governo Italiano (Rome) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/vertice-g20-incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-il-presidente-della-banca-mondiale/27074>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1396</sup>

On 20 December 2024, the Chamber of Deputies passed the 2025 Budget Bill.<sup>1397</sup> The budget outlines increased spending and investment in clean energy.<sup>1398</sup> It also includes steps to achieve the goals of the Roadmap to Connect Africa to Europe for Clean Energy Production project.

On 24 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni and the President of the United Arab Emirates, Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, announced their desire to strengthen cooperation with African nations.<sup>1399</sup> This measure aims to strengthen and prioritize the Mattei Plan for Africa to facilitate co-investments in Africa's energy and water sectors.

On 27 March 2025, Italy and the European Union held a conference to reinforce collaboration with Africa.<sup>1400</sup> This event brought together over 400 participants from the Italian government, the European Union, African nations, the United States, private sector leaders and representatives from international organizations. The conference intends to advance efforts in implementing the Mattei Plan for Africa. This measure aims to gather further discussions about each project and drive more sustainable investments while aligning with Italy and the EU's priorities to achieve security within the African Continent.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. Italy advanced strong action through financial and technological contributions and promoted sustainable development and international cooperation in Africa. Italy invested in clean, reliable, modern, affordable and sustainable forms of energy and energy infrastructure.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ela Akkus*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 20 June 2024, the Development Bank of Japan Inc. (DBJ) has agreed to invest in Breakthrough Energy Ventures Select Fund I, managed by Breakthrough Energy Ventures (BEV) that focuses on scaling emissions-free global companies.<sup>1401</sup> As the first Japanese bank to invest in the fund, DBJ aims to accelerate carbon neutrality by leveraging its risk capital and collaborating with BEV to support decarbonization efforts and promote sustainable development.

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<sup>1396</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1397</sup> Budget Law: Green light from the Chamber, passes to the Senate, Nova News (Rome) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.agenzianova.com/en/news/legge-di-bilancio-via-libera-dalla-camera-passa-al-senato/>

<sup>1398</sup> ITALY'S DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 15 October 2024. Access Date 19 December 2024. [https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/\\_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/Attivit--i/Contabilit\\_e\\_finanza\\_pubblica/DPB/2025/DBP-2025-ENG.pdf](https://www.rgs.mef.gov.it/_Documenti/VERSIONE-I/Attivit--i/Contabilit_e_finanza_pubblica/DPB/2025/DBP-2025-ENG.pdf)

<sup>1399</sup> Incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Presidente degli Emirati Arabi Uniti, Governo Italiano (Rome) 24 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-con-il-presidente-degli-emirati-arabi-uniti/27727>

<sup>1400</sup> Comunicato stampa congiunto Italia-Ue, Governo Italiano (Rome) 27 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/italy-eu-joint-press-release/28063>

<sup>1401</sup> DBJ to Invest in Breakthrough Energy Ventures Fund to Support Later-Stage Climate Innovations --First Japanese Bank to invest in BEV Select Fund I--, Development Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj\\_news/2024/html/20240620\\_204823.html](https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj_news/2024/html/20240620_204823.html)

On 5 July 2024, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ken Saito and Peru's Minister of Energy and Mines Romulo Mucho discussed strengthening cooperation in energy and mining, focusing on Peru's critical role as a supplier of mineral resources.<sup>1402</sup> Both countries also pledged to cooperate closely during the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Energy Ministers' meeting in August 2024.

On 8 July 2024, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation announced financing for the development of the Block B gas field and a pipeline to supply fuel to power plants in Vietnam.<sup>1403</sup> This project contributes to Vietnam's energy transition by reducing reliance on coal and supporting clean energy alternatives such as natural gas.

On 11 July 2024, Japan hosted the 5th Japan-Arab Economic Forum in Tokyo. The forum emphasized expanding investments in green technologies, addressing climate change through sustainable products and enhancing energy security.<sup>1404</sup> Japan also committed to advancing clean energy technologies and sustainable economic growth in partnership with Arab countries.

On 26 July 2024, the Government of Japan signed the 2024 Mekong-Japan Collaboration Strategy, which aims to establish and strengthen partnerships with countries in the Mekong region on various issues, including the clean energy transition.<sup>1405</sup>

On 6 August 2024, the Ministry of the Environment and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) hosted the Second Asia Zero Emission Community International Conference to discuss the creation of carbon markets and the use of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) in developing countries.<sup>1406</sup> The JCM aims to reduce Japan's contribution to greenhouse emissions by providing technology and products to support decarbonization and clean energy in developing countries. During the conference, the participants discussed energy policy and developing carbon markets in development countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

On 20 August 2024, Minister Saito participated in the Second Asia Zero Emission Community Ministerial Meeting in Indonesia to discuss collaborative decarbonization and net-zero emissions, including policies regarding energy transition.<sup>1407</sup> During the meeting, Minister Saito and Malaysia's Minister of Economy Rafizi Ramli confirmed a collaboration between Japan and Malaysia to hold the next Ministerial Meeting in 2025 and METI signed a memorandum with Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources with regard to energy cooperation. Furthermore, Minister Saito met with counterparts from Singapore, Cambodia and the Philippines to reaffirm collaboration efforts on renewable energy.

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<sup>1402</sup> Minister Saito's Meeting with Peru's Minister of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 5 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 September 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/07/20240705003/20240705003.html>

<sup>1403</sup> Credit Line for ADNOC's Decarbonization and Energy Transition Projects, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo) 4 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 September 2024.

[https://www.jbic.go.jp/ja/information/press/press-2024/press\\_00040.html](https://www.jbic.go.jp/ja/information/press/press-2024/press_00040.html)

<sup>1404</sup> 5th Japan-Arab Economic Forum, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 11 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_00877.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_00877.html)

<sup>1405</sup> Mekong-Japan Cooperation Strategy 2024, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100703926.pdf>

<sup>1406</sup> The 2nd AZEC (Asia Zero Emission Community) International Conference to Promote the JCM and Develop Carbon Markets Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0807\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0807_003.html)

<sup>1407</sup> Minister Saito Visits Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0821\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0821_001.html)

On 30 August 2024, the Ministry of the Environment selected three projects as part of the City-to-City Collaboration Program to aid developing countries in decarbonization by providing Japanese technologies as part of the JCM.<sup>1408</sup>

On 4 September 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) funding to send three Filipino scholars to Japan as part of the Knowledge Co-Creation Program to assist in the Philippines clean energy transition.<sup>1409</sup>

On 30 September 2024, the JICA signed a loan agreement of up to USD100 million with the Development Bank of Southern Africa.<sup>1410</sup> This project aims to support the sustainable economic development of the Republic of South Africa by facilitating the financing of renewable energy initiatives that will drive the growth of green infrastructure.

On 3 October 2024, Director-General for International Policy on Carbon Neutrality Shinichi Kihara participated in the 15th Clean Energy Ministerial and the 9th Mission Innovation Ministerial to discuss clean energy transitions.<sup>1411</sup> Director-General Kihara affirmed support for global decarbonization and clean energy transition and transition finance and carbon management technologies toward Asian countries.

On 10 October 2024, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yoji Muto, attended the Second Asia Zero Emission Community in Laos to discuss pathways to collaborative decarbonization while obtaining secure clean energy for Asian countries.<sup>1412</sup> Minister Muto discussed actions toward decarbonization by power, transport and industry actors and reiterated the aim to finance the transition to clean energy while achieving economic growth and secure energy for countries across Asia.

On 10 October 2024, the JICA announced its part in the Asia Green Transformation (GX) Consortium's launch.<sup>1413</sup> The Asia GX Consortium aims to finance green energy transition projects in developing Asian economies.

On 11 October 2024, Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yoji Muto attended the second Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) meeting in Laos.<sup>1414</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba highlighted the development of about 120 cooperation projects since the First AZEC Leaders Meeting and expressed Japan's intention to support Laos in becoming a regional clean energy hub. Following the meeting, the leaders adopted the AZEC Leaders' Joint Statement, including the Action Plan for the Next Decade.

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<sup>1408</sup> MOE Selects 3 Projects for the third round of the FY2024 City-to-City Collaboration Program to Support the Decarbonization Efforts by Overseas Subnational Governments, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press\\_03169.html](https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press_03169.html)

<sup>1409</sup> PH boosts capacity in green transformation and sustainable mining amid climate crisis, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/philippine/information/press/2024/1551758\\_53492.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/philippine/information/press/2024/1551758_53492.html)

<sup>1410</sup> Signing of a Loan Agreement for Green Finance Promotion Project in Republic of South Africa (Private Sector Investment Finance) : Boosting Energy Transition over the Country, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118_21.html)

<sup>1411</sup> 15th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM15) and 9th Mission Innovation Ministerial (MI-9), and G20 Energy Transitions Ministers' Meeting Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1007\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1007_002.html)

<sup>1412</sup> Minister Muto Visits the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015_001.html)

<sup>1413</sup> Asia GX Consortium Announces Its Official Launch to Advance Transition Finance Agenda in Asia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241002\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241002_21.html)

<sup>1414</sup> Minister Muto Visits the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015_001.html)

On 11 October 2024, Japan held a bilateral meeting with Cambodia, agreeing to cooperate on the greening of factories.<sup>1415</sup> They also confirmed that the two countries will strive to further promote decarbonization in the Asian region and bilateral energy cooperation.

On 17 October 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kozuki Ryosuke held and participated in the first Japan-Türkiye Energy Forum to discuss collaborative energy actions to achieve carbon neutrality.<sup>1416</sup> During the Forum, discussions centered on cooperation between Türkiye and Japan in the fields of “Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and New Fuels and Technologies.”

On 24 October 2024, the JICA signed a loan agreement of maximum JPY6.58 billion with Ecuador for the Chachimbiro Geothermal Development Project.<sup>1417</sup> This project will help promote the use of renewable energy, diversification of power sources and increase in power generation capacity.

On 28 October 2024, Minister of the Environment Keiichiro Asao and the former Indonesian Minister of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Siti Nurbaya signed an agreement on the JCM between Japan and the Republic of Indonesia.<sup>1418</sup> This agreement affirms Japan’s support for sustainable development in Indonesia while reducing greenhouse gas emissions using new decarbonization technology.

On 31 October 2024, Minister Muto and Uzbekistani Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade Laziz Kudratov discussed cooperation in green and renewable energy projects.<sup>1419</sup> The meeting committed to utilizing the JCM to advance clean energy initiatives.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba held a summit meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim to discuss Japan and Malaysia’s cooperation and partnership.<sup>1420</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba discussed potential cooperation regarding energy transition initiatives with Malaysia.

On 16 November 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Peru to discuss Japan’s role in aiding the development of the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>1421</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba affirmed support for Japan’s role in addressing decarbonization through clean energy transition to achieve sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

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<sup>1415</sup> Minister Muto Visits the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1015_001.html)

<sup>1416</sup> State Minister Kozuki Attends the 27th Türkiye-Japan Joint Business Committee and The 1st Japan-Türkiye Energy Forum, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1018\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1018_001.html)

<sup>1417</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement for Ecuador: Promoting the Use of Renewable Energy, Diversifying Power Sources, and Increasing Power Generation Capacity through Construction of a Geothermal Power Plant, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025_41.html)

<sup>1418</sup> MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN AND THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA ON THE JOINT CREDITING MECHANISM BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA AND THE INDONESIAN GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSION REDUCTION CERTIFICATION, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press\\_03514.html](https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press_03514.html)

<sup>1419</sup> Minister Muto Holds Meeting with Mr. Laziz Kudratov, Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 31 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1031\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1031_001.html)

<sup>1420</sup> Japan-Malaysia Summit Meeting (Summary), Prime Minister’s Office of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/15malaysia\\_00007.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/15malaysia_00007.html)

<sup>1421</sup> APEC Leaders’ Meeting 2024 (Session III) (Summary), Prime Minister’s Office of Japan (Tokyo) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/16apec\\_s3.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/16apec_s3.html)

On 17 November 2024, Minister Muto and Peruvian Minister Mucho signed a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) on the clean and renewable energy transition.<sup>1422</sup> The MOC emphasizes Japan's and Peru's shared goal of pursuing carbon neutrality and net-zero emissions through renewable and efficient energy.

On 17 November 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba published an article for the G20 summit emphasizing Japan and Brazil's collaborative commitment toward the energy transition to support sustainable development.<sup>1423</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba highlighted the importance of using new technologies from Japan and clean energy sources alongside Brazil to support net-zero emissions and sustainable development in both countries.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1424</sup>

On 9 December 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yuichiro Koga met with Minister of Electricity and Energy of South Africa Kgosiensho Ramokgopa to discuss continued bilateral progress on the energy transition between Japan and South Africa.<sup>1425</sup>

On 10 December 2024, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Hisayuki Fujii and Minister Ramokgopa reaffirmed increased cooperation between Japan and South Africa in the energy sector.<sup>1426</sup> The two sides further expressed support for the development of South Africa's energy sector, decarbonization and renewable energy. Japanese Minister Fujii also expressed approval for a loan for up to USD150 million by the Japan International Cooperation Agency to support renewable energy in South Africa.

On 11 December 2024, Japan joined as a new donor to the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa at the Africa Investment Forum 2024.<sup>1427</sup> Japan contributed USD5 million under the Alliance for Green Infrastructure in Africa, which aims to support energy projects, clean energy, clean cooking, and the energy transition in Africa.<sup>1428</sup>

On 12 December 2024, Japan hosted the third US-Japan Energy Security Dialogue in Tokyo to affirm further collaboration in energy transition, especially involving clean energy technology, including clean hydrogen and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>1429</sup>

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<sup>1422</sup> ペルー共和国エネルギー鉱山省とエネルギー移行に関する協力覚書を締結しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1119\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1119_001.html)

<sup>1423</sup> A new chapter in Japan-Brazil relations: 130 years of friendship and international cooperation, Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/statement/202411/17contribution\\_00001.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/statement/202411/17contribution_00001.html)

<sup>1424</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1425</sup> 古賀経済産業副大臣が南アフリカ共和国のラムホパ電力・エネルギー大臣と会談を行いました (Tokyo) 9 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/12/20241209001/20241209001.html>

<sup>1426</sup> 藤井外務副大臣とラムホパ・南アフリカ電力・エネルギー大臣との会談, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01489.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01489.html)

<sup>1427</sup> Africa Investment Forum 2024: Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa welcomes Japan as donor; showcases innovative financing solutions for Africa's energy transition, African Development Bank Group (Morocco) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2024-sustainable-energy-fund-africa-welcomes-japan-donor-showcases-innovative-financing-solutions-africas-energy-transition-79469>

<sup>1428</sup> Mission 300: Significant new donor pledges in support of the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa announced on margins of the Africa Energy Summit, African Development Bank Group (Morocco) 29 January 2025. Access Date: February 19 2025. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/mission-300-significant-new-donor-pledges-support-sustainable-energy-fund-africa-announced-margins-africa-energy-summit-80544>

<sup>1429</sup> 第3回日米エネルギー安全保障対話の実施, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 24 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01577.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01577.html)

On 13 December 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Iwaya Takeshi and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana Hugh Hilton held a meeting on energy.<sup>1430</sup> During the meeting, the ministers expressed support for continued cooperation between Guyana and Japan regarding renewable energy, energy security and climate change.

On 16 December 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ogushi Masaki attended and participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>1431</sup> The Japanese minister met with the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire Robert Beugré Mambé and representatives of 40 other African countries to discuss sustainable energy transition and decarbonization in Africa.

On 20 December 2024, Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Muto Yoji and Vietnamese Minister of Trade and Industry Nguyen Hong Dien co-chaired the Seventh Japan-Viet Nam Joint Committee on Cooperation in Industry, Trade and Energy.<sup>1432</sup> During the meeting, the two ministers discussed furthering the energy transition with regard to progress in offshore wind power, nuclear power and liquefied natural gas (LNG). The two ministers confirmed further cooperation and joint efforts.

On 1 January 2025, Japan and Germany became co-leads of the International Partners Group (IPG) in Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership.<sup>1433</sup> The IPG aims to mobilize USD20 billion for Indonesia's transition.

On 11 January 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba affirmed interest in collaborating with Malaysia, Indonesia and the Asia Zero Emission Community to achieve decarbonization.<sup>1434</sup> The Prime Minister proposed ways of achieving decarbonization including through use of hydrogen, ammonia, carbon dioxide capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), geothermal energy and mineral resources.

On 21 January 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba and Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Sonexay Siphandone met during a summit meeting and exchanged views on furthering bilateral relations.<sup>1435</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba agreed to further Japan's support in improving Laos' clean power supply capacity.

On 2 February 2025, State Minister Yuichiro and South Africa Minister of Electricity and Energy Kgosisentsho David Ramokgapa affirmed the importance of an energy transition to achieve carbon neutrality, particularly using hydrogen to decarbonize through bilateral cooperation.<sup>1436</sup>

On 20 February 2025, the Ministry of the Environment hosted the 2025 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Decarbonization Forum alongside ten Pacific and Indian Ocean island nations.<sup>1437</sup> The forum aimed to discuss

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<sup>1430</sup> 日・ガイアナ外相会談, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 13 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01536.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01536.html)

<sup>1431</sup> 大串経済産業副大臣がコートジボワール共和国へ出張しました, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/12/20241218002/20241218002.html>

<sup>1432</sup> 第7回「日ベトナム産業・貿易・エネルギー協力委員会」を開催しました, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 20 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/12/20241220004/20241220004.html>

<sup>1433</sup> Mission Statement: Germany Assumes Co-Lead of Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), Kedutaan Besar Republik Federal Jerman Jakarta (Jakarta) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 6 June 2025. <https://jakarta.diplo.de/id-id/jetp-2701808>

<sup>1434</sup> Press Conference by Prime Minister Ishiba regarding His Visit to Malaysia and Indonesia and Other Matters, Prime Minister's Office (Tokyo) 11 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/statement/202501/11kaiken.html>

<sup>1435</sup> 日・ラオス首脳会談及びワーキング・ディナー, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 21 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/s\\_sa/sea1/la/pageit\\_000001\\_01510.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/s_sa/sea1/la/pageit_000001_01510.html)

<sup>1436</sup> 古賀経済産業副大臣が南アフリカ共和国に出張しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 10 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/02/20250210004/20250210004.html>

<sup>1437</sup> Results of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Decarbonization Forum (2025), Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press\\_03884.html](https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press_03884.html)



clean energy initiatives and the transition to renewable energy. Participants included Tuvalu, the Marshall Islands, Tonga, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, the Maldives, the Solomon Islands, Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia. The forum highlighted technologies, including green hydrogen and microgrids and emphasized collaboration.

On 26 February 2025, Minister Yoji and Vietnamese Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien met to discuss promoting nuclear power cooperation under the Asia Zero Emission Community.<sup>1438</sup>

On 4 March 2025, the Ministry of the Environment organized the India-Japan Environmental Business Promotion Seminar. The seminar aimed to discuss technology to support sustainable development in India and the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) program.<sup>1439</sup> One discussion emphasized technical collaboration to support decarbonization toward net-zero emissions in India and clean and efficient energy.

On 17 March 2025, Minister Yoji and Kazakhstan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Murat Nurtleu discussed cooperation in renewable energy projects through the JCM.<sup>1440</sup>

On 17 March 2025, Minister Takeshi and Kazakhstan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Murat Nurtleu met to discuss collaboration with Kazakhstan, including in the energy sector and decarbonization.<sup>1441</sup>

On 21 March 2025, Ambassador to the Philippines Kazuya Endo and Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines Enrique A. Manalo met to sign five loan projects valued up to JPY171.58 billion.<sup>1442</sup> One of the projects is the Climate Change Action Program, valued at up to JPY35 billion. This program intends to help the Philippines transition to and implement a low-carbon society in accordance with climate change goals.

On 26 March 2025, Minister Yoji delivered a video message at the Japan-Brazil Economic Forum.<sup>1443</sup> During the forum, several panelists representing Japan discussed decarbonization and using ethanol and iron ore to achieve an energy transition.

On 26 March 2025, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kato Akiyoshi and Minister of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Brazil Alexandre Silveira de Oliveira met to discuss collaboration between Japan and Brazil in sustainable fuel.<sup>1444</sup> The two affirmed the importance of decarbonization through the use of sustainable fuels, including biofuels, and signed a memorandum of understanding for the Initiative for Sustainable Fuel and Mobility that would increase cooperation.

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<sup>1438</sup> 武藤経済産業大臣がベトナム社会主義共和国のジェン商工大臣と会談を行いました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 26 February 2025.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025.

<sup>1439</sup> India-Japan Environmental Business Promotion Seminar - Exploring Collaboration Opportunities toward Decarbonized and Sustainable Society in India, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025.

[https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press\\_03889.html](https://www.env.go.jp/en/press/press_03889.html)

<sup>1440</sup> 武藤経済産業大臣がカザフスタン共和国のヌルトレウ副首相兼外務大臣と会談を行いました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 17 March 2025.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/03/20250317004/20250317004.html>

<sup>1441</sup> 日・カザフスタン外相会談, 外務省 (Tokyo) 17 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01907.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01907.html)

<sup>1442</sup> フィリピン共和国に対する円借款5件に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 21 March 2025. Translation provided by Google

Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01927.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01927.html)

<sup>1443</sup> 日・ブラジル経済フォーラムが開催されました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 27 March 2025. Translation provided by Google

Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/03/20250327002/20250327002.html>

<sup>1444</sup> 加藤経済産業大臣政務官がブラジル連邦共和国のシルヴェイラ鉱山エネルギー大臣と会談を行いました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 26 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/03/20250326003/20250326003.html>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. Japan has made significant progress to ensure clean, sustainable, affordable, reliable and modern energy access in developing countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and South Africa. Moreover, Japan has discussed the dissemination of modern clean energy and decarbonization technology and products to aid developing countries through the Joint Crediting Mechanism.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Lindsay Liu*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer met with President Yoon Suk Yeol of the Republic of Korea at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit.<sup>1445</sup> They discussed further collaboration on green energy initiatives, reinforcing the UK's commitment to advancing sustainable energy solutions and trade partnerships.

On 24 July 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy signed an agreement with India on tackling climate change.<sup>1446</sup> The agreement aims to increase offshore wind and green hydrogen and unlock further green growth opportunities.

On 26 July 2024, Secretary Lammy and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Laos Saleumxay Kommasith signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the National Convention Centre.<sup>1447</sup> The MoU promoted cooperation to tackle challenges of decarbonization, emission reduction, energy transition and in turn enable green economy and the continuous development of sustainable energy in Laos.

On 8 August 2024, UK Export Finance (UKEF) and the Polish export credit agency, KUKE, granted a EUR249 million loan through the Standard Chartered Bank to be utilized for construction of solar power plants in Turkey.<sup>1448</sup> The funding will allow the development of the project and the advancement of the renewable energy sector in Turkey.

On 22 August 2024, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Ed Miliband discussed clean energy transition and climate change in a series of meetings with the Brazilian government and energy companies.<sup>1449</sup> Secretary Miliband focused on industrial decarbonization and addressed the challenges in the clean energy transition.

On 27 August 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West announced GBP12.9 million in funding for several programs, most notably Transforming Energy Access (TEA) and the

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<sup>1445</sup> PM meeting with President Yoon of the Republic of Korea, Prime Minister's Office (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-yoon-of-the-republic-of-korea-11-july-2024>

<sup>1446</sup> Foreign Secretary Meets Indian Prime Minister Modi and Launches Landmark Technology Security Initiative, Government of United Kingdom (London) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-meets-indian-prime-minister-modi-and-launches-landmark-technology-security-initiative>

<sup>1447</sup> UK and Laos Sign Memorandum of Understanding on the Green Economy Framework, Government of United Kingdom (London) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-and-laos-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-the-green-economy-framework>

<sup>1448</sup> UK and Poland Target Green Exports with £249 Million Financing for Solar Project, Government of United Kingdom (London) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-poland-target-green-exports-with-249-million-financing-for-solar-project>

<sup>1449</sup> Climate Top of Agenda in Energy Secretary's First Visit to Brazil, Government of United Kingdom (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/climate-top-of-agenda-in-energy-secretarys-first-visit-to-brazil>

Pacific Resilience Facility (PCF).<sup>1450</sup> The TEA funds support solar and hydrogen systems while the PCF provides general climate finance to the region.

On 9 September 2024, CEO of UKEF Tim Reid and Executive Vice-President of the Chilean Production Development Corporation announced a partnership agreement aimed to aid in the green hydrogen sector.<sup>1451</sup> The two governmental agencies aim to jointly assist hydrogen projects in Chile through the GBP5 billion provided by the UK export credit support.

On 17 September 2024, Minister for Africa Ray Collins announced GBP3.8 million for investment in green energy in Ghana with Shell Foundation.<sup>1452</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Minister of State for Development and for Women and Equalities Anneliese Dodds, signed two bilateral MoUs on developing a partnership with the Indonesian Ministry for Energy and Mineral Resources.<sup>1453</sup> The MoUs are set to collaborate with Indonesia's National Planning Agency, and will address goals for 2030 Sustainable Development and support discussions about green growth and climate and energy transitions.

On 17 September 2024, Secretary Lammy gave a speech on the Climate Crisis, highlighting the importance of global clean energy, including the increasing demand for affordability in sustainable technologies that range anywhere from green hydrogen to clean cooking and cooling.<sup>1454</sup>

On 19 September 2024, High Commissioner to Uganda Kate Airey and the Ugandan Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development launched a GBP5 million clean cooking program intended to effectively coordinate the clean cooking sector and encourage financing for further action.<sup>1455</sup> The partnership addresses issues with accessibility to clean cooking technologies and presents significant opportunities for advancements within sustainable energy solutions and environmental conservation.

On 26 September 2024, Prime Minister Starmer met with Kenyan President William Ruto to discuss and strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United Kingdom and Kenya through mutual determination to advance energy transition and manage the climate crisis.<sup>1456</sup> Discussions lead to agreements of working closely in order to achieve global clean power and deliver on climate goals.

On 3 October 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Kerry McCarthy and the Minister of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Chile Diego Pardow Lorenzo, signed a MoU to

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<sup>1450</sup> UK Announces New Climate Funding for Pacific as Minister Visits New Zealand and Tonga, Government of United Kingdom (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-new-climate-funding-for-pacific-as-minister-visits-new-zealand-and-tonga>

<sup>1451</sup> UK-Chile Agreement paves the way for Green Hydrogen Exports, Government of United Kingdom (London) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-chile-agreement-paves-way-for-green-hydrogen-exports>

<sup>1452</sup> Minister for Africa Lord Collins Reaffirms UK-Ghana Partnership, Government of United Kingdom (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-lord-collins-reaffirms-uk-ghana-partnership>

<sup>1453</sup> UK and Indonesia Strengthen Partnerships on Growth and Climate, Government of United Kingdom (London) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-indonesia-strengthen-partnerships-on-growth-and-climate>

<sup>1454</sup> Foreign Secretary's Foreign Policy Speech on the Climate Crisis, Government of United Kingdom (London) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-foreign-policy-speech-on-the-climate-crisis>

<sup>1455</sup> Electric Cooking to Transform the Cooking Landscape in Uganda, Government of United Kingdom (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/electric-cooking-to-transform-the-cooking-landscape-in-uganda>

<sup>1456</sup> PM Meeting with President Ruto of Kenya, Government of United Kingdom (London) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-ruto-of-kenya-25-september-2024>

strengthen the collaboration for energy transition between the United Kingdom and Chile.<sup>1457</sup> The agreement would provide access to further support in the process of transition to green energy with an emphasis on low-carbon hydrogen and offshore wind.<sup>1458</sup>

On 7 October 2024, UKEF and Virgin Money provided GBP2 million in funding for Alicat Workboats to build two offshore wind workboats for Turkey.<sup>1459</sup> This funding aids in the global shortage of workboats that service offshore wind infrastructure and highlights the United Kingdom's commitment to aid developing countries in transition to renewable energy.

On 20 October 2024, Secretary Lammy, visited Indonesia and South Korea to drive forward relationships and build a strategic partnership focused on green growth and security.<sup>1460</sup> In Indonesia, the UK aims to provide continuous support to local companies for advances in green technologies. In the Republic of Korea, Lammy shared the UK's expertise and experiences on the transition to clean energy. Both initiatives highlight the inaugural part of the UK's commitment to aiding in clean energy, green solutions and climate change internationally.

On 27 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Secretary Lammy announced funding to encourage investment for climate change in vulnerable nations and support Powering Renewable Energy Opportunities in six Pacific Island Countries, which will test clean energy technologies.<sup>1461</sup> These measures ensure protection for countries that are susceptible to extreme impacts of climate change and help their transition to sustainable energy.

On 3 November 2024, Secretary Lammy visited Nigeria and South Africa to strengthen the UK's commitment for collaboration on green energy and climate cooperation including through the UK-South Africa Growth Plan.<sup>1462</sup> The visit also announced the Biodiversity Challenge Fund which supports South Africa's energy transition.

On 8 November 2024, Ambassador to Ukraine Martin Harris and Ukraine's First Deputy Prime Minister Yuliia Svyrydenko launched the Green Transition Office, funded with GBP1 million from the UK.<sup>1463</sup> The office aims to develop policies for decarbonization and green growth and to assist Ukraine in meeting emissions reductions targets.

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<sup>1457</sup> Energy Transition: UK-Chile Memorandum of Understanding, Government of United Kingdom (London) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/energy-transition-uk-chile-memorandum-of-understanding>

<sup>1458</sup> Energy transition: UK - Chile memorandum of understanding, UK Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (London) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/energy-transition-uk-chile-memorandum-of-understanding/energy-transition-uk-chile-memorandum-of-understanding>

<sup>1459</sup> Norfolk Boat Builder Wins Major Offshore Wind Contract with Government Backing, Government of United Kingdom (London) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/norfolk-boat-builder-wins-major-offshore-wind-contract-with-government-backing>

<sup>1460</sup> Green Growth and Security to Underpin UK Relationships with Indonesia and South Korea, Government of United Kingdom (London) 20 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-growth-and-security-to-underpin-uk-relationships-with-indonesia-and-south-korea>

<sup>1461</sup> UK Attends Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa, Government of United Kingdom (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-attends-commonwealth-heads-of-government-meeting-in-samoa>

<sup>1462</sup> Growth at the heart of Foreign Secretary's visit to Nigeria and South Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 3 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/growth-at-the-heart-of-foreign-secretarys-visit-to-nigeria-and-south-africa>

<sup>1463</sup> UK Ambassador to Ukraine and Minister of Economy of Ukraine launch the Green Transition Office, British Embassy (Kyiv) 8 November 2024. 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-ambassador-to-ukraine-and-minister-of-economy-of-ukraine-launch-the-green-transition-office>

On 8 November 2024, UKEF committed to new agreements on sustainable and clean energy at COP29.<sup>1464</sup> UKEF signed an agreement with Indonesia's state electricity company, enabling them to finance energy transition projects in Indonesia which use UK goods and services. UKEF also has agreed to facilitate GBP10 billion in funds to finance clean-growth projects in association with the Net Zero Export Credit Agencies. Through these initiatives, UKEF supports sustainable energy transitions and helps finance global clean energy projects.

On 13 November 2024, the UK partnered with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification to launch a facility supporting independent energy regulation in Solomon Islands.<sup>1465</sup> The initiative falls under the Government's Green Cities and Infrastructure programme, which aims to transform the energy sector by increasing capacity, reducing energy costs and attracting investments. The programme highlights a reform to deliver reliable, affordable and sustainable energy.

On 14 November 2024, Minister Dodds announced GBP74 million in funding to improve access to clean cooking in the Indo-Pacific, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>1466</sup> The funding aims to help ten million people transition from polluting fuels such as firewood and charcoal to cleaner alternatives. The transition reduces harmful fumes and promotes sustainable and clean energy through clean cooking.

On 15 November 2024, Secretary Miliband announced funding for developing countries, including in Africa and for Small Island Developing States, to accelerate their global energy transition away from fossil fuels.<sup>1467</sup> The funding supports the development of low-carbon technologies, new innovations in energy storage, clean transport and zero-emission generators. It will also aid in decarbonizing steel, cement, concrete and chemical industries, reducing emissions.

On 19 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced the launch of the Global Clean Power Alliance.<sup>1468</sup> Headed by the UK, the Alliance includes several developing countries, including the African Union. It aims to address critical energy transition challenges.

On 25 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1469</sup> The United Kingdom also contributed USD211 million to Climate Investment Funds.

On 7 March 2025, Special Representative Kyte, visited Cape Town to announce support for the Energy Council of South Africa and to continue engagement and analysis work through the National Energy Crisis Committee

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<sup>1464</sup> UK leadership drives international shift towards cleaner export finance, UK Export Finance (London) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leadership-drives-international-shift-towards-cleaner-export-finance>

<sup>1465</sup> UK and Mines Ministry launch support for independent energy regulator in Solomon Islands, British High Commission Honiara (Honiara) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-mines-ministry-launch-support-for-independent-energy-regulator-in-solomon-islands>

<sup>1466</sup> UK to help give 10 million people worldwide access to clean cooking, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-help-give-10-million-people-worldwide-access-to-clean-cooking>

<sup>1467</sup> UK backs clean power innovation to speed up global energy transition, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (London) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-backs-clean-power-innovation-to-speed-up-global-energy-transition>

<sup>1468</sup> Prime Minister launches Global Clean Power Alliance as UK leads the global energy transition, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 19 November 2024. Access Date 19 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-launches-clean-power-alliance-as-uk-leads-the-global-energy-transition>

<sup>1469</sup> Breakthrough in Baku delivers \$1.3tn "Baku Finance Goal," COP29 (Baku) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 1 February 2025. <https://cop29.az/en/media-hub/news/breakthrough-in-baku-delivers-13tn-baku-finance-goal>

on market liberalization and transmission expansion.<sup>1470</sup> The visit aligns with the UK's commitment to supporting South Africa's Just Energy Transition Partnership, which aims to speed up energy sector reforms, reduce emissions and provide the energy needed for economic growth and job creation.

On 26 March 2025, Ambassador to the Philippines Laure Beaufils, and Environment Secretary and Official Representative of the President to the Climate Change Commission Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga, agreed on initiatives to mobilize capital for renewable energy, enhance adaptation efforts and tackle climate risks through the National Adaptation Plan and the Risk Resiliency Programme during the 5th UK-PH Climate Change and Environment Dialogue.<sup>1471</sup> The initiatives support the UK's commitment to clean energy by fostering investments in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable fisheries and blue carbon initiatives.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. The United Kingdom has taken steps toward strengthening international collaboration on green energy and sustainability, as seen in the meeting between Prime Minister Starmer and President Yoon. The member has also led investments and international cooperations aimed to aid in the energy transition and develop more sustainable energy alternatives, notably clean cooking in Africa.

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

*Analyst: Nanor Pontigan*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 15 June 2024, Vice President Kamala Harris committed over USD500 million towards energy aid in Ukraine.<sup>1472</sup> This aid will increase energy supply, maintain the energy grid and restore destroyed infrastructure.

On 17 June 2024, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval announced USD90 million in funding over the next five years for research on technologies in clean energy, among other issues, during the second meeting of the US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology.<sup>1473</sup>

On 2 July 2024, Deputy Administrator at the US Agency for International Development (USAID) Isobel Coleman discussed increasing energy security and resiliency with Ukrainian Minister of Energy German

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<sup>1470</sup> UK Climate Envoy Rachel Kyte announces support for South Africa's Wholesale Electricity Market reform and implementation, British Consulate-General Cape Town (Cape Town) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-climate-envoy-rachel-kyte-announces-support-for-south-africas-wholesale-electricity-market-reform-and-implementation>

<sup>1471</sup> UK, Philippines hold 5th Climate Change and Environment Dialogue, British Embassy Manila (Manilla) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-philippines-hold-5th-climate-change-and-environment-dialogue>

<sup>1472</sup> Vice President Kamala Harris Announces Over \$1.5 Billion to Bolster Ukraine's Energy Sector, Address Humanitarian Needs, and Strengthen Civilian Security, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-15-2024-/vice-president-kamala-harris-announces-over-1-billion-bolster-ukraines-energy-sector-address-humanitarian-needs-and-strengthen-civilian-security>

<sup>1473</sup> JOINT FACT SHEET: The United States and India Continue to Chart an Ambitious Course for the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology, The White House, (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/06/17/joint-fact-sheet-the-united-states-and-india-continue-to-chart-an-ambitious-course-for-the-initiative-on-critical-and-emerging-technology/>

Galushchenko.<sup>1474</sup> USAID plans to focus on increasing energy supply and maintaining vital energy infrastructure.

On 17 July 2024, the United States, India and Tanzania announced the launch of a Triangular Development Project.<sup>1475</sup> The project aims to strengthen and promote the development of clean and reliable energy infrastructure in Tanzania.

On 1 August 2024, the Department of Energy and the Government of Ghana formally launched their Nuclear Energy Training Hub.<sup>1476</sup> The Hub aims to support the development of civil nuclear energy programs across Africa and assist in the transition to clean energy.

On 27 August 2024, the United States announced further fiscal investment in the Pacific Islands of USD1 million for the expansion of a biogas project in Tuvalu at the 53rd Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting.<sup>1477</sup> This investment will help support a sustainable clean energy transition in Tuvalu by investing in locally based energy transition initiatives.

On 11 September 2024, the Department of State announced several key outcomes from the U.S.-Nigeria Strategic Energy Dialogue.<sup>1478</sup> These included technological assistance and over USD80 million in commitments to aid Nigeria's clean energy transition and a new Clean Energy Alliance of Nigeria launched by the State Department to advance "clean, reliable, and affordable" energy.

On 18 September 2024, the White House introduced the US Strategy on Global Development, which intends to clarify international development goals such as decarbonizing the economy and increasing climate resistance.<sup>1479</sup>

On 23 September 2024, President Joe Biden and President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan discussed partnered initiatives, including the Partnership to Accelerate Clean Energy and upcoming private sector investments in African clean energy infrastructure.<sup>1480</sup>

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<sup>1474</sup> Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman Meets with Ukraine's Minister of Energy German Galushchenko, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-02-2024-deputy-administrator-coleman-meets-ukraine-minister-energy-galushchenko>

<sup>1475</sup> U.S., India, and Tanzania Partner to Accelerate Renewable Energy Development in Tanzania, United States Embassy in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) 17 July 2024. Access Date 19 December 2024. <https://tz.usembassy.gov/u-s-india-and-tanzania-partner-to-accelerate-renewable-energy-development-in-tanzania/>

<sup>1476</sup> United States and Ghana Launch Africa's First Nuclear Energy Training Hub, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/united-states-and-ghana-launch-africas-first-nuclear-energy-training-hub>

<sup>1477</sup> FACT SHEET: Following Through on the U.S.- Pacific Islands Partnership 53<sup>rd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders Meeting in Nuku'alofa, Tonga August 26-30, 2024, The White House (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/08/27/fact-sheet-following-through-on-the-u-s-pacific-islands-partnership-53rd-pacific-islands-forum-pif-leaders-meeting-in-nukualofa-tonga-august-26-30-2024/>

<sup>1478</sup> U.S.-Nigeria Strategic Energy Dialogue Highlights Key Bilateral Cooperation, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-nigeria-strategic-energy-dialogue-highlights-key-bilateral-cooperation/>

<sup>1479</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Releases U.S. Strategy on Global Development, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/18/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-releases-u-s-strategy-on-global-development/>

<sup>1480</sup> U.S.-UAE Joint Leaders' Statement Dynamic Strategic Partners, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/23/u-s-uae-joint-leaders-statement-dynamic-strategic-partners/>

On 23 September 2024, USAID Counselor Clinton White and Development Finance Corporation Deputy Chief Executive Officer Nisha Biswal hosted a discussion of clean energy supply chains in Africa.<sup>1481</sup> The discussion highlighted the importance of continued aid in the clean energy transition and reaffirmed the US' commitment to clean energy in developing countries.

On 10 October 2024, Ambassador to Namibia Randy Berry and Namibian Minister of Mines and Energy Tom Alweendo signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning the clean energy sector.<sup>1482</sup> The MoU aims to expand clean energy initiative impact.

On 16 October 2024, the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) announced it would host a delegation of South African leaders and demonstrate the US's cutting-edge clean energy technology.<sup>1483</sup> The delegation aims to build connections between South African leaders and US companies to promote South Africa's clean energy transition.

On 12 November 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced USD10 million for the Investment Mobilization Collaboration Alliance's third funding window through Power Africa, focusing on clean energy and critical mineral projects in Africa.<sup>1484</sup>

On 12 November 2024, the USTDA announced several new funding commitments at the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1485</sup> These commitments included a feasibility study grant to Côte d'Ivoire to assist in the integration of clean energy technologies into the power grid.

On 17 November 2024, the Biden-Harris administration announced Department of Energy support for Brazil's Energies of the Amazon Program through renewable grid deployment assessments in an effort to deliver clean and reliable energy.<sup>1486</sup>

On 19 November 2024, President Biden and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva announced a new Brazil-US Partnership that aims to support clean energy production, technology and the decarbonization of industrial sectors.<sup>1487</sup>

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<sup>1481</sup> USAID and DFC Host Dialogue on Clean Energy Supply Chains as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development in Africa, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-24-2024-usaid-and-dfc-host-dialogue-clean-energy-supply-chains-catalyst-sustainable-development-africa>

<sup>1482</sup> Joint Media Release on the Signing of the MOU on Clean Energy between the Namibia and the U.S., United States Embassy in Namibia (Windhoek) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://na.usembassy.gov/joint-media-release-on-the-signing-of-the-mou-on-clean-energy-between-the-namibia-and-the-u-s/>

<sup>1483</sup> USTDA Connects South African Cities with Advanced Grid Technologies, United States Trade and Development Agency (Arlington) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.ustda.gov/ustda-connects-south-african-cities-with-advanced-grid-technologies/>

<sup>1484</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Leverages Historic U.S. Climate Leadership at Home and Abroad to Urge Countries to Accelerate Global Climate Action at the 29th U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/12/fact-sheet-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-leverages-historic-u-s-climate-leadership-at-home-and-abroad-to-urge-countries-to-accelerate-global-climate-action-at-the-29th-u-n-climate-change-con/>

<sup>1485</sup> USTDA Announces New Funding Commitments at COP29, United States Trade and Development Agency (Arlington) 12 November 2024. Access Date 20 December 2024. <https://ustda.gov/ustda-announces-new-funding-commitments-at-cop29/>

<sup>1486</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Marks Historic Climate Legacy with Trip to Brazil's Amazon Rainforest, The White House (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/17/fact-sheet-president-biden-marks-historic-climate-legacy-with-trip-to-brazils-amazon-rainforest/>

<sup>1487</sup> New Brazil-U.S. Partnership for the Energy Transition, The White House (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/19/fact-sheet-new-brazil-u-s-partnership-for-the-energy-transition/>



On 19 November 2024, the United States announced a new contribution of USD325 million to the Clean Technology fund at the G20 summit alongside a call to action by President Biden for leaders to invest in the global clean energy transition.<sup>1488</sup>

On 24 November 2024, the parties to COP29 agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1489</sup>

On 3 December 2024, President Biden announced an additional USD560 million investment through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment in new and existing projects across the Lobito Trans-Africa Corridor towards projects in areas including, but not limited to, the clean energy transition.<sup>1490</sup> This contribution will support local endeavours promoting the clean energy transition in multiple African Countries along the Lobito Trans-Africa Corridor.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump announced a withdrawal from all commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the revocation of all policies under or relating to the U.S. International Climate Finance Plan and committed to monetary restraint on all future actions relating to foreign energy policy.<sup>1491</sup> This order will dismantle existing and planned policies and financing relating to the clean energy transition in developing countries.

On 26 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the suspension of foreign aid through the Department of State and USAID.<sup>1492</sup> Programs suspended include programs aimed at the provision of clean energy in Africa.

On 27 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio withdrew outstanding American pledges to the Green Climate Fund, canceling USD4 billion in US pledges.<sup>1493</sup> Since 2010, the Green Climate Fund has approved USD16 billion worth of projects, allocating funding projects including clean energy in developing countries.

On 13 February 2025, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi announced recommitments to the U.S.-India Energy Security Partnership, emphasizing investments in oil and gas infrastructure and the realization of the U.S.-India 123 Civil Nuclear Agreement.<sup>1494</sup> This action furthers some pillars of the commitment but contradicts the commitments focus on the clean energy transition by promoting fossil fuels in developing countries.

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<sup>1488</sup> FACT SHEET: Continuing a Legacy of Leadership at the G20, The White House (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/19/fact-sheet-continuing-a-legacy-of-leadership-at-the-g20/>

<sup>1489</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1490</sup> FACT SHEET: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment in the Lobito Trans-Africa Corridor, The White House (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 9 January 2025. <https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/12/03/fact-sheet-partnership-for-global-infrastructure-and-investment-in-the-lobito-trans-africa-corridor/>

<sup>1491</sup> PUTTING AMERICA FIRST IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 6 February 2025 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/putting-america-first-in-international-environmental-agreements/>

<sup>1492</sup> Implementing the President's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://www.state.gov/implementing-the-presidents-executive-order-on-reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>1493</sup> Trump rescinds \$4B in US pledges for UN climate fund, Politico (Washington D.C.) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.politico.eu/article/donald-trump-rescind-4-billion-us-pledge-un-climate-fund/>

<sup>1494</sup> UNITED STATES – INDIA JOINT LEADERS' STATEMENT, The White House (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-india-joint-leaders-statement/>

On 23 April 2025, the United States Department of Governmental Efficiency suspended all Millennium Challenge Corporation contracts.<sup>1495</sup> The suspension of these contracts, which, among other initiatives, provided financing for infrastructure projects, undermines the United States' commitment to providing clean energy infrastructure to developing countries.

The United States has partially complied with their commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. The United State demonstrated strong action towards the commitment criteria through financial investments and trade cooperation across Ukraine, Brazil, South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Ghana, India, and Tanzania among others. Despite strong initial policy action in promoting clean, modern, sustainable and reliable energy across the Indo-Pacific, Southeast Asia, the Amazon region and Africa, recent policy action has worked to nullify previous policy commitments. The withdrawal from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, revocation of the U.S. International Climate Finance Plan, and nullification of commitments to monetary restraint regarding foreign energy policy undermine previous promises of mid to long term fiscal investments regarding the clean energy transition in developing countries. Recent actions further eliminate assurance in the continuation of previous commitments regarding the clean energy in developing countries. Overall, the reversal of past policy actions places the United States under the full compliance threshold. Ongoing analysis of cancelled government contracts may warrant a downgrade to non-compliance.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Chan*

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

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

On 29 June 2024, the European Union provided EUR30 million in grants and EUR271 million in loans to Egypt to reduce pollution, towards decarbonization and to enhance energy efficiency as part of the Green Sustainable Industry programme.<sup>1496</sup>

On 3 July 2024, Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson spoke in Argentina, highlighting the European Commission's support and plans towards creating and using renewable hydrogen alongside developing closer connections between Argentina-EU businesses for hydrogen.<sup>1497</sup>

On 15 July 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its partnership with Jordan, highlighting its priority for deeper collaboration on a green energy transition.<sup>1498</sup>

On 11 September 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) each announced EUR100 million in funding for the DBSA's Embedded Generation Investment

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<sup>1495</sup> DOGE preps to shutter Millennium Challenge Corporation, The Hill (Washington D.C.) 23 April 2024. Access Date: 2 May 2025. <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5263791-millennium-challenge-corporation-cuts/>

<sup>1496</sup> The EU and Egypt team up to mobilise private sector investments at Investment Conference and sign a Memorandum of Understanding underpinning €1 billion in macro-financial assistance for Egypt, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3481](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3481)

<sup>1497</sup> Keynote speech by Commissioner Simson at an event on the EU's energy transition and cooperation with Argentina on energy matters 'Dialogue on Energy Transition and Green Hydrogen', European Commission (Bueno Aires) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH\\_24\\_3641](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_24_3641)

<sup>1498</sup> Joint press statement – European Union and Jordan confirm ever stronger partnership at their 15th Association Council, European Council (Brussels) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/joint-press-statement-european-union-and-jordan-confirm-ever-stronger-partnership-at-their-15th-association-council/>

Programme for small and medium sized renewable energy projects in South Africa.<sup>1499</sup> This initiative will mainly support solar photovoltaic and onshore wind projects in the private sector to produce 384 megawatts of renewable electricity.

On 12 September 2024, the EIB and FirstRand Bank Ltd. each announced EUR200 million in funding for renewable energy including solar photovoltaic and wind energy and energy efficiency projects in South Africa.<sup>1500</sup> This initiative aims to decrease South Africa's reliance on fossil fuels, reduce carbon emissions and increase renewable energy in the country.

On 9 October 2024, the European Commission adopted a EUR1.8 billion economic growth plan for Moldova.<sup>1501</sup> The plan supports energy security by constructing a new electricity powerline and energy subsidies.

On 10 October 2024, the EIB, Enel and the Italian Export Credit Agency announced up to USD300 million in funding for Enel Colombia's power grids and renewable energy generation projects.<sup>1502</sup> This funding will be used to develop two solar photovoltaic plants with a capacity of approximately 486 megawatts to support individuals in the Bogotá Region.

On 16 November 2024, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the Scaling up Renewables in Africa campaign.<sup>1503</sup> The campaign aims to promote and support the clean energy transition in Africa.

On 24 November 2024, the parties to the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to increase global climate financing for developing countries to USD1.3 trillion per year from all sources including USD300 billion with public financing.<sup>1504</sup>

On 20 December 2024, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships Jozef Sikela went on his first official mission to Mauritania.<sup>1505</sup> While in Mauritania, Commissioner Sikela signed an agreement providing EUR100 billion in budget support as part of a broader EUR210 billion package to improve Mauritania's clean energy sector.

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<sup>1499</sup> EIB and Development Bank of Southern Africa increase support for private sector renewable energy to € 600 million/ ZAR 11.9 billion, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-329-eib-and-development-bank-of-southern-africa-increase-support-for-private-sector-renewable-energy-to-eur-600-million-zar-11-9-billion>

<sup>1500</sup> South Africa: EIB and FirstRand Bank boost renewable energy investments with € 400 million/ZAR 7.9 billion initiative, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-336-eib-and-firststrand-bank-boost-renewable-energy-investments-in-south-africa-with-eur-400-million-zar-7-9-billion-initiative>

<sup>1501</sup> Commission adopts 1.8 billion support package to underpin Moldova's economic growth plan on its path to the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5124](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5124)

<sup>1502</sup> Colombia: EIB Global provides Enel Colombia with \$300 million loan for renewable energy generation and power grid improvements, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-371-eib-global-provides-enel-colombia-with-usd300-million-loan-for-renewable-energy-generation-and-power-grid-improvements>

<sup>1503</sup> European Commission and South Africa launch the Scaling up Renewables in Africa campaign, European Commission (Brussels) 16 November 2024. Access Date 20 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/it/ip\\_24\\_5881](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/it/ip_24_5881)

<sup>1504</sup> COP29- La France regrette un accord global manquant d'ambition, Ministère Territoires Écologie Logement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/cop29-france-regrette-accord-global-manquant-dambition>

<sup>1505</sup> First official Mission of EU Commissioner Sikela develops mutually beneficial cooperation with Mauritania, European Commission (Brussels) 20 December 2025. Access Date: 11 March 2025. [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/first-official-mission-eu-commissioner-sikela-develops-mutually-beneficial-cooperation-mauritania-2024-12\\_20\\_en](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/first-official-mission-eu-commissioner-sikela-develops-mutually-beneficial-cooperation-mauritania-2024-12_20_en)

On 12 February 2025, the EU announced the “EU Energy Package for Malawi.”<sup>1506</sup> The energy package outlines the EU’s planned actions and reaffirms its commitment to improving Malawi’s energy sector through hard investments and targeted programs.

On 3 March 2025, President of the European Council António Costa announced EUR1.9 billion to Moldova as part of the Moldova Growth Plan.<sup>1507</sup> This will include a prefinancing package of around EUR300 million, to be disbursed by the end of April. Costa emphasized the plan’s focus on affordable and reliable energy for Moldovans in the face of Russian “energy blackmail.”

On 13 March 2025, the European Union announced a global investment package worth EUR4.7 billion.<sup>1508</sup> This investment aims to support the Just Energy Transition by developing critical raw materials, safe and sustainable low-carbon hydrogen value chains and energy infrastructure.

On 4 April 2025, European Commission President Von Der Leyen announced EUR12 billion for the Central Asian region under the Global Getaway initiative.<sup>1509</sup> This measure aims to enhance sustainable transportation, including developing the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor. In addition, the European Commission is working on promoting sustainable water management and agriculture, the energy transition and the development of a green economy.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in developing countries, particularly in Africa. The European Union affirmed support for clean, sustainable and modern energy in developing countries, including financial investment in Africa. It committed to funding affordable and reliable energy through infrastructure and training initiatives.

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

*Analyst: Ela Akkus*

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<sup>1506</sup> The European Union Investments into the Malawi Energy Sector, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Malawi (Lilongwe). 12 February 2024. Access Date: 11 March 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/european-union-investments-malawi-energy-sector\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/european-union-investments-malawi-energy-sector_en)

<sup>1507</sup> Remarks by President António Costa at the press conference following the meeting with President the Republic of Moldova Maia Sandu, European Council (Chişinău) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/03/remarks-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-press-conference-following-the-meeting-with-president-of-moldova-maia-sandu/>

<sup>1508</sup> EU-South Africa Summit, European Council (Cape Town) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2025/03/13/>

<sup>1509</sup> Remarks by President António Costa at the joint doorstep with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen following the first EU-Central Asia summit, European Council (Samarkand) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/04/04/remarks-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-joint-doorstep-with-european-commission-president-ursula-von-der-leyen-following-the-first-eu-central-asia-summit/>

## 7. Energy: Decarbonizing the Power Sector

“We reaffirm our commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

Since the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), reducing greenhouse gas emissions has been discussed internationally as a way to combat climate change.<sup>1510</sup> The 2015 Paris Agreement set out a global framework to ideally limit the global temperature increase to 2°C, striving for 1.5°C, calling for net-zero economies.<sup>1511</sup> Among other measures to reach the target of the Paris Agreement, it is imperative that countries overcome the hurdle of decarbonizing their energy sector to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from electricity-generating facilities. The G7 has explored and supported a diversified energy mix since its early summits.

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, the G7 first recognized the importance of developing clean technology.<sup>1512</sup> This summit was the first to acknowledge the pressing need to stabilize the carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere and establish principled and normative directions for dealing with climate change for future summits.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged the importance of international cooperation to develop new technologies and methods to complement energy conservation in the reduction of carbon emissions.<sup>1513</sup> Leaders supported accelerated scientific and economic research on potential responses to climate change in developing and developed countries.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G7 leaders discussed renewable energy and its ability to mitigate climate change and air pollution.<sup>1514</sup> Leaders also discussed the findings of the G8 Environment Ministers’ Meeting in Otsu and Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and committed to investigating renewable energy barriers and solutions in developing countries as a way to combat pollution and climate change.

<sup>1510</sup> What is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change?, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change>

<sup>1511</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/paris-agreement>

<sup>1512</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1513</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

<sup>1514</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

At the 2001 Environment Ministerial Meeting in Trieste, G8 Environment Ministers promoted timely action to address climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>1515</sup> Ministers committed to promoting the reduction of emissions by strengthening and implementing national programs and promoting renewable energies.

At the 2002 Environment Ministerial Meeting in Banff, G8 Environment Ministers committed to working together with governments and other partners to take effective actions in the field of energy.<sup>1516</sup> These actions included increasing energy efficiency, improving energy resources, developing new technologies and promoting the use of renewable energy sources in all countries.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders committed to tackling climate change and promoting clean energy.<sup>1517</sup> Leaders also committed to taking measures to develop markets for clean energy technologies to increase their availability in developing nations and to help vulnerable communities adapt to the impact of climate change.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders discussed renewable energy's role in the global green recovery and CO2 reduction.<sup>1518</sup> Leaders discussed barriers to combat climate change and incorporated renewable energy into action-based discussions on technology-driven paths to tackle climate change.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed the need to commit to low carbon and renewable energies.<sup>1519</sup> Leaders also called on the International Energy Agency (IEA) to develop an International Platform for low-carbon technologies for the purpose of accelerating their development and deployment.

At the 2014 Energy Ministerial Meeting in Rome, G7 Energy Ministers committed to promoting the use of low carbon technologies such as renewable energies.<sup>1520</sup> Ministers also committed to working with institutions such as the International Renewable Energy Agency and international financial institutions to supply technical assistance for renewable energies in Ukraine and other European nations.

At the 2015 Energy Ministerial Meeting in Hamburg, G7 Energy Ministers committed to supporting the use of renewable energy sources.<sup>1521</sup> Ministers mentioned that their goal with the usage of renewable energy sources is to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions in their energy systems but also acknowledged that fossil fuels “will remain an important part of the energy mix for some time.”

At the 2016 Energy Ministerial Meeting in Fukuoka, G7 Energy Ministers committed to investing in energy sectors including renewable energy sources and other low carbon technologies to help to build economic growth from carbon emissions.<sup>1522</sup> Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing cooperation in energy

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<sup>1515</sup> G8 Environment Ministers Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 March. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2001-environment.html>

<sup>1516</sup> Banff Ministerial Statement on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Information Centre (Toronto) 14 April 2002.

Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/020415.html>

<sup>1517</sup> Chairs' Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>1518</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

<sup>1519</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>1520</sup> Rome G7 Energy Initiative for Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 2014. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/140506-rome.html>

<sup>1521</sup> G7 Hamburg Initiative for Sustainable Energy Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 May 2015. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/150512-hamburg.html>

<sup>1522</sup> G7 Kitakyushu Energy Ministerial Meeting Kitakyushu Initiative on Energy Security for Global Growth Joint Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/160502-statement.html>

technology innovation, research, development and deployment in order to accelerate technological progress towards clean energy including renewable energy sources.

At the 2018 Energy Ministers' Meeting in Halifax, G7 Energy Ministers highlighted their progress in the development and deployment of renewable energy including solar and wind power.<sup>1523</sup> This progress was highlighted in the context of the need to reduce emissions and improve the sustainability of energy systems.

At the 2019 Energy Ministers' Meeting in Metz, G7 Energy Ministers committed to promoting highly efficient technologies, including renewable energies, and the best standard policies in order to increase energy efficiency.<sup>1524</sup> Ministers emphasized the importance of energy efficiency for a low emission global economy that sustainably uses natural resources.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to accelerating the deployment of zero emissions energy and reducing wasteful consumption.<sup>1525</sup> The push for renewable energy alternatives was also a way to “build back better” from the Covid-19 pandemic, as per the roadmap designed by the International Energy Agency and to adhere to the targets from the Paris Agreement.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders first made this commitment to decarbonize the power sector fully or predominantly by 2035.<sup>1526</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to decarbonize the power sector fully or predominantly by 2035.<sup>1527</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed to “a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.”<sup>1528</sup>

## **Commitment Features**

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Fully” is understood to mean “in a full manner or degree: completely.”<sup>1529</sup>

“Predominantly” is understood to mean “for the most part: mainly.”<sup>1530</sup>

“Decarbonize” is understood to mean to “reduce the levels of carbon emission.”<sup>1531</sup> In the context of this commitment, decarbonised refers to means of producing, storing, and using energy that are less carbon-intensive than fossil fuels, such as renewable energies.

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<sup>1523</sup> Chair's Summary: G7 Energy Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 September 2018. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/energy/2018-energy.html>

<sup>1524</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2019-environment.html>

<sup>1525</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, The White House (Washington D.C.) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/13/carbis-bay-g7-summit-communique/>

<sup>1526</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>1527</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>1528</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>1529</sup> Fully, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/fully>

<sup>1530</sup> Predominantly, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/predominantly>

<sup>1531</sup> Decarbonize, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 21 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/decarbonize>

“Power sector” is understood to mean “a sector that consists of electricity only and combined heat and power plants whose primary business is to sell electricity, or electricity and heat, to the public.”<sup>1532</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action to decarbonize the power sector. Strong actions to decarbonize the power sector include fiscal supports including funds, subsidies, tax credits, grants, or loans for research and development, scale up of manufacturing processes, investment in infrastructure such as grid modernization and renewable or nuclear electricity production. Other strong actions include but are not limited to legislation advancing clean electricity standards, net-zero targets, phase-out of fossil fuel-based electricity production including coal, diesel, and natural gas. Note that only actions that contribute to the decarbonization of G7 members power sectors will contribute to compliance.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take weak action to decarbonize the power sector. Weaker actions include verbal statements of support, diplomatic meetings, and organization of forums that advance the commitment.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that take no action to decarbonize the power sector.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken no action to decarbonize the power sector.
0	The G7 member has taken weak action to decarbonize the power sector.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action to decarbonize the power sector.

*Compliance Director: Eliana Tiritilli*  
*Lead Analyst: Quanita Khan*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 21 June 2024, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson and Minister of National Revenue Marie-Claude Bibeau announced four new Investment Tax Credit (ITC) for clean technology projects.<sup>1533</sup> The Clean Technology ITC, the Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage ITC, the Clean Technology Manufacturing ITC and the Clean Hydrogen ITC aim to incentivize private-sector clean technology investment by reducing associated costs.

On 2 July 2024, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Sean Fraser announced that the Canadian government will invest CAD9.7 million to modernize the electrical grid in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.<sup>1534</sup> The investment, facilitated through the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program (SREP), seeks to improve the grid’s resilience and efficiency, incorporate low-carbon energy sources and support Antigonish’s net-zero carbon emissions target.

<sup>1532</sup> Electric Power Sector, Energy Information Administration (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.eia.gov/tools/glossary/index.php?id=Electric%20power%20sector>

<sup>1533</sup> Government of Canada Launches the First Clean Economy Investment Tax Credits, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-launches-the-first-clean-economy-investment-tax-credits.html>

<sup>1534</sup> Government of Canada Invests in Antigonish’s Electrical Grid Modernization to Support Goal of 100% Clean Energy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-antigonishs-electrical-grid-modernization-to-support-goal-of-100-clean-energy.html>



On 3 July 2024, Minister of Northern Affairs and Minister Responsible for Prairies Economic Development and the Northern Economic Development Agency Dan Vandal announced that the Canada Coal Transition Initiative and its Infrastructure Fund will invest approximately CAD39.4 million for 10 infrastructure projects for municipalities in Alberta.<sup>1535</sup> The disbursement aims to support municipalities in their transition away from coal-powered energy by stimulating their local economies.

On 3 July 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced a CAD11 million investment into clean hydrogen and small modular reactor research.<sup>1536</sup> The investment seeks to support the development of clean hydrogen and nuclear energy as viable low- and ultra-low carbon energy alternatives.

On 15 July 2024, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced that Canada's Strategic Innovation Fund will invest CAD30 million to support Hitachi Energy Canada's high-voltage direct current (HVDC) and transformer test laboratory projects.<sup>1537</sup> The investment aims to economize electricity use through innovations in power transformer and HVDC transmission technology, facilitating the integration of low-carbon energy sources into power grids.

On 26 July 2024, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Ya'ara Saks announced that the government would invest CAD5 million to support the University of Toronto in developing a Grid Modernization Centre.<sup>1538</sup> Through centralizing resources and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships that encourage clean energy innovations, the Centre aims to modernize Canada's electrical grid and make low-carbon energy sources more prevalent.

On 29 July 2024, Minister Vandal announced CAD19 million in funding for renewable energy projects in Nunavut.<sup>1539</sup> Investments in solar and wind energy aim to support the territory's clean transition away from diesel as a primary energy source.

On 30 July 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced CAD192 million in funding for clean electricity projects in Nova Scotia through the SREP program.<sup>1540</sup> The supported projects, which include grid modernizations and wind farms, aim to both economize existing energy consumption and develop new low-carbon energy sources.

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<sup>1535</sup> Minister Vandal announces investments to support infrastructure and economic development projects across Alberta, Prairies Economic Development Canada (Wabamun) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2024/07/minister-vandal-announces-investments-to-support-infrastructure-and-economic-development-projects-across-alberta.html>

<sup>1536</sup> Government of Canada Announces \$11 Million to Advance Small Modular Reactor Research and Hydrogen Technologies to Support Clean Energy Development, Natural Resources Canada (Calgary) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-announces-11-million-to-advance-small-modular-reactor-research-and-hydrogen-technologies-to-support-clean-energy-development.html>

<sup>1537</sup> Government of Canada invests in project to secure electrical grids, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Varenes) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-project-to-secure-electrical-grids.html>

<sup>1538</sup> First-in-Canada Centre will support businesses and organizations as they accelerate clean technology development, Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (Toronto) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2024/07/first-in-canada-centre-will-support-businesses-and-organizations-as-they-accelerate-clean-technology-development.html>

<sup>1539</sup> Minister Vandal announces investments in clean energy projects to help reduce diesel use in Nunavut, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (Rankin Inlet) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-vandal-announces-investments-in-clean-energy-projects-to-help-reduce-diesel-use-in-nunavut.html>

<sup>1540</sup> Government of Canada Expands Clean, Reliable and Affordable Electricity in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-expands-clean-reliable-and-affordable-electricity-in-nova-scotia.html>

On 31 July 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced that the SREP program will mobilize CAD23.7 million in funding to expand renewable capacity in Edmonton, Alberta's Blatchford neighbourhood.<sup>1541</sup>

On 6 September 2024, the Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Ministry announced a joint federal, provincial and local investment of over CAD89 million into various clean energy projects in British Columbia.<sup>1542</sup> The suite of projects include clean energy-friendly building retrofits, infrastructure developments such as a renewable energy plant to crowd-out natural gas and improvements to North Vancouver's electrical service capacities.

On 15 September 2024, Minister Fraser announced CAD9.25 million through the Energy Innovation Program for net-zero technologies research in Atlantic Canada.<sup>1543</sup> Funding will support various projects led by Net Zero Atlantic, including clean technology research and development and an assessment of the viability of offshore wind resources in Atlantic Canada as a low-carbon energy source.

On 16 September 2024, Minister Wilkinson and Minister Fraser released a joint statement on clean energy development with Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston and Nova Scotia Natural Resources Minister Tory Rushton.<sup>1544</sup> In this statement, the ministers note that the Canadian Infrastructure Bank will cooperate with Nova Scotia's Green Choice Program, which incentivizes private-sector adoption of low-carbon energy sources.

On 3 October 2024, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency announced CAD100,000 in funding for L'nu Energy, a business operating in Prince Edward Island that develops and manages renewable energy projects.<sup>1545</sup> The funding aims to support L'nu Energy's expansion by facilitating investment into new equipment.

On 3 October 2024, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources announced a total investment of CAD13.6 million into various small nuclear reactor research and development projects.<sup>1546</sup> The investment aims to improve the viability of nuclear energy as a low-carbon alternative energy source.

On 9 October 2024, Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland announced a series of measures that aim to promote investment in Canada's clean technology sector.<sup>1547</sup> Specifically, Minister Freeland announced new sustainable

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<sup>1541</sup> Government of Canada Announces \$23.7 Million in Affordable and Clean Energy Support for Blatchford, a Neighbourhood in Edmonton, Natural Resources (Edmonton) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-announces-237-million-in-affordable-and-clean-energy-support-for-blatchford-a-neighbourhood-in-edmonton.html>

<sup>1542</sup> More than \$89 million invested in clean economy infrastructure projects across British Columbia, Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Vancouver) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/09/more-than-89-million-invested-in-clean-economy-infrastructure-projects-across-british-columbia.html>

<sup>1543</sup> Canada Invests in Net Zero Atlantic to Create Jobs and Support Clean Energy for Atlantic Canadians, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/09/canada-invests-in-net-zero-atlantic-to-create-jobs-and-support-clean-energy-for-atlantic-canadians.html>

<sup>1544</sup> Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Secure and Non-Emitting Electricity in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/09/ensuring-access-to-affordable-reliable-secure-and-non-emitting-electricity-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>1545</sup> Supporting clean tech innovation in First Nations communities, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Lennox Island) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlantic-canada-opportunities/news/2024/10/supporting-clean-tech-innovation-in-first-nations-communities.html>

<sup>1546</sup> Government of Canada Advances Small Modular Reactor Research and Development With \$13.6-Million Investment, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-advances-small-modular-reactor-research-and-development-with-136-million-investment.html>

<sup>1547</sup> Government advances Made-in-Canada sustainable investment guidelines and mandatory climate disclosures to accelerate progress to net-zero emissions by 2050, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/10/government-advances-made-in-canada-sustainable-investment-guidelines-and-mandatory-climate-disclosures-to-accelerate-progress-to-net-zero-emissions.html>

investment guidelines for clean energy technologies that are made in Canada, as well as sharing the government's intent to mandate climate-related financial disclosures for large corporations. The measures aim to make corporate climate-related financing more transparent, and to guide investment into Canadian clean energy capital.

On 10 October 2024, the Department of Finance announced the re-opening of a ten-year "green bond."<sup>1548</sup> The green bond issuance aims to raise an additional CAD2 billion for reinvestment into nature conservation and the green economy, including low-carbon energy and infrastructure.

On 10 October 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced that SREP will offer up to CAD500 million through its Utilities Support Stream to organizations looking to either economize their electrical transmission or modernize their grids with renewable energies.<sup>1549</sup> The new Utilities Support offering allows organizations to better accommodate low-carbon energy alternatives.

On 15 October 2024, Public Services and Procurement Canada announced the purchase of CAD73 million worth of low-carbon energy inflows to federal government-owned buildings.<sup>1550</sup> The contracts support Canada's Greening Government Strategy and promotes low-carbon energy as a viable alternative.

On 6 November 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced CAD660,000 in SREP funding for the Labrador West Transmission Study.<sup>1551</sup> The new funding aims to increase the prevalence of low-carbon energy sources, namely hydroelectricity and wind, in Newfoundland and Labrador.

On 26 November 2024, Natural Resources Canada announced a CAD2 million investment for geothermal energy development in the Northwest Territories (NWT).<sup>1552</sup> The funding aims to facilitate a just clean energy transition for communities in NWT, particularly through promoting geothermal energy as a low-carbon alternative.

On 27 November 2024, Minister Wilkinson opened a grant competition promote connectivity and open dialogue between offshore wind developments and citizens in coastal communities.<sup>1553</sup> The grants aim to ensure that the offshore wind energy industry is accountable, supporting its viability as a low-carbon energy source in Atlantic Canada.

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<sup>1548</sup> Canada successfully re-opens 10-year green bond to raise an additional \$2 billion, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/10/canada-successfully-re-opens-10-year-green-bond-to-raise-an-additional-2-billion.html>

<sup>1549</sup> The Government of Canada Announces New Intake for Clean Electricity Program With \$500 Million in Additional Funding, Natural Resources Canada (Toronto) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/10/the-government-of-canada-announces-new-intake-for-clean-electricity-program-with-500-million-in-additional-funding.html>

<sup>1550</sup> Government of Canada continues progress on greening operations and supporting clean electricity infrastructure, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Calgary) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-continues-progress-on-greening-operations-and-supporting-clean-electricity-infrastructure.html>

<sup>1551</sup> Canada Invests in Clean Energy and Critical Minerals at Mineral Resources Review 2024 Conference, Natural Resources Canada (St. John's) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/11/canada-invests-in-clean-energy-and-critical-minerals-at-mineral-resources-review-2024-conference.html>

<sup>1552</sup> The Government of Canada Invests in Geothermal Energy in Northern Canada, Natural Resources Canada (Yellowknife) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/11/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-geothermal-energy-in-northern-canada.html>

<sup>1553</sup> The Government of Canada Launches Call for Proposals for the Offshore Wind Indigenous and Coastal Communities Grant Funding, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/11/the-government-of-canada-launches-call-for-proposals-for-the-offshore-wind-indigenous-and-coastal-communities-grant-funding.html>

On 5 December 2024, Minister Wilkinson announced that the federal government will invest CAD265 million into clean electricity projects in Saskatchewan.<sup>1554</sup> The investments support a mix of public and private actors in modernizing Saskatchewan's electrical grid and expanding low-carbon energy capacities.

On 8 December 2024, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Public Safety and Democratic Institutions Dominic LeBlanc announced a series of investments, totalling over CAD1 billion, into New Brunswick's clean energy economy.<sup>1555</sup> Particular investments include support for the Belledune Generating Station's transition from coal to biomass, a CAD25 million SREP investment into the Neweg Energy wind project and up to CAD1 billion for Indigenous-led wind developments.

On 13 December 2024, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources announced that the government will mobilize CAD152 million in SREP funding for various clean electricity projects in Alberta.<sup>1556</sup> The projects aim to support upgrades to Alberta's renewable energy infrastructure, making low-carbon energy sources such as solar and wind power more viable.

On 16 January 2025, Minister for Prairies Economic Development Terry Duguid announced CAD718,400 in funding for Saskatoon's Business Association to educate businesses on decarbonization efforts.<sup>1557</sup> The funding seeks to promote sustainable business practices and advocate for decarbonization as a competitive advantage.

On 31 January 2025, the Government of Canada and the Government of Nova Scotia announced the coming into force of Bill C-49 and Bill 741.<sup>1558</sup> These bills amend the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act to allow offshore renewable energy development.

On 5 February 2025, Minister of Transport and Internal Trade Anita Anand announced up to CAD25 million in funding to the Halifax Port Authority.<sup>1559</sup> This funding will accelerate the development of various green initiatives at the port, such as a hydrogen production facility and the electrification of port equipment.

On 6 February 2025, Minister Wilkinson and Quebec's Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Energy Christine Frechette and Quebec's Minister of Natural Resources and Forests Maité Blanchette Vézina announced the establishment of the Quebec-Canada Collaboration Table on Energy and Resources.<sup>1560</sup> The

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<sup>1554</sup> Powering Canada's Future: Federal measures helping build Saskatchewan's 21st century electricity grid, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Regina) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/12/powering-canadas-future-federal-measures-helping-build-saskatchewan-21st-century-electricity-grid.html>

<sup>1555</sup> Powering Canada's Future: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable and Clean Electricity in New Brunswick, Natural Resources Canada (Dieppe) 8 December 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/12/powering-canadas-future-ensuring-access-to-affordable-reliable-and-clean-electricity-in-new-brunswick.html>

<sup>1556</sup> Powering Canada's Future: More Renewable, Affordable and Reliable Power for Albertans, Natural Resources Canada (Calgary) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/12/powering-canadas-future-more-renewable-affordable-and-reliable-power-for-albertans.html>

<sup>1557</sup> Government of Canada supports decarbonization initiative to assist Saskatchewan businesses, Prairies Economic Development Canada (Saskatoon) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 28 January 2025 <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-supports-decarbonization-initiative-to-assist-saskatchewan-businesses.html>

<sup>1558</sup> Government of Canada and Nova Scotia Moving Forward to Seize the Enormous Economic Opportunities of Offshore Wind, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-and-nova-scotia-moving-forward-to-seize-the-enormous-economic-opportunities-of-offshore-wind.html>

<sup>1559</sup> The Government of Canada invests in port infrastructure for Atlantic Canada, Transport Canada (Halifax) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2025/02/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-port-infrastructure-for-atlantic-canada.html>

<sup>1560</sup> Governments of Canada and Quebec Launch Quebec-Canada Collaboration Table on Energy and Resources, Natural Resources Canada (Montreal) 6 February 2025. Access Date 27 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/governments-of-canada-and-quebec-launch-quebec-canada-collaboration-table-on-energy-and-resources.html>

Table aims to help facilitate the decarbonization of Quebec's economy and find areas of cooperation in the transition to a clean economy.

On 11 February 2025, Minister Anand announced up to CAD35.5 million in funding to projects in British Columbia to improve the carbon impact of port activities in the province.<sup>1561</sup> The funding will improve shore power capabilities reducing emissions from idling ships and increasing the use of renewables in port operations.

On 12 February 2025, Parliamentary Secretary Marc G. Serré, on behalf of Minister Wilkinson, announced CAD14.2 million in funding for several carbon capture research and development projects.<sup>1562</sup> These investments aim to reduce the cost of carbon capture and offset emissions and are funded through the EIP. This research applies to carbon capture for both the power sector and other potentially emitting energy production sectors.

On 13 February 2025, Minister Wilkinson announced Canada's membership in the Global Offshore Wind Alliance (GOWA), an international coalition to accelerate offshore wind uptake.<sup>1563</sup> GOWA will give Canada access to international and industry knowledge to accelerate offshore wind development, focusing on the maritime provinces.

On 24 February, 2025, Natural Resources Canada announced a contribution of CAD500,000 to the second phase of the Global Initiative for Transitioning Remote Communities to Renewable Energy in partnership with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).<sup>1564</sup> The funds will contribute to phase two activities, including developing case studies, conducting country level assessments and organizing workshops, and technical discussions aimed at developing renewable energy projects in remote communities.

On 5 March 2025, Minister Wilkinson announced up to CAD304 million over four years to finance the development of a new Canadian deuterium uranium (CANDU) reactor.<sup>1565</sup> The development, overseen by AtkinsRéalis, will fulfill the demand for safe, clean electricity and advance Canadian nuclear power research and development. Minister Wilkinson also announced CAD55 million in funding to support Ontario Power Generation's Darlington New Nuclear Project and CAD66 million in funding to support SaskPower's development of a small nuclear reactor.

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<sup>1561</sup> The Government of Canada is reducing emissions at British Columbia ports, Transport Canada (Victoria) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2025/02/the-government-of-canada-is-reducing-emissions-at-british-columbia-ports.html>

<sup>1562</sup> Canada Invests in Cutting-Edge Carbon Capture and Storage to Drive Clean Energy Innovation, Natural Resources Canada (Toronto) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/canada-invests-in-cutting-edge-carbon-capture-and-storage-to-drive-clean-energy-innovation0.html>

<sup>1563</sup> Government of Canada Joins Global Efforts to Accelerate the Deployment of Offshore Wind and Help Power Canada's Economy, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-joins-global-efforts-to-accelerate-the-deployment-of-offshore-wind-and-help-power-canadas-economy.html>

<sup>1564</sup> Canada Invests in Phase 2 of the Global Initiative on Transitioning Remote Communities to Renewable Energy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2025. Access Date 27 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/02/canada-invests-in-phase-2-of-the-global-initiative-on-transitioning-remote-communities-to-renewable-energy.html>

<sup>1565</sup> Canada Invests in the Next Generation of Canadian-Made, Clean, Affordable Nuclear Energy, Natural Resources Canada (Cambridge) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/canada-invests-in-the-next-generation-of-canadian-made-clean-affordable-nuclear-energy0.html>

On 6 March 2025, Member of Parliament Yasir Naqvi, on behalf of Minister Guilbeault, announced CAD1.6 million in funding to Carleton University through the Decarbonization Incentive Program.<sup>1566</sup> This funding will be used to replace a natural gas steam boiler with an electric boiler, cutting 2,900 tonnes of emissions in 2030.

On 13 March 2025, Member of Parliament Chad Collins, on behalf of Minister Wilkinson, announced a CAD10 million investment through the Greener Neighbourhoods Pilot Program (GNPP) to retrofit affordable housing units in Hamilton.<sup>1567</sup> These retrofits, which include rooftop solar and electric heat pumps, are expected to reduce per-unit greenhouse gas emissions by 90 per cent and energy usage by 61 per cent.

On 18 March 2025, Minister Wilkinson, alongside Minister of Indigenous Services Patty Hajdu and Minister of Crown–Indigenous relations and Northern Affairs Gary Anandasangaree, announced CAD11 million towards clean energy initiatives under Natural Resources Canada’s Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities program.<sup>1568</sup> This funding round focuses on indigenous communities, including building and expanding photovoltaic systems and heat pump installations.

On 21 March 2025, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Terry Duguid announced CAD150 million in funding towards 38 decarbonization incentive projects.<sup>1569</sup> This money was sourced from the Output-Based Pricing System and is slated to go towards a range of carbon-minimizing activities, such as replacing old gas boilers with electric ones and promoting direct carbon management technologies.

On 21 March 2025, Joanne Thompson, on behalf of Minister Wilkinson, announced CAD11.46 million through the GNPP to retrofit community housing units in St. John’s.<sup>1570</sup> The retrofits aim to reduce electricity usage and improve environmental impact. They include lighting and heating efficiency improvements, which are expected to reduce per-unit greenhouse gas emissions by more than 80 per cent.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. Through a series of investments, notably through various disbursements under the SREP program, Canada has supported both new clean energy development starts and measures to make existing electrical grids more efficient. Canada has also supported clean energy research and development, directly through funding research projects and indirectly through supporting dialogues and partnerships between clean energy industry stakeholders. Canada’s green bond issuance demonstrates an intent to continue these investments and further promote a decarbonized energy sector.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Eli Mueller and Luca Rampersad*

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<sup>1566</sup> Federal support helps deliver innovative clean energy upgrades at Carleton University, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2025/03/federal-support-helps-deliver-innovative-clean-energy-upgrades-at-carleton-university.html>

<sup>1567</sup> Canada Invests in Deep Energy Retrofits for Affordable Housing in Hamilton, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/canada-invests-in-deep-energy-retrofits-for-affordable-housing-in-hamilton.html>

<sup>1568</sup> Government of Canada Announces Funding for Clean and Reliable Energy in First Nations and Inuit Communities, Natural Resources Canada (Thunder Bay) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-clean-and-reliable-energy-in-first-nations-and-inuit-communities0.html>

<sup>1569</sup> Federal industrial carbon pricing delivers 38 new innovative and clean technology projects across Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2025/03/federal-industrial-carbon-pricing-delivers-38-new-innovative-and-clean-technology-projects-across-canada.html>

<sup>1570</sup> Canada Invests in Retrofits for Community Housing in St. John’s, Natural Resources Canada (St. John’s) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2025/03/canada-invests-in-retrofits-for-community-housing-in-st-johns.html>

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 7 July 2024, President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Gabriel Attal issued a decree outlining provisions to operationalize “transition bonds” for decarbonization.<sup>1571</sup> France will guarantee up to EUR5 billion in bonds for small and medium sized enterprises, with funds committed in the 2024 Budget.<sup>1572</sup> The decree outlines a list of eligible investments including those that contribute to power sector decarbonization.<sup>1573</sup>

On 25 October 2024, the Ministry of Ecological Transition announced that public consultation for the Third National Climate Change Adaptation Plan would occur from 25 October to 27 December 2024.<sup>1574</sup> Additionally, they announced that consultation for the Third National Low-Carbon Strategy and the Third Multi-Year Energy Program would occur from 4 November to 16 December 2024. These consultation periods help involve citizens in climate policy, including decarbonization, allowing them to express their views and policy choices in an open forum.

On 20 November 2024, the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission, along with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, updated the agreement on cooperation in fast reactor development.<sup>1575</sup> Established in 2014, this agreement outlined cooperation in atomic energy development in France and Japan. The update added Electricité de France and Japan Atomic Power Company as implementing agencies related to reactor cooperation.

On 16 December 2024, Minister for the Ecological Transition, Energy, the Climate and Risk Prevention Agnes Pannier-Runacher and the Council of the European Union approved conclusions on promoting geothermal energy.<sup>1576</sup> As a result of these conclusions the European Council called for faster deployment of geothermal energy across the EU, including in France, by adopting or adapting proposals for its promotion. These measures include easier access to permits and finance for geothermal projects.

On 19 December 2024, the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty announced a call for projects under the “DECARB IND 25” scheme as part of the France 2030 plan.<sup>1577</sup> The

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<sup>1571</sup> Décret n° 2024-752 du 7 juillet 2024 relatif à la garantie de l'Etat prévue à l'article 185 de la loi n° 2023-1322 du 29 décembre 2023 de finances pour 2024, Légifrance (Paris) 7 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000049894711>

<sup>1572</sup> Les Obligations transition, un nouvel outil de financement de la transition destiné aux PME et ETI, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de la Souveraineté Industrielle et Numérique (Paris) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/les-obligations-transition-un-nouvel-outil-de-financement-de-la-transition-destine-aux>

<sup>1573</sup> Décret n° 2024-752 du 7 juillet 2024 relatif à la garantie de l'Etat prévue à l'article 185 de la loi n° 2023-1322 du 29 décembre 2023 de finances pour 2024, Légifrance (Paris) 7 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000049894711>

<sup>1574</sup> Transition énergétique et climatique : les Français consultés, Ministères Aménagement du territoire Transition écologique (Paris) 25 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date 29 December 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/actualites/transition-energetique-climatique-francais-consultes>

<sup>1575</sup> フランス共和国と高速炉の開発の協力に係る合意文書を更新しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 20 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/11/20241120001/20241120001.html>

<sup>1576</sup> Geothermal energy: Council calls for faster deployment, European Council (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date 30 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/16/geothermal-energy-council-calls-for-faster-deployment/>

<sup>1577</sup> France 2030 : Relance de l'appel à projets « DECARB IND » pour décarboner l'industrie, Ministère de L'Économie, des Finances et de la Souveraineté Industrielle et Numérique (Paris) 19 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://presse.economie.gouv.fr/france-2030-relance-de-lappel-a-projets-decarb-ind-pour-decarboner-lindustrie/>

scheme will provide investment support for selected projects aimed at decarbonizing industrial activities by at least 1,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>/year.

On 6 February 2025, the Senate passed the 2025 budget.<sup>1578</sup> The budget outlines a plan to expand renewable electricity, targeting a 40 per cent share of total electricity production from renewable sources by 2030.<sup>1579</sup> To support this, it tracks installed capacity targets for onshore wind, offshore wind, and photovoltaic solar, with progress measured in megawatts. These technologies benefit from updated reference remunerations delivered through contractual mechanisms like feed-in tariffs and contracts for difference, ensuring predictable returns for investors. To maintain grid reliability, a new capacity certification system determines which production or storage units can participate in the capacity market. The scheme excludes installations emitting more than 550g of CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh (if commissioned after 2019) or older installations emitting over 350kg CO<sub>2</sub>/kW, reinforcing the shift to cleaner energy. Additionally, the budget allocates EUR3 million allocated to support renewable energy deployment and demand-side management in non-interconnected zones, such as island or remote grids.

France has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. France has taken strong action by providing finance for small business and through provisions in its 2025 budget including, updated feed-in tariffs for wind and solar, capacity targets rules, a scheme that excludes high-emission plants from grid certification, and allocates funding for renewables in remote areas.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Alisha Aslam and Ilya Goheen*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 26 June 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection expanded support for local renewable energy projects.<sup>1580</sup> Particularly, the Ministry raised the ceiling for per-project support to EUR300,000 and reduced the minimum size of an applicant company for grant eligibility (in number of employees). The decisions effectively increase both eligibility and potential disbursement for small-scale renewable energy projects.

On 28 June 2024, Development Minister Svenja Schulze concluded a cooperation agreement on climate and renewable energies with the government of Morocco.<sup>1581</sup> As part of this agreement, Germany will support the development of a green hydrogen industry in Morocco and facilitate electricity trading between Morocco and the European Union given Morocco's wind and solar conditions.

On 2 July 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection announced a special guarantee program to mitigate the financial risks involved with state projects to establish onshore converters and offshore

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<sup>1578</sup> French Parliament finally passes 2025 budget, Le Monde (Paris) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025.

[https://www.lemonde.fr/en/france/article/2025/02/06/french-parliament-finally-passes-2025-budget\\_6737858\\_7.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/france/article/2025/02/06/french-parliament-finally-passes-2025-budget_6737858_7.html)

<sup>1579</sup> PROJET DE LOI de finances pour 2025, Le Sénat (Paris) 6 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <http://senat.fr/leg/tas24-048.pdf>

<sup>1580</sup> BMWK verbessert Förderung von Bürgerenergieprojekten bei Windenergie an Land, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024.

<https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/06/20240626-bmwk-foerderung-buergerenergieprojekten-windenergie-an-land.html>

<sup>1581</sup> Deutschland und Marokko vereinbaren Allianz für Klima und Energie, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/06/20240628-deutschland-marokko-allianz-fuer-klima-und-energie.html>



converter platforms.<sup>1582</sup> The development of converters and converter platforms facilitate the further introduction of renewable and low-carbon energy sources into electrical grids.

On 23 August 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection released new guidelines for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) looking to benefit from government funding for climate-smart initiatives.<sup>1583</sup> The guidelines indicate a total of EUR3.3 billion in annual grant competitions available to SMEs between September 2024 and 2030.

On 29 August 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action produced an update to its Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP).<sup>1584</sup> In this update, the Ministry shared various new goals relating to the phase-in and phase-out of energy sources. By 2030, the Ministry aims for renewable energy to constitute 80 per cent of all energy production, and for coal-fired power to be completely phased out. The updated NECP also includes provisions to improve energy efficiency, including supports for energy storage technology development. Further, the NECP outlines plans for the development of new hydrogen-ready gas power plants and the modernization of electricity grids for renewable energy integration. Finally, the NECP notes the German government's use of market incentives to reduce emissions by supporting market integration for renewable energies, supporting research and development and carbon pricing.

On 4 September 2024, the Cabinet adopted a draft law that aims to promote geothermal energy as a low-carbon alternative to fossil fuels.<sup>1585</sup> The draft law expedites approval processes for new geothermal plant, heat pump and heat accumulator starts. Geothermal project proposals will also enjoy a higher level of priority when being considered for approval. The draft law also simplifies the approval process, by allowing online document filing for new geothermal project proposals.

On 8 October 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development jointly organized the first Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) alongside the United Nations Development Programme, the City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.<sup>1586</sup> The HAC provided stakeholders with the opportunity to explore avenues for cooperation on low-carbon energies. The HSC led to more than 15 joint agreements and declarations, including the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonization on Global Shipping and the Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation.

On 9 October 2024, the Cabinet adopted draft legislation implementing the European Union's Directive 2023/2413 and instituting new policies to promote the development of low-carbon energy sources.<sup>1587</sup> The draft law establishes an "acceleration area" system, where onshore wind and solar energy starts in designated

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<sup>1582</sup> Wichtiger Schritt zur Umsetzung der Energiewende, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 2 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/07/20240702-sonderbuergschaftsprogramm-konverter-konverterplattformen.html>

<sup>1583</sup> Neue Förderrichtlinie für die Dekarbonisierung des Mittelstands, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 23 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/08/20240823-neue-foerderrichtlinie-dekarbonisierung-mittelstand.html>

<sup>1584</sup> Update of the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/cd8ba2d6-1af6-4f37-aa07-059989bb1264\\_en?filename=GERMANY-FINAL\\_UPDATED\\_NECP\\_2021-2030\\_%28ENGLISH%29.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/cd8ba2d6-1af6-4f37-aa07-059989bb1264_en?filename=GERMANY-FINAL_UPDATED_NECP_2021-2030_%28ENGLISH%29.pdf)

<sup>1585</sup> Mehr Strom und Wärme aus Erdenergie, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/bundesregierung/bundeskanzleramt/geothermie-genehmigung-2305644>

<sup>1586</sup> More than 15 agreements for a sustainable future, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hsc-more-than-15-agreements-for-a-sustainable-future-230740>

<sup>1587</sup> Bundeskabinett – Ergebnisse, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 9 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/bundesregierung/bundeskanzleramt/kabinettsitzungen/bundeskabinett-ergebnisse-2313986>

zones benefit from expedited government approval processes.<sup>1588</sup> Additionally, the draft law allows developers to connect energy storage facilities to renewable energy farms, improving energy retention and securing energy supply continuity. The draft law also amends the Federal Emission Control Act and the Renewable Energy Sources Act to accommodate the “acceleration area” system and to facilitate more renewable energy starts. The overall aim of the draft law is to accelerate renewable energy source production and to improve the volume and security of energy supply from low-carbon sources.

On 17 October 2024, Federal Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Robert Habeck agreed to various measures with representatives of major companies in the German wind turbine industry.<sup>1589</sup> The Ministry and the companies jointly agreed to improve the fairness of wind markets, support wind turbine cybersecurity and introduce new financing avenues for expansion.

On 13 November 2024, the Cabinet adopted changes to Germany’s energy industry law.<sup>1590</sup> The amendments incentivize the development of “energy sharing” system in communities, seeking to improve the connectivity and efficiency of solar energy by integrating solar panels on residential roofs into community grids.

On 27 November 2024, the Cabinet adopted the Second Future Financing Act.<sup>1591</sup> The federal government’s statement on the Act’s adoption emphasizes the Act’s focus on facilitating capital investment in renewable energy sources.

On 16 December 2024, Minister Habeck and the Council of the European Union approved conclusions on promoting geothermal energy.<sup>1592</sup> As a result of these conclusions the European Council called for faster deployment of geothermal energy across the EU, including Germany, by adopting or adapting proposals for its promotion. These measures include easier access to permits and finance for geothermal projects.

On 20 December 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection announced EUR37.875 million in support for the states of Berlin and Lower Saxony.<sup>1593</sup> The disbursement to Lower Saxony aims to support the development of onshore and offshore wind energy projects in the state.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. Germany has taken various strong actions to support the development of domestic low-carbon energy starts through targeted funding for wind and geothermal projects, the simplification of government approval processes and the incentivization of small-scale low-carbon energy projects. The above actions demonstrate Germany’s commitment to decarbonizing the energy sector.

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<sup>1588</sup> Gesetz zur Umsetzung der Richtlinie (EU) 2023/2413 in den Bereichen Windenergie an Land und Solarenergie sowie für Energiespeichereinrichtungen am selben Standort, Bundesrat (Berlin) 9 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://dserver.bundestag.de/brd/2024/0396-24.pdf>

<sup>1589</sup> Maßnahmenpapier für heimische Windindustrie vorgelegt, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 17 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/10/20241017-massnahmenpapier-heimische-windindustrie.html>

<sup>1590</sup> Änderungen im Energiewirtschaftsrecht, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 13 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/bundesregierung/bundeskanzleramt/energiewirtschaftsrecht-2320072>

<sup>1591</sup> Finanzstandort Deutschland weiter stärken, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/bundesregierung/bundeskanzleramt/zweites-zukunftsfinanzierungsgesetz-2322054>

<sup>1592</sup> Geothermal energy: Council calls for faster deployment, European Council (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date 30 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/16/geothermal-energy-council-calls-for-faster-deployment/>

<sup>1593</sup> Gemeinschaftsaufgabe Regionale Wirtschaftsförderung: BMWK sichert Finanzierung wichtiger Investitionsvorhaben in Berlin und Niedersachsen, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 20 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/12/20241220-regionale-wirtschaftsfoerderung-berlin-und-niedersachsen.html>

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Nathan Cheung and Luca Rampersad*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 11 July 2024, Minister of Environment and Energy Security Gilberto Pichetto signed a decree that sets environmental requirements for energy-intensive companies receiving bill discounts for using renewable energy.<sup>1594</sup> Companies must now meet conditions such as implementing quick-return energy efficiency upgrades, sourcing 30 per cent of energy from renewables, and investing half of their incentives in emissions-reduction projects. This decree finalizes the 2023 incentive program aimed at supporting decarbonization while ensuring competitiveness, developed with industry and organizational input.

On 23 July 2024, Minister Pichetto introduced the Energy Release decree to support energy-intensive companies transitioning to renewable energy.<sup>1595</sup> The Energy Release decree allows energy-intensive companies to access cheaper electricity if they commit to building renewable energy capacity within 40 months. They must repay the energy over 20 years, with up to EUR300 thousand in support for related costs.

On 8 October 2024, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, introduced a decree to support renewable energy production and expand the national electricity grid, with EUR1.62 billion in funding.<sup>1596</sup> This initiative, part of the National Research, Innovation, and Competitiveness Program for 2021-2027, aims to help companies of all sizes implement renewable energy projects and improve grid capacity to handle more renewable power.

On 11 October 2024, the Italian government, led by Minister Pichetto, approved a new regulation for a centralized electricity storage system.<sup>1597</sup> These storage systems will collect excess energy from renewable sources such as solar and wind during high-production periods and release it during peak consumption times. This move aims to strengthen Italy's storage capacity and support the integration of more renewable energy into the grid.

On 30 October 2024, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security announced their approval of new rules regarding their "energy release" program.<sup>1598</sup> The program helps high-energy-consuming companies transition to renewable energy by offering early access to renewable electricity at a fixed price for up to three years, with repayment over 20 years. It aims to support around 3,800 companies, with next steps including launching a tender and an application portal.

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<sup>1594</sup> Energia: Pichetto firma decreto per "condizionalità green" imprese energivore, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 11 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-pichetto-firma-decreto-condizionalita-green-imprese-energivore>

<sup>1595</sup> Energia: Pichetto firma decreto per imprese energivore, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 23 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-pichetto-firma-decreto-imprese-energivore>

<sup>1596</sup> Energia: MASE, decreto con criteri per sostenere maggiore produzione rinnovabile e capacità di rete, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-mase-decreto-con-criteri-sostenere-maggiore-produzione-rinnovabile-e-capacita-di>  
<sup>1597</sup> Energia: Pichetto firma decreto per disciplina sistema centralizzato di stoccaggio elettrico, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 11 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-pichetto-firma-decreto-disciplina-sistema-centralizzato-di-stoccaggio-elettrico>  
<sup>1598</sup> Energy release: il MASE approva le regole operative GSE, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energy-release-il-mase-approva-le-regole-operative-gse>

On 13 December 2024, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security initiated discussions with the Regions to finalize the “Conto Termico 3.0” decree, which aims to enhance incentives for energy efficiency improvements and renewable thermal energy production in buildings.<sup>1599</sup> Notable updates include extending energy efficiency measures to private non-residential buildings, adding photovoltaic systems with storage and electric vehicle charging stations as eligible, and increasing incentives for public buildings, particularly in small municipalities and healthcare facilities.

On 16 December 2024, Minister of the Environment and Energy Security Gilberto Fratin and the European Council approved conclusions on promoting geothermal energy.<sup>1600</sup> As a result of these conclusions the European Council called for faster deployment of geothermal energy across the European Union, including Italy, by adopting or adapting proposals for its promotion. These measures include easier access to permits and finance for geothermal projects.

On 21 February 2025, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security announced EUR38 million to support territorial renewable energy projects.<sup>1601</sup> These projects include production plants and storage systems geared towards clean energy.

On 28 February 2025, the Council of Ministers in Italy authorized a bill for nuclear power.<sup>1602</sup> The bill requires the government to adopt a series of legislative decrees within twelve months to create a National Program to facilitate the development of Italy’s nuclear power sector.

On 7 March 2025, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security launched a “multi-channel communication campaign” to raise awareness among Italians of all ages regarding environmental and energy sustainability.<sup>1603</sup> This campaign reflects Italy’s need for energy security as it aims to transition to clean energy.

On 11 March 2025, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security opened a public consultation to obtain data and information from stakeholders on regulating the incentive mechanism for “large-scale thermal energy production” from renewable sources.<sup>1604</sup> This consultation will help inform Italy’s efforts to decarbonize the power sector by 2030.

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<sup>1599</sup> Energia: MASE avvia confronto con Regioni su Conto Termico 3.0, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 13 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 December 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-mase-avvia-confronto-con-regioni-su-conto-termico-30>

<sup>1600</sup> Geothermal energy: Council calls for faster deployment, European Council (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date 30 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/16/geothermal-energy-council-calls-for-faster-deployment/>

<sup>1601</sup> Energia: da MASE 38 milioni a Regioni per “progetti esemplari” su rinnovabili, anche CER, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 21 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 February 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-da-mase-38-milioni-regioni-progetti-esemplari-su-rinnovabili-anche-cer>

<sup>1602</sup> Nucleare sostenibile: MASE, il Consiglio dei Ministri approva la delega, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 28 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/nucleare-sostenibile-mase-il-consiglio-dei-ministri-approva-la-delega>

<sup>1603</sup> Ambiente: MASE, da locale a globale, una campagna di comunicazione per chiamare all’azione, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 7 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/ambiente-mase-da-locale-globale-una-campagna-di-comunicazione-chiamare-allazione>

<sup>1604</sup> Energia termica: Mase, al via consultazione pubblica, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 11 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/energia-termica-mase-al-consultazione-pubblica>

On 7 April 2025, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security and the Research on the Energy System invested EUR200 million in the “Green Powered Future” and “Clean Hydrogen” missions.<sup>1605</sup> The notices call for “integration of renewable energy” into the energy system.<sup>1606</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. Italy has taken several strong actions to decarbonize the power sector including allocating substantial funds through grants, subsidies, and tax incentives to support the green transition. It has also invested heavily in renewable energy infrastructure, with a focus on developing a centralized electricity storage system to better manage renewable energy from sources such as solar and wind. Moreover, Italy has introduced a series of laws and regulations designed to boost renewable energy production and integration, including the “Energy Release” mechanism and the “Conto Termico 3.0” decree.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Nathan Cheung and Petrina van Nieuwstadt*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 17 June 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI) and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Kingdom of Norway signed the Green Strategic Partnership Joint Communiqué.<sup>1607</sup> They affirmed their collaboration on Green Transformation, particularly in offshore wind and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS).

On 28 June 2024, the Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security selected nine CCS projects to receive priority support in 2024.<sup>1608</sup> These CCS projects aim to contribute to realizing carbon neutrality by 2050.

On 13 August 2024, the METI formulated standards for the Green Transformation Acceleration Agency to follow in determining which projects will receive financial assistance.<sup>1609</sup> The Standards contribute to promoting a smooth transition for a decarbonized power sector.

On 20 August 2024, the METI and the Ministry of the Environment attended the Second Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) Ministerial Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia.<sup>1610</sup> They reaffirmed AZEC Principles, including using “various pathways towards net-zero emissions” and “addressing climate change, promoting economic

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<sup>1605</sup> Mission Innovation 2.0: cinque bandi MASE da 200 milioni per ricerca e innovazione, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 7 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/mission-innovation-20-cinque-bandi-mase-da-200-milioni-ricerca-e-innovazione>

<sup>1606</sup> Avviso pubblico per la presentazione di Progetti di ricerca, sviluppo e innovazione tecnologica riguardanti l'area strategica Fonti Rinnovabili Non Programmabili, finanziabili nell'ambito dell'iniziativa “Mission Innovation 2.0”, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 6 May 2025. Access Date: 11 May 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/bandi/avviso-pubblico-la-presentazione-di-progetti-di-ricerca-sviluppo-e-innovazione-tecnologica-0>

<sup>1607</sup> Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ishii Holds Meeting with Mr. Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0617\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0617_001.html)

<sup>1608</sup> Advanced Efforts for Commercialization of CCS, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628\\_005.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628_005.html)

<sup>1609</sup> Standards for Support Related to Financial Assistance by the GX Acceleration Agency Formulated, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0813\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0813_001.html)

<sup>1610</sup> Minister Saito Visits Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0821\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0821_001.html)

growth and achieving energy security simultaneously.” They also agreed on AZEC Sectoral Initiatives, which aim to promote decarbonization in the power, transport and industry sectors.

On 28 August 2024, the Development Bank of Japan issued its 17th sustainability bond of USD600 million, which will finance both green and social projects including renewable energy.<sup>1611</sup>

On 9 September 2024, Minister Saito held a bilateral meeting with Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic Taalaibek Omukeyevich Ibraev.<sup>1612</sup> They affirmed to strengthen economic ties to realize energy transition. After the meeting, they signed an intergovernmental Memorandum of Cooperation toward a realistic energy transition that utilizes all available energy sources, such as energy conservation, renewable energy, hydrogen, ammonia, e-fuel, carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS), and other highly efficient power generation technology.

On 23 September 2024, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for International Affairs Matsuo Takehiko participated in the Clean Energy Public-Private Roundtable hosted by the US Department of State and the Clean Energy Buyers Association.<sup>1613</sup> Participants recognized the importance of ensuring a stable supply of decarbonized power sources in light of increased electricity demand driven by the growth of data centers and generative AI. They stressed the need for collective action by companies and stronger public-private cooperation to address this challenge, while expressing expectations for faster renewable energy adoption and the development of power infrastructure.

On 17 October 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ryosuke Kozuki attended the 27th Turkey-Japan Joint Business Committee and the First Japan-Turkey Energy Forum.<sup>1614</sup> Japan and discussed topics related to energy efficiency, renewable energy and new fuels and technologies. They confirmed potential for bilateral cooperation with State Minister Kozuki signing a Records of Discussion for the 1st Japan-Turkey Energy Forum.

On 18 October 2024, the DBJ announced its decision to invest in Marunouchi Climate Tech Growth Fund L.P.<sup>1615</sup> The primary objective of this fund is to invest in companies developing advanced technologies and innovative solutions that support the transition to a decarbonized society.

On 31 October 2024, Minister Muto held a meeting with Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Laziz Kudratov.<sup>1616</sup> They exchanged views on bilateral cooperation in sectors related to the economy and energy. They confirmed their commitment to advancing cooperation on renewable energy projects that would benefit both countries, including the utilization of the Joint Crediting Mechanism.

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<sup>1611</sup> DBJ issued USD 600m 17th Sustainability Bond ~ Green/Sustainability bond issuance for eleven consecutive years ~ , Development Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj\\_news/2024/html/20241009\\_204997.html](https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj_news/2024/html/20241009_204997.html)

<sup>1612</sup> Minister Saito Holds Meeting with Mr. Taalaibek Omukeyevich Ibraev, Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0909\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0909_001.html)

<sup>1613</sup> Clean Energy Public-Private Roundtable Held in the United States, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0925\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0925_003.html)

<sup>1614</sup> State Minister Kozuki Attends the 27th Türkiye-Japan Joint Business Committee and The 1st Japan-Türkiye Energy Forum, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1018\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1018_001.html)

<sup>1615</sup> Investment Decision in Marunouchi Climate Tech Growth Fund L.P., Development Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj\\_news/2024/html/20241018\\_205007.html](https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj_news/2024/html/20241018_205007.html)

<sup>1616</sup> Minister Muto Holds Meeting with Mr. Laziz Kudratov, Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1031\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1031_001.html)

On 4 November 2024, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi visited Romania with representatives from Japanese energy-related companies and governmental organizations.<sup>1617</sup> At the inaugural Japan-Romania Energy Forum, Japan presented its technologies to support Romania's energy transition challenges. Following the forum, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi and Romania's Minister of Energy Sebastian-Ioan Burduja signed a joint statement on cooperation in energy, covering nuclear power, hydrogen, renewable energy and CCUS. In addition, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi and Romania's Minister of Research, Innovation and Digitalization Bogdan-Gruia Ivan discussed the need for energy transformation, including nuclear power, hydrogen, renewables and CCUS. They expressed their commitment to enhancing cooperation by introducing Japanese advanced technologies to address energy security challenges and rising demand, particularly from the information technology sector. Following the meeting, the ministers signed a joint statement on cooperation for energy transformation.

On 7 November 2024, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi and the Republic of Poland's Minister of Industry Marzena Czarnecka signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the field of nuclear power.<sup>1618</sup> They aim to build a resilient nuclear supply chain in Poland, collaborate on the industrial use of next-generation reactors and strengthen cooperation on nuclear infrastructure development, including human resources, waste management, and international partnerships for Small Modular Reactors deployment.

On 9 November 2024, Japan and China held the 17th Japan-China Energy Conservation Forum, where they signed memorandums for 27 new cooperative projects.<sup>1619</sup> Minister Muto emphasized the need to achieve decarbonization, economic growth and energy security simultaneously, expressing hope that the forum would strengthen Japan-China cooperation on carbon neutrality. The forum also included five subcommittees focused on energy conservation, electrification, hydrogen, smart vehicles, greening homes and buildings and long-term green trade, fostering active exchanges between public and private sector officials from both countries.

On 20 November 2024, the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission, along with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, updated the agreement on cooperation in fast reactor development.<sup>1620</sup> Established in 2014, this agreement outlined cooperation in atomic energy development in France and Japan. The update added Electricité de France and Japan Atomic Power Company as implementing agencies related to reactor cooperation.

On 4 December 2024, Minister Muto and Minister for Energy, Business and Industry and Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Sweden Ebba Busch signed a Memorandum of Cooperation Regarding Energy and Innovation Cooperation.<sup>1621</sup> They also discussed further enhancing bilateral economic relations in energy areas such as nuclear power.

On 12 December 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with the United States Department of State reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation in advancing clean energy technologies, including floating offshore winds, at the Third Annual Japan-U.S. Energy Security

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<sup>1617</sup> Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi Visits Romania and the Republic of Poland, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111_001.html)

<sup>1618</sup> Parliamentary Vice-Minister Takeuchi Visits Romania and the Republic of Poland, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1111_001.html)

<sup>1619</sup> The 17th Japan-China Energy Conservation and Environment Forum Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/11/20241109001/20241109001.html>

<sup>1620</sup> フランス共和国と高速炉の開発の協力に係る合意文書を更新しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 20 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 December 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/11/20241120001/20241120001.html>

<sup>1621</sup> Minister Muto Holds Meeting with Ms. Ebba Busch, Minister for Energy, Business and Industry and Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Sweden, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1204\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1204_001.html)

Dialogue.<sup>1622</sup> The Dialogue focused on enhancing energy security by expanding the use of advanced clean energy techniques.

On 18 December 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yuichiro Koga met with Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri.<sup>1623</sup> They shared views on expanding bilateral economic exchanges through leveraging the UAE's renewable energy potential and Japan's resource circulation technologies.

On 18 February 2025, the Japanese Cabinet approved the Seventh Strategic Energy Plan, outlining Japan's energy policy direction.<sup>1624</sup> This plan aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 73 per cent by 2024 compared to 2013 levels and emphasizes achieving a stable energy supply, economic growth, and decarbonisation.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. Japan advanced strong action to decarbonize the power sector through its sustainability bond investments and CCS projects. They also engaged in strategic collaborations, signing memorandums with countries such as Poland, Romania and Malaysia to promote clean energy technologies. Japan has also committed to decarbonization through frameworks such as the Asia Zero Emission Community.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Hamza Noor and Serena Honekin*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 24 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Ed Miliband announced a new partnership between Great British Energy, a state-owned energy company, and the Crown Estate, which manages vast land and seabed resources.<sup>1625</sup> The partnership aims to boost clean energy production, and energy independence by increasing investments in offshore wind power, as well as hydrogen, wave, tidal energy and carbon capture.

On 31 July 2024, Secretary Miliband established and chaired the first meeting of the Energy Mission Board.<sup>1626</sup> The board aims to coordinate government ministers in a shared effort to accelerate the UK's progress towards clean energy use in 2030, and the UK's net zero targets by reducing dependence on fossil fuels. During the first meeting, Secretary Miliband announced the largest-ever budget of GBP1.5 billion for the year's renewables auction, including GBP185 million specifically allocated to establishing technologies such as onshore wind and solar.<sup>1627</sup>

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<sup>1622</sup> Third Annual Japan-U.S. Energy Security Dialogue Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1224\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1224_001.html)

<sup>1623</sup> State Minister Koga Holds Meeting with H.E. Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy of the United Arab Emirates, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1218\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1218_001.html)

<sup>1624</sup> Cabinet Decision on the Seventh Strategic Energy Plan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 28 March 2025. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0218\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0218_001.html)

<sup>1625</sup> New Great British Energy partnership launched to turbocharge energy independence, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 24 July 2024, Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-great-british-energy-partnership-launched-to-turbocharge-energy-independence>

<sup>1626</sup> First Mission Board focuses on immediate action to make Britain a clean energy superpower, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-mission-board-focuses-on-immediate-action-to-make-britain-a-clean-energy-superpower>

<sup>1627</sup> Record Breaking funding for clean energy in Britain, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-breaking-funding-for-clean-energy-in-britain>



On 23 August 2024, Secretary Miliband along with of the Chief Executive Officer of Climate Change Committee wrote a joint letter requesting the director of the Electricity System Operator, Fintan Slye, to provide advice for decarbonizing the power sector in the UK by 2030.<sup>1628</sup> More specifically, they requested for a detailed plan outlining energy scenarios, infrastructure needs, cost-benefit assessments, and actions for stakeholders.

On 4 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves and Secretary Miliband announced funding to launch carbon capture sites in Teesside and Merseyside.<sup>1629</sup> The funding, up to GBP21.7 billion over 25 years, aim to advance the UK's goals in carbon capture and hydrogen technology use.

On 10 October 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy Michael Shanks launched a new initiative to encourage investment in long-duration energy storage technologies, aiming to strengthen energy security and accelerate the country's transition to renewable energy.<sup>1630</sup> The initiative projects GBP24 billion in savings and lower energy bills by reducing reliance on natural gas.

On 16 October 2024, Secretary Miliband wrote a letter to the Chief Executives of Offshore Energies UK and Renewable UK asking for the continued support and collaboration to develop a skills passport.<sup>1631</sup> This passport will assist workers in transitioning from carbon-intensive industries to the clean energy sector.

On 17 October 2024, the UK and Scottish governments signed an agreement to strengthen Scotland's clean energy sector.<sup>1632</sup> This initiative aims to provide GBP8.3 billion in funding through Great British Energy, focusing on developing clean energy projects, particularly offshore wind, and creating new jobs. It also introduces a "skills passport" to help workers from the oil and gas industry transition into renewable energy roles.

On 30 October 2024, Chancellor Reeves table the Autumn Budget for 2024. Within the Budget was announced several key measures aimed at supporting clean energy development and decarbonization.<sup>1633</sup> This includes funding of GBP125 million for Great British Energy, focused on advancing clean energy projects. The government also revealed an increase in the Energy Profits Levy for oil and gas companies, raising the rate from 35% to 38% until March 2030. Additionally, the government committed GBP3.9 billion to support carbon capture, utilization, and storage projects and over GBP 2 billion for the Public Sector Decarbonization Scheme.

On 14 November 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary Shanks announced the UK government's intention to introduce legislation banning new coal mining licences.<sup>1634</sup> This announcement services the UK's aim to advance their shift from fossil fuels, including coal power, to renewable energy sources in the power sector.

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<sup>1628</sup> Advice on decarbonising the power sector by 2030: NESO commission, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-on-decarbonising-the-power-sector-by-2030>

<sup>1629</sup> Government reignites industrial heartlands 10 days out from the International Investment Summit, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-reignites-industrial-heartlands-10-days-out-from-the-international-investment-summit>

<sup>1630</sup> New scheme to attract investment in renewable energy storage, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-scheme-to-attract-investment-in-renewable-energy-storage>

<sup>1631</sup> Delivering a skills passport for the Clean Energy Transition, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivering-a-skills-passport-for-the-clean-energy-transition>

<sup>1632</sup> Action to boost jobs and investment for clean energy in Scotland, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/action-to-boost-jobs-and-investment-for-clean-energy-in-scotland>

<sup>1633</sup> Autumn Budget 2024, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/autumn-budget-2024>.

<sup>1634</sup> New coal mining licences will be banned, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-coal-mining-licences-will-be-banned>

On 19 November 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero announced the launch of the second round of the Manchester Prize.<sup>1635</sup> This competition is aimed at promoting AI-driven innovations that will aid the UK's shift toward a clean energy future. It will support the creation of new technologies designed to reduce energy consumption, enhance power generation from renewable sources such as wind and solar, and forecast future energy surges.

On 10 December 2024, Secretary Miliband signed contracts for the UK's first carbon capture, usage, and storage projects starting in 2025.<sup>1636</sup> Projects aim to bring low-carbon power to over one million homes.

On 13 December 2024, Secretary Miliband announced an energy reform plan to deliver a clean electricity system by 2030, aiming to reduce household energy bills, create skilled jobs, and tackle the climate crisis.<sup>1637</sup> Specifically, the plan involves reforming grid infrastructure, speed up clean-energy project approvals, and scale up renewable energy deployment.

On 16 December 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store launched a joint UK-Norway partnership, named the Green Industrial Partnership, with the aim to boost clean energy collaboration, drive economic growth, and create skilled jobs in both countries.<sup>1638</sup> Key initiatives of the partnership include collaboration on carbon capture projects in the North Sea, and development of offshore wind farms in the UK.

On 17 December 2024, the UK government reintroduced the Net Zero Council, with an expanded membership, now including civil society and local government members to enhance collaboration to advance the UK's shift to net zero emissions.<sup>1639</sup> The aims of the Net Zero Council are to provide expert advice on net zero policies, address obstacles of decarbonization, and mobilize advocacy.

On 17 January 2025, the UK's Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) announced the investment of GBP200 million in the Lithium Breeding Tritium Innovation (LIBRTI) program's efforts to advance fusion energy development.<sup>1640</sup> Another GBP9 million will be made available by the UK Atomic Energy Agency to support 12 small-scale fusion fuel experiments.

On 29 January 2025, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero announced measures to allow the acceleration of construction of offshore wind.<sup>1641</sup> The measures unlock up to GBP30 billion in investment in clean energy through thirteen offshore wind projects.

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<sup>1635</sup> AI innovators to fuel UK's clean energy future as new competition launches, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-innovators-to-fuel-uks-clean-energy-future-as-new-competition-launches>

<sup>1636</sup> Contracts signed for UK's first carbon capture projects in Teesside, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/contracts-signed-for-uks-first-carbon-capture-projects-in-teesside>

<sup>1637</sup> Government sets out plan for new era of clean electricity, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-new-era-of-clean-electricity>

<sup>1638</sup> UK and Norway join forces to seize green industrial opportunities, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 December 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-norway-join-forces-to-seize-green-industrial-opportunities>

<sup>1639</sup> Net Zero Council, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 22 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/net-zero-council>

<sup>1640</sup> Multi-million-pound investment to advance fusion fuel development, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 January 2025. Access Date 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-investment-to-advance-fusion-fuel-development>

<sup>1641</sup> Government unleashes offshore wind revolution, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unleashes-offshore-wind-revolution>

On 6 February 2025, Prime Minister Starmer announced his decision to reduce barriers to the creation of new nuclear power plants.<sup>1642</sup> The changes will be tabled in planning reform legislation.

On 13 February 2025, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero announced the opening of applications for the Clean Industry Bonus, which is intended to encourage investment in clean energy manufacturing, such as offshore wind developers.<sup>1643</sup> The investment aims to support transitions to clean energy in industrial communities.

On 21 February 2025, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero adopted reforms to the Contracts for Difference scheme to allow for greater offshore wind and renewable energy investment.<sup>1644</sup>

On 5 March 2025, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury James Murray and Secretary Miliband announced the launch of a government consultation to make the North Sea a “world leading example of an offshore energy industry.”<sup>1645</sup> This consultation will focus on supporting private investment schemes to help the North Sea and its sectors cut carbon emissions and transition to clean energy.

On 10 March 2025, Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner and Secretary Miliband announced the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.<sup>1646</sup> This bill will allocate GBP200 billion to clean energy projects, specifically to cut wait times for the installation of wind and solar power farms.

On 21 March 2025, Parliamentary Under-Secretary Shanks announced Great British Energy’s GBP10 million partnership with English mayoral authorities to build new clean energy projects in local communities.<sup>1647</sup> These projects include rooftop solar, onshore wind and hydropower projects.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with decarbonizing the power sector, as it has taken several strong actions in the commitment dimensions as it has launched significant initiatives such as funding carbon capture projects, increasing investments in offshore wind and renewable energy, and introducing policies to support clean energy technologies, such as hydrogen production, fusion and long-duration energy storage. Additionally, the UK government has committed to a substantial budget for renewable energy auctions and has also worked on regulatory reforms to accelerate the energy transition.

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

*Analysts: Alisha Aslam and Petrina van Nieuwstadt*

## **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

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<sup>1642</sup> Government rips up rules to fire-up nuclear power, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-rips-up-rules-to-fire-up-nuclear-power>

<sup>1643</sup> New industry bonus opens to support good jobs and low carbon manufacturing factories, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-industry-bonus-opens-to-support-good-jobs-and-low-carbon-manufacturing-factories>

<sup>1644</sup> Essential reforms to pave the way for clean power by 2030, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/essential-reforms-to-pave-the-way-for-clean-power-by-2030>

<sup>1645</sup> Government to unleash the North Sea’s clean energy future, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-unleash-the-north-seas-clean-energy-future>

<sup>1646</sup> Planning revolution to fuel growth and make Britain energy secure, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/planning-revolution-to-fuel-growth-and-make-britain-energy-secure>

<sup>1647</sup> Great British Energy announces £10 million for local government, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/great-british-energy-announces-10-million-for-local-governments>

On 6 August 2024, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced USD2.2 billion in grants to protect the national energy grid from extreme weather events and bring clean, affordable energy into the grid.<sup>1648</sup> These grants fund several projects that will add thousands of megawatts of offshore wind capacity.

On 26 August 2024, the DOE announced an investment of USD31 million to improve access to clean geothermal energy.<sup>1649</sup> This investment supports six projects to research and develop critical technologies to expand access to geothermal energy.

On 10 September 2024, the DOE announced an investment of USD20 million into projects aimed at improving the siting of renewable energy and to help co-locate solar generation with cattle grazing.<sup>1650</sup> These projects, undertaken jointly with State and Tribal teams, aim to increase access to renewable energy sources, chiefly solar energy. Additionally, the agrivoltaics projects, as part of this funding, aim to utilize open cattle grazing land for solar energy, aiding power grid decarbonization.

On 17 September 2024, the DOE announced USD38.8 million in funding for 25 research and development projects to decarbonize buildings.<sup>1651</sup> The projects focus on decarbonizing and increasing the affordability of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and water heating systems, increasing the affordability and replicability of roof and attic retrofits, improving building resilience and energy capacity and advancing research in commercial lighting retrofits.

On 20 September 2024, the DOE and the Washington State Department of Commerce announced the launch of the Pacific Northwest Regional Energy Planning Project.<sup>1652</sup> The project aims to examine how utilities in Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington can better plan investments to meet decarbonization goals.

On 21 October 2024, the DOE, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior, announced investments totaling USD17 million into 14 projects to support offshore wind and marine energy.<sup>1653</sup> These projects aim to conduct research on reliable moorings for offshore wind and marine energy systems.

On 4 November 2024, the DOE's Office of Electricity and Office of Energy Efficiency announced an investment of USD11 million in high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission projects.<sup>1654</sup> These projects aim to reduce HVDC transmission system costs by 35 per cent by 2035 and assist in energy transmission from

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<sup>1648</sup> Invests \$2.2 Billion in the Nation's Grid to Protect Against Extreme Weather, Lower Costs, and Prepare For Growing Demand, United States Department of Energy (Raleigh) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-invests-22-billion-nations-grid-protect-against-extreme>

<sup>1649</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$31 Million to Reduce Costs and Expand Clean, Renewable Geothermal Energy, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 26 August 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-harris-administration-invests-31-million-reduce-costs-and-expand-clean-renewable>

<sup>1650</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests Nearly \$20 Million to Improve Siting of Renewable Energy and Co-Locate Solar with Cattle Grazing, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/biden-harris-administration-invests-nearly-20-million-improve-siting-renewable-energy>

<sup>1651</sup> DOE Announces \$38.8 Million for Technology R&D to Decarbonize Buildings Under the BENEFIT 2024 Funding Opportunity, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/articles/doe-announces-388-million-technology-rd-decarbonize-buildings-under-benefit>

<sup>1652</sup> DOE Launches Pacific Northwest Regional Energy Planning Study to Explore Solutions to Energy Planning Challenges, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/articles/doe-launches-pacific-northwest-regional-energy-planning-study-explore-solutions-energy>

<sup>1653</sup> U.S. Departments of Energy and the Interior Invest \$17 Million to Enhance the Sustainability and Reliability of Offshore Renewable Energy Deployments, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/us-departments-energy-and-interior-invest-17-million-enhance-sustainability-and>

<sup>1654</sup> DOE Announces \$11M in High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Projects, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/oe/articles/doe-announces-11m-high-voltage-direct-current-transmission-projects>

remote locations such as offshore wind grids. These projects also aim to improve the reliability of energy systems and help integrate clean energy into the power grid.

On 18 November 2024, the DOE announced an investment of nearly USD15 million into projects to enhance hydropower's ability to support electricity grids.<sup>1655</sup> These nine research and development projects aim to improve hydropower's flexibility in power production and within the market and to enhance hydropower pairing with other renewables such as wind.

On 12 December 2024, the Department of State along with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation in advancing clean energy technologies, including floating offshore winds, at the Third Annual Japan-U.S. Energy Security Dialogue.<sup>1656</sup> The Dialogue focused on enhancing energy security by expanding the use of advanced clean energy techniques.

On 17 January 2025, the DOE announced a USD15 billion loan guarantee program for Pacific Gas & Electric Company to fund a portfolio of projects, including hydropower generation and battery storage expansion.<sup>1657</sup> This investment will improve California's electricity generation's reliability and environmental impact.

On 17 January 2025, the DOE announced a USD584.5 million loan guarantee for Convergent Energy and Power Inc, a large energy storage company, to fund solar voltaic and battery energy storage system projects in Puerto Rico.<sup>1658</sup> This investment aims to improve Puerto Rico's grid stability and lower its carbon impact, resulting in the avoidance of nearly 2.5 million tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

On 17 January 2025, the DOE announced USD6.25 million to support research into large wind turbine aerodynamics.<sup>1659</sup> This research aims to increase the reliability, performance and cost of large wind turbine generators in the U.S.

On 17 March 2025, Secretary of Energy Chris Wright announced a USD56,787,300 loan disbursement to Holtec to support restarting the Palisades nuclear reactor.<sup>1660</sup> Once operational, this station will produce 800MW of green power.

On 24 March 2025, the DOE reissued a solicitation for the design and production of small modular reactors valued at USD900 million.<sup>1661</sup> This funding aims to de-risk private investment in modular reactor technology and boost deployment speed.

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<sup>1655</sup> U.S. Department of Energy Invests Nearly \$15 Million to Enhance Hydropower's Ability to Support Electricity Grids, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/us-department-energy-invests-nearly-15-million-enhance-hydropowers-ability-support>

<sup>1656</sup> Third Annual Japan-U.S. Energy Security Dialogue Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 24 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1224\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1224_001.html)

<sup>1657</sup> DOE Announces \$15 Billion Loan Guarantee to Pacific Gas & Electric Company to Expand Hydropower Generation, Battery Energy Storage, and Transmission, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 28 January 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/lpo/articles/doe-announces-15-billion-loan-guarantee-pacific-gas-electric-company-expand-hydropower>

<sup>1658</sup> DOE Announces \$584.5 Million Loan Guarantee to Subsidiaries of Convergent Energy and Power Inc. to Build Solar PV and Energy Storage in Puerto Rico, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 28 January 2025.

<https://www.energy.gov/lpo/articles/doe-announces-5845-million-loan-guarantee-subsidiaries-convergent-energy-and-power-inc>

<sup>1659</sup> Request for Proposals: DOE Announces \$6.25 Million for Aerodynamics Research on Large Wind Turbines, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 28 January 2025.

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/wind/articles/request-proposals-doe-announces-625-million-aerodynamics-research-large-wind>

<sup>1660</sup> DOE Approves Loan Disbursement for Palisades Nuclear Plant, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-approves-loan-disbursement-palisades-nuclear-plant>

<sup>1661</sup> \$900 Million Available to Unlock Commercial Deployment of American-Made Small Modular Reactors, United States Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/900-million-available-unlock-commercial-deployment-american-made-small-modular-reactors>

On 28 March 2025, the Trump administration terminated two grants to fund clean energy projects.<sup>1662</sup> The grants, totalling USD6 million, aimed to reduce emissions caused by inefficient homes and to provide improved access to electric vehicle car share options. This action contravenes the US commitment.

On 7 April 2025, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced final approval for three carbon capture wells, to be completed by Oxy Low Carbon Ventures LLC.<sup>1663</sup> These wells will store a combined 722,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.

On 8 April 2025, President Donald Trump signed four executive orders to reinvigorate the American coal industry.<sup>1664</sup> These orders mandate federal agencies to identify coal resources, lift barriers on mining on public lands and allow exemptions from rules and planned closures for some coal plants. This action contravenes the US commitment.

On 9 April 2025, President Trump signed an executive order mandating a one year expiration date on all existing energy regulations within federal agencies.<sup>1665</sup> Unless extended, these energy regulations will expire by 30 September 2026. This action contravenes the United States' commitment.

On 16 April 2025, the Trump administration ordered Equinor to halt construction of its Empire Wind project, an offshore wind farm funded under the Biden administration.<sup>1666</sup> The project was expected to generate enough power for 700,000 homes. This action contravenes the United States' commitment.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. The United States has invested a significant amount of funding in the research and implementation of advanced clean energy systems across the United States. The United States has also cooperated with private partners and state governments to improve access and decarbonize the electricity grid. Despite these actions, the cancellation of clean energy contracts and the loosening of regulations on coal mining and coal-based electricity production act to undermine the United States's commitment to a decarbonized power sector.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Eli Mueller and Ilya Goheen*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035.

On 18 June 2024, the European Commission announced EUR116 million in funding for 151 Regional Innovation Valleys that aim to improve innovation to address challenges such as fossil fuel dependence, food

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<sup>1662</sup> Trump administration cancels clean energy grants as it prioritizes fossil fuels, Associated Press (New York) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://apnews.com/article/trump-energy-department-clean-energy-wind-solar-batteries-hydrogen-fossil-fuels-cf1dff9ee771c566765e9ca3e3599d91>

<sup>1663</sup> EPA Issues Final Permits for Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide in Texas, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Dallas) 7 April 2026. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-issues-final-permits-geologic-sequestration-carbon-dioxide-texas>

<sup>1664</sup> Trump signs executive orders to boost coal, a reliable but polluting energy source, Associated Press (New York) 8 April 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://apnews.com/article/trump-coal-ai-data-centers-energy-dominance-693e2604785c07ff790d9afd2e06d543>

<sup>1665</sup> Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Pushes the Reset Button on America's Energy Regulations, The White House (Washington D.C) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2025/04/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-pushes-the-reset-button-on-americas-energy-regulations/>

<sup>1666</sup> US orders halt to construction of Equinor's New York offshore wind project, Reuters (London) 17 April 2025. Access Date: 3 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-orders-halt-construction-new-york-offshore-wind-project-2025-04-16/>

security and digital transformation.<sup>1667</sup> Funds will be provided by Horizon Europe's European Innovation Ecosystems programme and the European Regional Development Fund's Interregional Innovation Investments Instrument.

On 19 June 2024, the European Commission launched the European Solar Academy with EUR9 million in funding "to train 100,000 workers in the solar photovoltaic value chain over the next three years."<sup>1668</sup> In doing so, the Solar Academy will work with industry officials to develop learning modules, certify trained workers and ultimately address labour and skills gaps. This initiative falls under the EU's Net-Zero Industry Act which aims to increase the usage of clean technologies for manufacturing.

On 23 June 2024, the European Commission announced EUR2.967 billion in funds for 39 energy projects aimed at "reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the energy, industry and transport sectors," improving energy efficiency, increasing renewable electricity and energy and modernizing energy systems.<sup>1669</sup> These projects will support ten EU member states including Bulgaria, Croatia and Poland.

On 24 June 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and RWE announced EUR1.2 billion in joint financing for a wind farm in Denmark's North Sea with 1.1 gigawatts (GW) capacity to provide electricity for one million Danish households.<sup>1670</sup> The EIB's contribution will "co-finance monopile foundations, turbines, inter-array cabling, an offshore converter station, export cables, a section of onshore cables and an onshore substation." This initiative supports RWE's decarbonization strategy.

On 27 June 2024, the European Commission endorsed Germany's EUR30.3 billion modified recovery and resilience plan which focuses on seventeen reforms and twenty-eight investments.<sup>1671</sup> The REPowerEU chapter of the plan includes two new reforms and investments and one scaled-up investment to eliminate Europe's reliance on Russian fossil fuels by 2030 by increasing renewable energy through planning, decarbonization of the transport sector and energy efficiency. This includes a focus on promoting wind energy power plants, hydrogen infrastructure projects and energy-efficient renovations.

On 2 July 2024, the European Commission approved France's EUR10.82 billion scheme under the Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework (TCTF).<sup>1672</sup> The 20-year plan focuses on transitioning towards a net-zero economy through the development of two offshore wind farms to enable the use of renewable offshore wind energy.

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<sup>1667</sup> Commission funds Regional Innovation Valleys with €116 million to strengthen competitiveness and promote innovation\*, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 23 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3368](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3368)

<sup>1668</sup> First Net-Zero Academy to train 100,000 workers in the EU solar photovoltaic value chain\*, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 23 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3407](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3407)

<sup>1669</sup> EU invests close to €3 billion of emissions trading revenues for cleaner energy systems in 10 EU countries via the Modernisation Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 23 June 2024. Access Date: 23 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3436](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3436)

<sup>1670</sup> Denmark/Germany: EIB to co-finance RWE's new Gigawatt offshore wind farm with a €1.2 billion green loan, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-216-denmark-germany-eib-to-co-finance-rwe-s-new-gigawatt-offshore-wind-farm-with-a-eur1-2-billion-green-loan>

<sup>1671</sup> Commission endorses Germany's €30.3 billion modified recovery and resilience plan, including a REPowerEU chapter, European Commission (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3484](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3484)

<sup>1672</sup> Commission approves €10.82 billion French State aid scheme to support offshore wind energy to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 23 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3584](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3584)

On 14 July 2024, the European Commission endorsed an EUR1.3 billion allocation to the Netherlands under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.<sup>1673</sup> The funds support initiatives electricity grid code reforms which will enable a transition towards renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power.

On 24 July 2024, the EIB announced a EUR390 million loan to support the Public Gas Corporation of Greece's EUR500 million plan for renewable energy investments in Greece.<sup>1674</sup> Over four years, this financing will enable the implementation of new photovoltaic farms in Macedonia, Thessaly and central Greece to increase the use of renewable energy for electricity, reduce electricity costs and improve energy security.

On 26 July 2024, the EIB announced a EUR250 million loan to support "renewable energy and clean transport infrastructure at [Warehouses De Pauw] logistics centres mainly in Belgium, the Netherlands and Romania."<sup>1675</sup> Over ten years, this loan will be used to cover the installation of solar panels on roofs and increase electric vehicle charging stations. This initiative will reduce Warehouses De Pauw's carbon footprint and contribute to the EU's REPowerEU plan to reduce the reliance on fossil fuels.

On 30 July 2024, the EIB, Natixis Corporate and Investment Banking and the Sunprime Group announced EUR204 million in joint financing to construct over 100 rooftop and land photovoltaic plants in Italy to increase renewable electricity and decrease carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>1676</sup> By 2026, the plants are expected to produce 275 gigawatt hours of electricity per year, supporting the REPowerEU plan and Italy's plans for renewable energy. The EIB plans to provide approximately EUR97 million for this initiative.

On 2 August 2024, the EIB and Haizea Wind Group signed a EUR35 million loan for technologies including wind power production to support power sector decarbonization in Spain.<sup>1677</sup>

On 6 August 2024, the EIB and Matrix Renewables signed a EUR50 million green loan for the construction of five solar photovoltaic plants in Spain's Castilla y Leon and Extremadura regions.<sup>1678</sup> The plants expect to provide capacity of 240 megawatts to support energy security and reduce reliance on fossil fuel imports per the REPowerEU plan.

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<sup>1673</sup> Commission endorses positive preliminary assessment of the Netherlands' first payment request for €1.3 billion under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 14 July 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3725](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3725)

<sup>1674</sup> Greece's solar-energy supplies to expand with €390 million EIB financing for DEPA Commercial, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-294-greece-s-solar-energy-supplies-to-expand-with-eur390-million-eib-financing-for-depa-commercial>

<sup>1675</sup> Belgian logistics real estate player WDP gets €250 million EIB loan to expand green energy infrastructure at sites across Europe, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-302-belgian-logistics-real-estate-player-wdp-gets-eur250-million-eib-loan-to-expand-green-energy-infrastructure-at-sites-across-europe>

<sup>1676</sup> Italy: EIB, Natixis CIB and Sunprime sign €204 million transaction for one of Italy's largest solar portfolio operations, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-307-eib-natixis-cib-and-sunprime-sign-eur204-million-transaction-for-one-of-italy-s-largest-solar-portfolio-operations>

<sup>1677</sup> Spain: EIB and Haizea sign €35 million green loan boosting European wind energy sector component manufacturing, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-236-eib-and-haizea-sign-eur35-million-green-loan-boosting-european-wind-energy-sector-component-manufacturing>

<sup>1678</sup> Spain: InvestEU - EIB signs €50 million green loan with Matrix Renewables to deploy five new solar photovoltaic plants, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-312-investeu-eib-signs-eur50-million-green-loan-with-matrix-renewables-to-deploy-5-new-solar-photovoltaic-plants-in-spain>



On 3 September 2024, the European Commission “endorsed a positive preliminary assessment” for Greece to receive its fourth payment under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.<sup>1679</sup> Pending approval from the Economic and Finance Committee, Greece will receive EUR998.6 million for eight reforms and twelve investments for renewable energy, energy efficiency and other needs. In particular, Greece will use this payment to install energy storage systems and support electricity integration to enable the use of renewable energy.

On 4 September 2024, the EIB, the European Union and Cabo Verde announced EUR300 million in financing for the energy, digital and port sectors in Cabo Verde under the EU’s Global Gateway Strategy.<sup>1680</sup> Of this, EUR159 million will be financed by the EIB, EU and Luxembourg to develop “an electricity generation, grid and storage system up to 2029,” increase storage for renewable energy and reduce Cabo Verde’s reliance on fossil fuels.

On 11 September 2024, the EIB announced a EUR20.1 million loan for WEB Windenergie AG to construct four wind turbines in Austria’s Spannberg municipality.<sup>1681</sup> An additional seven wind turbines plan to be constructed in phase two of this plan in 2027-2028 to produce enough energy for 40,000 households. This initiative contributes to Lower Austria’s transition to renewable energy in the power sector.

On 12 September 2024, the European Commission approved Belgium’s EUR682 million scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1682</sup> The 20-year plan will support the transition towards a net-zero economy through the development of an “offshore windfarm in the Princess Elisabeth Zone in the North Sea.”

On 16 September 2024, the EIB, Natixis Corporate and Investment Banking and Libeccio S.r.l. announced EUR97 million in funding to construct a new wind farm in Mazara del Vallo, Italy with a capacity of 44.8 megawatts.<sup>1683</sup> By 2026, the farm aims to produce enough energy for 56,000 households in Italy, supporting the transition to renewable energy and contributing to the REPowerEU plan.

On 16 September 2024, the European Commission approved Poland’s EUR1.2 billion scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1684</sup> This scheme will provide direct grants to companies producing renewable energy equipment, carbon storage and capture technologies and other relevant components to support the transition towards a net-zero economy.

On 18 September 2024, the EIB announced that it will provide a EUR166 million loan to BNZ as part of its EUR500 million commitment to support the company’s “roll-out of 1.7 GW of solar photovoltaic power in

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<sup>1679</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Greece’s fourth payment request for €998.6 million in grants under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4522](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4522)

<sup>1680</sup> Cabo Verde: Global Gateway - Team Europe expands its support for digital sector, port infrastructure and renewable energy, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-319-global-gateway-l-equipe-europe-renforce-son-soutien-au-secteur-numerique-aux-infrastructures-portuaires-et-aux-energies-renouvelables-de-cabo-verde>

<sup>1681</sup> EIB finances wind farm in Lower Austria, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-325-eib-finances-wind-farm-in-lower-austria>

<sup>1682</sup> Commission approves €682 million Belgian State aid scheme to support renewable offshore wind energy to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4567](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4567)

<sup>1683</sup> Italy: EIB and Natixis CIB provide €97 million in financing to Libeccio for new state-of-the-art wind farm in Sicily, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-337-eib-and-natixis-cib-provide-eur97-million-in-financing-to-libeccio-for-new-state-of-the-art-wind-farm-in-sicily>

<sup>1684</sup> Commission approves €1.2 billion Polish State aid scheme to support investments in strategic sectors to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4141](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4141)

Southern Europe by the end of 2026.”<sup>1685</sup> This funding will help develop 17 solar photovoltaic plants in Spain, Italy and Portugal to support the energy needs of 390,000 households, advancing a decarbonized power sector.

On 25 September 2024, the European Commission opened infringement procedures against 26 EU Member States who have failed to inform the Commission on their incorporation of EU directives on justice, financial stability, energy and the environment into national law.<sup>1686</sup> Of note, 26 Member States have been sent a formal letter to adopt the provisions of the revised Renewable Energy Directive (RED) into national law and inform the European Commission accordingly within two months. The RED calls for procedures for renewable energy projects to be simplified and accelerated and for infrastructure projects to incorporate “additional renewable energy into the electricity system.”

On 26 September 2024, the European Commission approved Portugal’s EUR1 billion scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1687</sup> The scheme will provide direct grants to companies producing renewable energy equipment, carbon storage and capture technologies and other relevant components to support the transition towards a net-zero economy.

On 2 October 2024, the European Commission approved Poland’s EUR1.2 billion scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1688</sup> Funding will be provided by the Modernisation Fund and Recovery and Resilience Facility for direct grants and loans to companies for “the installation of at least 5.4 [gigawatt hours] of new electricity storage facilities.” This will support the transition towards a net-zero economy by reducing fossil fuel reliance and enabling the use of renewable energy in the national electricity system.

On 2 October 2024, the European Commission announced infringement decisions against EU Member States that failed to incorporate the EU’s directives into national law.<sup>1689</sup> Of note, the Commission sent a reasoned opinion to Austria regarding its failure to incorporate rules from Directive (EU) 2018/2001 into national law. The Directive aims to ensure that at least 32 per cent of all energy used in the EU is renewable by 2030 by establishing a legal framework and setting targets for renewable energy for heating, cooling, electricity and transport and by supporting citizen involvement in the renewable energy transition. Austria has two months to incorporate the Directive into national law or the Commission may choose to escalate the issue to the Court of Justice of the European Union.

On 10 October 2024, the European Commission approved Luxembourg’s EUR520 million schemes to transition towards a net-zero economy under the TCTF.<sup>1690</sup> Of this, the decarbonisation scheme will receive EUR500 million to disburse to manufacturing companies with projects to reduce at least 40 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions in industrial processes through electrification. The remaining EUR20 million will go

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<sup>1685</sup> InvestEU: EIB signs €166 million green loan with BNZ to deploy renewable energy plants in Spain, Italy and Portugal, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-341-investeu-eib-signs-eur166-million-green-loan-with-bnz-to-deploy-renewable-energy-plants-in-spain-italy-and-portugal>

<sup>1686</sup> Commission takes action to ensure complete and timely transposition of EU directives, European Commission (Brussels) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf\\_24\\_4661](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_4661)

<sup>1687</sup> Commission approves €1 billion Portuguese State aid scheme to support investments in strategic sectors necessary to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4822](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4822)

<sup>1688</sup> Commission approves €1.2 billion Polish State aid scheme to support investments in electricity storage facilities to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4985](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4985)

<sup>1689</sup> October infringements package: key decisions, European Commission (Brussels) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf\\_24\\_4561](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_4561)

<sup>1690</sup> Commission approves €520 million Luxembourgish State aid schemes to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5025](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5025)

towards the investments in strategic sectors scheme to companies producing renewable energy equipment, carbon storage and capture technologies and other relevant components.

On 10 October 2024, the EIB announced an EUR8 billion investment in wind energy with Intesa Sanpaolo.<sup>1691</sup> Supported by the InvestEU programme and in accordance with the EU's EUR5 billion wind power package announced at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference, the EIB will provide a counter-guarantee of EUR500 million to enable Intesa Sanpaolo to establish bank guarantees for EUR1 billion. These guarantees will support “the supply chain and power grid interconnection for new wind farms projects” in the EU. The EIB's guarantee is also expected to result in funding from other sources to work towards the goal of EUR8 billion in investment. This initiative will support decarbonisation and the green transition in the EU.

On 20 October 2024, the European Commission announced over EUR380 in funding for 133 European projects for environment and climate action.<sup>1692</sup> Of note, EUR105 million will support 59 projects for the clean energy transition including almost EUR10 million for the ENERCOM FACILITY project to enable investments in sustainable electricity in 140 communities.

On 21 October 2024, the EIB and Iberdrola signed an agreement whereby the EIB will provide a EUR120 million loan for research and innovation projects related to the energy sector, including in solar photovoltaics, hydropower and wind projects, to support the decarbonisation and electrification of the economy.<sup>1693</sup>

On 22 October 2024, the European Commission announced EUR4.8 billion for 85 innovative projects in 18 countries to support the net-zero transition through the Innovation Fund.<sup>1694</sup> These projects include cleantech manufacturing to build plants to develop key technologies and components for renewable energy and energy storage, aiding power sector decarbonization.

On 25 October 2024, EIB Vice-President Robert de Groot, signed a green credit facility agreement worth EUR650 million to support the transition to renewable energy in Europe.<sup>1695</sup> Between 2024-2027, this funding will support phase one of the Princess Elisabeth Island project in Belgium which aims to develop an artificial offshore wind island with a capacity of 3.5 GW to provide power for three million households in the country. This project will contribute to the decarbonisation of the power sector, make renewable electricity more affordable and work towards the EU's renewable energy and climate-neutrality objectives.

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<sup>1691</sup> Italy: EIB and Intesa Sanpaolo announce agreement to stimulate up to €8 billion investment in the wind industry, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-368-eib-and-intesa-sanpaolo-announce-agreement-to-stimulate-up-to-eur8-billion-investment-in-the-wind-industry>

<sup>1692</sup> EU invests over €380 million in 133 new LIFE projects to support the green transition all around Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5381](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5381)

<sup>1693</sup> Spain: EIB and Iberdrola sign €120 million loan to develop energy innovation projects, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-383-eib-and-iberdrola-sign-eur120-million-loan-to-develop-energy-innovation-projects-in-spain>

<sup>1694</sup> EU invests €4.8 billion of emissions trading revenues in innovative net-zero projects, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5423](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5423)

<sup>1695</sup> Belgium: EIB commits €650 million to support green energy transition with Elia Transmission Belgium for the Princess Elisabeth Island Project, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-396-eib-commits-eur650-million-to-support-green-energy-transition-with-elia-transmission-belgium-for-princess-elisabeth-island-project>

On 29 October 2024, the EIB approved a EUR300 million loan for Red Eléctrica's Salto de Chira project in Gran Canaria island in Spain.<sup>1696</sup> This funding will support the development of a “pumped-storage hydroelectric power plant” that uses water reservoirs to deliver and store renewable electricity.

On 11 November 2024, the European Commission endorsed Poland's EUR9.4 billion Recovery and Resilience Plan payment request.<sup>1697</sup> The new funding includes support for measures to accelerate renewable electricity through onshore wind and photovoltaic power.

On 11 November 2024, the European Commission endorsed Lithuania's EUR463 million Recovery and Resilience Plan payment request.<sup>1698</sup> The funding includes support to “[simplify] administrative requirements for the deployment of renewable energy” through regulating and simplifying permits for hybrid power plants and reducing the timeframe for granting renewable energy power plants procedures to one year.

On 13 November 2024, the European Commission announced infringement decisions against EU Member States that failed to incorporate the EU's directives into national law.<sup>1699</sup> Of note, the Commission issued a formal notice to Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Malta, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia for their failure to provide the Commission with final plans for the “National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) in line with the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action.” The NECPs aim to ensure that EU Member States comply with the EU's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work towards renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Member States have two months to provide their final plans to the Commission or the Commission may issue a reasoned opinion against them.

On 13 November 2024, the EIB announced a EUR100 million multi-beneficiary intermediated loan for Germany's largest savings bank, Haspa.<sup>1700</sup> This funding will support financing to small and medium sized companies and mid-caps by Haspa, with one-third of the funds being used for “onshore wind, solar photovoltaic and energy efficiency projects in Germany.”

On 14 November 2024, the EIB and European Investment Fund announced EUR100 million in funding for Enpal, a German energy company.<sup>1701</sup> This funding will support the development of “Europe's first public solar securitisation” which is an “innovative financing instrument for private solar systems on the capital market.” This initiative will make solar energy more affordable and solar energy solutions more feasible for homeowners and other small-scale actors, contributing to the transition to a renewable power sector.

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<sup>1696</sup> EIB approves a €300 million loan to Red Eléctrica for the construction of Salto de Chira hydroelectric power plant in the Canary Islands, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-403-eib-approves-a-eur300-million-loan-to-red-electrica-for-the-construction-of-salto-de-chira-hydroelectric-power-plant-in-the-canary-islands>

<sup>1697</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Poland's payment request for the second and third instalments under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, for €9.4 billion, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5743](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5743)

<sup>1698</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Lithuania's third payment request for €463 million, under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5783](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5783)

<sup>1699</sup> November infringements package: key decisions, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 26 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf\\_24\\_5223](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_5223)

<sup>1700</sup> Germany: EIB and Haspa join forces to finance small businesses, mid-caps and small renewable energy projects, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-445-germany-eib-and-haspa-join-forces-to-finance-small-businesses-mid-caps-and-small-renewable-energy-projects>

<sup>1701</sup> Germany: EIB-Group and Enpal boost residential solar market, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-448-eib-group-and-enpal-boost-residential-solar-market-in-germany>

On 14 November 2024, the European Commission endorsed Czechia's EUR1.9 billion Recovery and Resilience Plan payment request.<sup>1702</sup> The funding includes support to "[accelerate]... renewable energy development" by simplifying permits and enabling renewable energy such as solar power to be used for electricity.

On 14 November 2024, the European Commission approved EUR790 million in grant aid for Romania to cover unexpected expenses related to the closure of four coal mines in the Jiu Valley.<sup>1703</sup> Per Romania's commitments in the Recovery and Resilience Plan and Territorial Just Transition Plan, this funding "will help Romania to phase out coal by 2032" aiding power sector decarbonization.

On 20 November 2024, the European Commission approved Romania's EUR578 million scheme to lower electricity levies for energy-intensive companies in order to promote renewable energy sources for electricity.<sup>1704</sup> The levies will be reduced by 75 to 85 per cent.

On 20 November 2024, the EIB signed a EUR500 million loan agreement with Iberdrola to enable the development of a project to improve electricity grid efficiency and resilience, use electricity in new ways and support the interconnectivity of renewable energy sources.<sup>1705</sup> This project aims to support energy security and enable the energy transition in 12 autonomous communities in Spain.

On 25 November 2024, the EIB Group and Inbank signed a PLN701 million deal for synthetic securitization to enable three years of lending to private individuals in Poland for the installation of solar panels and heat pumps.<sup>1706</sup>

On 25 November 2024, the European Commission endorsed Germany's EUR13.5 billion Recovery and Resilience Plan payment request.<sup>1707</sup> The funding includes support for onshore and offshore wind energy reforms to increase renewable energy usage for electricity and work towards long-term renewable energy goals.

On 29 October 2024, the EIB and Naturgy signed a EUR400 million loan agreement of the total EUR1 billion approved amount for renewable energy investments in solar and onshore wind and for hybrid facilities in Spain.<sup>1708</sup> This initiative will increase Spain's renewable energy capacity by 2.3 GW and help to power 115,000 households annually to support decarbonisation and the energy transition.

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<sup>1702</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Czechia's third payment request under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5826](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5826)

<sup>1703</sup> Commission approves €790 million Romanian State aid measure to support closure of coal mines in Jiu Valley, European Commission (Brussels) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5844](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5844)

<sup>1704</sup> Commission approves €578 million Romanian State aid scheme to support energy-intensive companies, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5981](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5981)

<sup>1705</sup> Spain: EIB and Iberdrola sign €500 million loan financed by NextGenerationEU to expand smart electricity grids, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-460-el-bei-e-iberdrola-firman-un-prestamo-de-500-millones-de-euros-financiados-con-fondos-next-generation-para-inversiones-en-expansion-de-las-redes-electricas-inteligentes-en-espana>

<sup>1706</sup> Poland: EIB Group signs first synthetic securitisation backed by solar panel loans to private individuals with PLN 625 million to Inbank, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-468-eib-group-signs-first-synthetic-securitisation-backed-by-solar-panel-loans-to-private-individuals-in-poland-with-pln-625-million-to-inbankp>

<sup>1707</sup> Commission endorses preliminary assessment of Germany's second payment request for €13.5 billion under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6065](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6065)

<sup>1708</sup> Spain: EIB and Naturgy agree a €1 bn loan to invest in solar energy and onshore wind projects, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-479-eib-and-naturgy-agree-a-eur1-bn-loan-to-invest-in-solar-energy-and-onshore-wind-projects-in-spain>

On 2 December 2024, the EIB announced a EUR400 million loan for ČEZ to support energy efficiency and renewable energy in Czechia.<sup>1709</sup> In part, this loan will enable the development of new infrastructure for renewable energy such as solar and wind, allowing the power grid to “absorb up to additional 5.5 gigawatts of new renewables.” This will help to reduce Czechia’s reliance on fossil fuel imports in accordance with the REPowerEU plan and power sector decarbonization.

On 5 December 2024, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, Brazil’s President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Argentina’s President Javier Gerardo Milei, Paraguay’s President Santiago Peña Palacios and Uruguay’s President Luis Lacalle Pou signed the EU-Mercosur partnership agreement on economic, sustainability, geopolitical, and security-related issues.<sup>1710</sup> Of note, the partnership focuses on trade in “strategic net zero industry sectors such as renewable energy technologies” and emphasizes the Paris Agreement. The EU will also provide EUR1.8 billion to the Mercosur countries to support their green and digital transition as part of the Global Gateway.

On 8 December 2024, the European Commission approved Estonia’s EUR2.6 billion scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1711</sup> This funding support offshore wind to work towards a net-zero economy.

On 11 December 2024, the EIB announced a EUR225 million framework loan for Prologis, Inc. to install rooftop solar panels and battery storage systems.<sup>1712</sup>

On 12 December 2024, the EIB, with support from InvestEU, announced a EUR500 million counter-guarantee for Commerzbank AG to establish bank guarantees for EUR1 billion.<sup>1713</sup> These guarantees will support wind-energy manufacturers with new wind farms investments in the EU and are expected to result in private investments of EUR8 billion. This initiative contributes to decarbonization in the power sector.

On 16 December 2024, the European Commission approved Italy’s EUR9.7 billion scheme under the TCTF.<sup>1714</sup> This funding will enable “the construction of new onshore wind, solar photovoltaic, hydropower and sewage gases electricity production installations” within 36 months to add 17.65 GW of energy. This scheme will result in increased renewable energy sources for electricity generation.

On 16 December 2024, the EIB announced a EUR243 million green loan for the ERG Group to support renewable energy in Italy, France and Germany.<sup>1715</sup> By the end of 2025, this loan will enable the construction “of three greenfield onshore wind farms in France, the repowering of two existing wind farms in Italy and another in Germany, and the repowering and revamping of seven existing solar power plants in Italy.” In total,

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<sup>1709</sup> Czech electricity grid to get upgrade with €400 million EIB loan to utility ČEZ, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-481-czech-electricity-grid-to-get-upgrade-with-eur400-million-eib-loan-to-utility-cez>

<sup>1710</sup> EU and Mercosur reach political agreement on groundbreaking partnership, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6244](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6244)

<sup>1711</sup> Commission approves €2.6 billion Estonian State aid scheme to support renewable offshore wind energy to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 8 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6262](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6262)

<sup>1712</sup> Prologis secures €225 million EIB loan to accelerate solar and energy projects across Europe, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-499-prologis-secures-eur225-million-eib-loan-to-accelerate-solar-and-energy-projects-across-europe>

<sup>1713</sup> Germany: EIB and Commerzbank to boost Europe's wind manufacturers, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-504-eib-and-commerzbank-to-boost-europe-s-wind-manufacturers>

<sup>1714</sup> Commission approves an Italian State aid scheme to support renewable electricity production to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6432](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6432)

<sup>1715</sup> EIB provides €243 million to ERG for renewable energy development in Italy, France and Germany, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-511-eib-provides-eur243-million-to-erg-for-renewable-energy-development-in-italy-france-and-germany>

this will result in an added renewable energy capacity of approximately 270 megawatts to support 200,000 families access renewable power.

On 16 December 2024, the Council of the European Union approved conclusions on promoting geothermal energy.<sup>1716</sup> The Council called for faster deployment of geothermal energy across the EU by adopting or adapting proposals for its promotion. These measures include easier access to permits and finance for geothermal projects. The Council also floated the idea of a European Geothermal alliance.

On 17 December 2024, the EIB announced a EUR200 million loan to Distribuție Energie Electrică România to increase energy efficiency and support the interconnectivity of renewable energy sources in Romania.<sup>1717</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the European Commission announced part two of the European Semester Autumn Package.<sup>1718</sup> In particular, the Commission's recommendation for economic policy in the EU recommends that EU Member States work together to develop an EU-wide strategy that encompasses national strategies to work towards "effective electrification and the green transition" including by significantly increasing the use of renewable energy and decreasing the use of imported fossil fuels.<sup>1719</sup>

On 18 December 2024, the European Commission and EIB announced EUR2.7 billion in funding for 39 projects in eight EU Member States.<sup>1720</sup> These projects will focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency in lower-income EU Member States by producing renewable energy for electricity, modernizing energy networks, reducing greenhouse gas emissions for heat production and through other strategies.

On 19 December 2024, the EIB and EDP Group signed a EUR500 million credit out of an approved EUR900 million green framework loan and EUR200 million loan out of an approved EUR800 million investment loan for renewable energy in Europe.<sup>1721</sup> The EUR500 million loan will go towards will help develop solar photovoltaic and wind onshore plants with a total capacity of 1,943 megawatts in Portugal, Spain and Italy. The EUR200 million loan will help modernize key energy infrastructure, support smart energy management and enable the integration of renewable energy into the power grids in Spain and Portugal.

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<sup>1716</sup> Geothermal energy: Council calls for faster deployment, European Council (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date 30 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/16/geothermal-energy-council-calls-for-faster-deployment/>

<sup>1717</sup> Romania's electricity distribution network gets an upgrade with a €200 million EIB loan to Distribuție Energie Electrică România, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-515-romania-s-electricity-distribution-network-gets-an-upgrade-with-a-eur200-million-eib-loan-to-distributie-energie-electrica-romania>

<sup>1718</sup> The second part of the European Semester Autumn Package addresses socio-economic challenges for 2025, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6427](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6427)

<sup>1719</sup> Recommendation for a COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION on the economic policy of the euro area, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/60337037-1815-47fc-9c22-772b12046025\\_en?filename=COM\\_2024\\_704\\_1\\_EN.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/60337037-1815-47fc-9c22-772b12046025_en?filename=COM_2024_704_1_EN.pdf)

<sup>1720</sup> Joint press release: Commission and European Investment Bank clear an additional €2.7 billion from emissions trading revenues for cleaner energy systems via the Modernisation Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 27 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6426](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6426)

<sup>1721</sup> EIB and EDP sign €700 million in loans to rollout renewable energy projects and to finance power grid expansion in southern Europe, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-516-eib-and-edp-sign-eur700-million-in-loans-to-rollout-renewable-energy-projects-and-to-finance-power-grid-expansion-in-southern-europe>

On 20 December 2024, the EIB and ORLEN Group signed a PLN900 million agreement for projects to support the energy transition in Poland.<sup>1722</sup> The funding will be used to expand the distribution network of Energa, in part, expanding the renewable energy capacity by 1.4 GW and enabling 900,000 additional households to access clean energy.

On 20 December 2024, the EIB signed a EUR100 million green loan agreement with Iberdrola for a new photovoltaic plant in Italy's Enna and Catania provinces.<sup>1723</sup> This project will produce approximately 400 gigawatt hours of energy per year to support 154,000 Italian households contributing to power sector decarbonization.

On 20 December 2024, the EIB signed an "Intermediated Framework Loan," investing EUR500 million to support Deutsche Bank in continuing to finance projects in "renewable energies and energy efficiency."<sup>1724</sup> The loan aims support low carbon electricity production.

On 29 January 2025, the European Commission announced that it would allocate almost EUR1.25 billion to 41 energy infrastructure projects, including for offshore clean electricity production.<sup>1725</sup> These projects seek to further integrate and decarbonise the European power sector.

On 17 February 2025, the European Commission approved a EUR2.3 billion Finnish State aid scheme, including measures to support investment in renewable power generation sources.<sup>1726</sup> This scheme seeks to help accelerate Finland's transition to a decarbonised power sector.

On 9 March 2025, the European Commission approved two State aid schemes to support renewable hydrogen production: a EUR400 million scheme in Austria and a EUR36 million scheme in Lithuania.<sup>1727</sup> These initiatives aim to produce approximately 112,000 tonnes of renewable hydrogen in Austria and 13,000 tonnes in Lithuania, contributing to the EU's decarbonisation goals by reducing carbon dioxide emissions by up to 536,000 tonnes and 61,000 tonnes, respectively. The funding remains contingent upon "contributing to the deployment or financing of the additional renewable electricity."

On 10 April 2024, the European Commission approved a new Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) Commission dedicated to promoting the development of nuclear technologies.<sup>1728</sup>

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<sup>1722</sup> Poland: EIB doubles to more than €420 million financing to ORLEN Group to boost power distribution network, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-521-poland-eib-doubles-to-more-than-eur420-million-financing-to-orlen-group-to-boost-power-distribution-network>

<sup>1723</sup> Italy: EIB signs €100 million green loan with Iberdrola backed by SACE for new photovoltaic plant in Sicily, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-520-eib-signs-eur100-million-green-loan-with-iberdrola-backed-by-sace-for-new-photovoltaic-plant-in-sicily>

<sup>1724</sup> DB IFL RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY EU, European Investment Bank (Brussels) 2 January 2024. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20240436>

<sup>1725</sup> EU invests over €1.2 billion in cross-border infrastructure contributing to build our Energy Union and to boost competitiveness, European Commission (Brussels) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_377](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_377)

<sup>1726</sup> Commission approves €2.3 billion Finnish State aid scheme to foster the transition to a net-zero economy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_527](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_527)

<sup>1727</sup> Commission approves a €400 million Austrian State aid scheme, and a €36 million Lithuanian State aid scheme, to support renewable hydrogen production, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_718](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_718)

<sup>1728</sup> IPCEI Nucleare: l'Italia al centro di progetti strategici europei sulle tecnologie nucleari innovative Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 10 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/ipcei-nucleare-litalia-al-centro-di-progetti-strategici-europei-sulle-tecnologie>



On 14 April 2025, the European Commission approved a EUR400 million state aid scheme to support renewable hydrogen production in Spain.<sup>1729</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonized power sector by 2035. To this end, the EU has taken strong actions to decarbonize the power sector through funding for renewable energy and electricity projects including for solar photovoltaics and wind energy. The EU has also provided funding to several EU Member States for renewable energy and decarbonisation initiatives under the Recovery and Resilience Facility and Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework. It has also issued formal notices or reasoned opinions against EU Member States that have failed to transpose the EU's renewable energy related objectives into national law.

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

*Analysts: Hamza Noor and Mabek Kaur*

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<sup>1729</sup> Commission approves a €400 million Spanish State aid scheme to support renewable hydrogen production, European Commission (Brussels) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025.  
[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_1059](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1059)

## 8. Environment: Forest Protection

“We are committed to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests, [and in that context welcome the launch of country packages for forests, nature, and climate at the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.]”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

### Background

Environmental issues have been a priority for the G7 since the 1979 Tokyo Summit where leaders highlighted the need to develop alternative energy sources and limit carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide emissions.<sup>1730</sup> By the late 1980’s, the G7 had recognized deforestation as a major issue related to the environment and began calling for forest preservation and conservation globally.<sup>1731</sup> Despite declining rates of forest loss, the Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that as of 2020, 10 million hectares of forest are lost each year due to deforestation.<sup>1732</sup> Given this, the G7’s commitment towards forest protection is necessary to conserve, protect and restore forests.

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders pledged to take the environment into consideration when developing long-term economic policies.<sup>1733</sup>

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders recognized “the international dimension of environmental problems” and invited the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment to share research priority areas to address environmental pollution.<sup>1734</sup>

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders pledged to cooperate to address “environmental problems such as acid deposition and air pollution.”<sup>1735</sup>

<sup>1730</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1731</sup> Paris Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

<sup>1732</sup> A fresh perspective Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.fao.org/interactive/forest-resources-assessment/2020/en/>

<sup>1733</sup> Declaration of the Ottawa Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 3 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/communique/index.html>

<sup>1734</sup> The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 11 September.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

<sup>1735</sup> The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1985bonn/communique.html>

At the 1986 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to preserve the environment and emphasized the need for international cooperation in this regard.<sup>1736</sup>

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders affirmed their responsibility to preserve a healthy environment for future generations.<sup>1737</sup> G7 members stated that doing so involved taking initiative to mitigate environmental issues such as the destruction of tropical forests.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, G7 leaders pledged to include environmental considerations in economic policymaking.<sup>1738</sup> Additionally, G7 members acknowledged that although progress was made towards several environmental areas, further action is still needed for issues of deforestation.

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their responsibility to preserve forests by calling for sustainable forest management.<sup>1739</sup> G7 members also called for more financial and logistical cooperation with international organizations to combat deforestation.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders pledged to “take action to increase forests, while protecting existing ones.”<sup>1740</sup> Additionally, G7 members recognized the alarming rates of destruction in tropical forests and ecologically sensitive areas around the world, committing to international cooperation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards the protection of forests.<sup>1741</sup> Additionally, G7 members commended the measures taken to protect the Brazilian Tropical Forest by the Government of Brazil, the World Bank and European Commission in their pilot program.

At the 1992 Munich Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards forest protection to bolster the momentum developed from the Rio Conference.<sup>1742</sup> Additionally, G7 members advocated for the development of international review processes for the forest principles. In doing so, the member states aimed to establish international agreements and further assistance on global forest protection strategies.

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable forest conservation, management and development.<sup>1743</sup>

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 leaders strengthened their commitment to forest conservation in accordance with their agreements in the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.<sup>1744</sup> In doing so, G7 leaders agreed to cooperate to support the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development intergovernmental panel on forests.

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<sup>1736</sup> Tokyo Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 1986. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1986tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1737</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html>

<sup>1738</sup> Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communique.html>

<sup>1739</sup> Paris Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

<sup>1740</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

<sup>1741</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

<sup>1742</sup> Economic Declaration: Working Together for Growth and a Safer World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1992. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1992munich/communique/index.html>

<sup>1743</sup> Economic Declaration: A Strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 July 1993. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<sup>1744</sup> Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 5 September. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communique/index.html>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders pledged to implement a practical Action Program dedicated to furthering sustainable forest management globally.<sup>1745</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders pledged to assess the progress in the G8 Action Program implemented at the 1997 Denver Summit amidst environmental, economic and political catastrophes due to the Amazonian and south-east Asian forest fires.<sup>1746</sup> Additionally, the G8 reaffirmed its commitment to supporting efforts to conserve forests.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders pledged to enhance forestry commitments by combating illegal logging and hosting projects to help Indigenous and local communities practice sustainable forest management.<sup>1747</sup>

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the environment, focusing on the importance of renewable energy sources, sustainable development and the need for Export Credit Agencies to adhere to environmental regulations.<sup>1748</sup>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to address deforestation.<sup>1749</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders launched a “Marine Environment and Tanker Safety” action plan with a focus on marine conservation and sustainable fisheries.<sup>1750</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders pledged to reduce deforestation-induced carbon emissions, with a strong focus on developing countries.<sup>1751</sup> In addition, G8 members pledged to conserve forest biodiversity and support domestic and international actions to address forest loss and implement sustainable forest management.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of biodiversity conservation and encouraged actions to reduce deforestation-related greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries.<sup>1752</sup> G8 Environment Ministers also committed to promoting sustainable forest management and emphasized the importance of biological diversity and forest conservation as part of the 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity.<sup>1753</sup>

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders pledged to continue reducing deforestation-induced emissions and forest degradation.<sup>1754</sup> G8 leaders also committed to encouraging public-private partnerships for forest-related

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<sup>1745</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>1746</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1747</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1748</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>1749</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>1750</sup> Marine Environment and Tanker Safety: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 11 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine_en.html)

<sup>1751</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 5 September. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

<sup>1752</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>1753</sup> G8 Environment Ministers Meeting 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2008. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/env080526-BD.html>

<sup>1754</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

issues, enhanced cooperation to combat illegal logging and continued efforts to conserve forests, sustainably manage forests and enhance forest carbon stocks.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reiterated the importance of environmental sustainability and green recovery, focusing on climate change as the key issue area for the environment.<sup>1755</sup> G8 leaders also recognized the United Nations International Year of Biodiversity and called for international cooperation and science-policy to address biodiversity loss.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to move towards a low-carbon economy as a way of protecting the environment and to halt biodiversity loss.<sup>1756</sup>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to the protection of the marine environment and reiterated the importance of renewable energy sources for sustainable development.<sup>1757</sup> Recognizing the post-2015 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G7 leaders also committed to supporting the environmental, economic and social Sustainable Development Goals.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards sustainable forest management and the eradication of illegal logging.<sup>1758</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to take action towards a clean environment, including air, water and soil.<sup>1759</sup> G7 leaders, excluding the United States, also committed to implementing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and establishing partnerships to address climate change.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders pledged that policies towards agriculture, forestry and other land sectors will be sustainability oriented.<sup>1760</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders pledged to develop supply chains that take measures to promote sustainable development.<sup>1761</sup> Additionally, G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to enhanced cooperation to stop and reverse forest loss by 2030.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable forest management, forest restoration and sustainable supply chains.<sup>1762</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed to creating financial solutions that allow for forest conservation and protection.<sup>1763</sup> Additionally, G7 members welcomed the country-specific plans developed at the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to address

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<sup>1755</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>1756</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1757</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1758</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1759</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>1760</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1761</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>1762</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>1763</sup> Apulia G7 Leader's Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

forests, nature and the climate. Lastly, G7 members pledged to take measures to mitigate the detrimental effects of extreme wildfires.

### Commitment Features

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting and restoring forests.”<sup>1764</sup> This commitment presents its three key targets as 1) conserving forests 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests.

### Definitions and Concepts

“Commit” is understood to mean “to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.”<sup>1765</sup>

“Develop” means “that a new initiative will be established in the area.”<sup>1766</sup> Old initiatives do not apply.

“Innovative financial solutions” are understood to mean “mechanisms and approaches that can be used to acquire, structure, govern and allocate financial resources toward adaptation priorities.”<sup>1767</sup> These mechanisms “can enable access to financial resources from financial institutions, private investors, institutional investors (such as pension funds), impact investors, foundations and other philanthropists and may be blended with traditional sources of financing.” Examples of innovative financial instruments, as defined by the Natural Adaptation Plan, Global Network and the International Institute for Sustainable Development, include: blue bonds, climate resilience bonds, green loans, social bonds, sustainability bonds, sustainability linked bonds, sustainability linked loans, blended finance, public-private partnerships, payment for ecosystem services, stormwater markets, tax increment financing, credit guarantees, liquidity facilities, catastrophe bonds, debt-for-nature and debt for climate and other nature swaps.<sup>1768</sup>

In the context of forests, “conservation” is understood to mean “a range of activities, tools and approaches to achieve forest health and biodiversity objectives, including in managed forests where harvesting occurs.”<sup>1769</sup>

In the context of forests, “protection” is understood to mean “the creation of parks and other areas to legally protect forests from industrial activity and to help preserve healthy ecosystems.”<sup>1770</sup>

In the context of forests “restoration” is understood to mean “the process of halting and reversing degradation, resulting in improved ecosystem services and recovered biodiversity.”<sup>1771</sup>

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<sup>1764</sup> G7 Apulia Leader’s Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>1765</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1766</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1767</sup> NAP Global Network, Inventory of Innovative Financial Instruments for Climate Change Adaptation (Winnipeg) n.d. Access date: 5 September 2024. <https://napglobalnetwork.org/innovative-financing/?category=debt-instruments#categories>

<sup>1768</sup> Innovative Financial Instruments and Their Potential to Finance Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) May 2023. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.iisd.org/system/files/2023-06/financial-instruments-climate-change-adaptation.pdf>

<sup>1769</sup> Conservation and protection of Canada’s forests, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2024. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/forests/sustainable-forest-management/conservation-and-protection-canadas-forests/17501>

<sup>1770</sup> Conservation and protection of Canada’s forests, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2024. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/forests/sustainable-forest-management/conservation-and-protection-canadas-forests/17501>

<sup>1771</sup> Principals for Ecosystem Restoration to Guide the United Nations Decade 2021-2030, UN Environment Program (Brussels) n.d. Access date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/51cf/80c9/8eb4d2a18b50e61a63e2fde1/under-principles-en.pdf>

According to the Convention on Biological Diversity, a “forest” is defined by “the presence of trees and the absence of other predominant land uses.”<sup>1772</sup> Forests may be “used for purposes of production, protection, multiple-use or conservation (i.e. forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas), as well as forest stands on agricultural lands (e.g. windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with a width of more than 20m) and rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands.” Trees planted for agricultural production or the agroforestry system are excluded from this definition.

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in all three commitment dimensions: 1) conserving forests, 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests. Examples of strong actions include public-private partnerships to conserve forests, debt-for-nature plans that redirect a country’s debt obligations towards forest conservation and restoration and sustainability-linked bonds issued by governments for forest protection, and those listed above in the Definitions and Concepts section. Innovative financial solutions may be developed by individual members or through multilateral partnerships, including multilateral funds, where G7 members serve on boards.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in less than three of the commitment dimensions. They may also achieve partial compliance by taking weak actions in all three areas. Examples of weak actions include speeches, diplomatic meetings or other communications that advocate for the use of innovative financial solutions.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member does not take strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in any of the three commitment dimensions or takes weak action in only one or two of the commitment areas. Further, any action that is not financing related is excluded from this report. For instance, if a member declares a swath of land protected but this effort does not include innovative financing, this is excluded and does not count towards compliance.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has taken weak action towards developing innovative financial solutions in two or fewer of: to 1) conserve, 2) protect and 3) restore forests.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in one or two of the commitment dimensions or has taken weak action in all three of the commitment dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in all three commitment dimensions: 1) conserving forests, 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests.

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### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Director General at Global Affairs Canada Cam Do and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD38.5 million.<sup>1773</sup> These projects include forest restoration for 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource

<sup>1772</sup> Definitions, Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal) n.d. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cbd.int/forest/definitions.shtml>

<sup>1773</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million towards sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1774</sup>

On 15 July 2024, Executive Director of the Climate Finance Division at Global Affairs Canada Andrew Hurst alongside the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1775</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1776</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 8 October 2024, Global Affairs Canada, the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.<sup>1777</sup> The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to “cushion the risks” for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.<sup>1778</sup>

On 10 October 2024, the Department of Finance announced the re-opening of a ten-year “green bond” to raise an additional CAD2 billion for reinvestment into nature conservation and the green economy, including

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<sup>1774</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1775</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

<sup>1776</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1777</sup> New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

<sup>1778</sup> Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>



low-carbon energy and infrastructure.<sup>1779</sup> Canada's green bond framework includes measures for reforestation, afforestation, restoration and conservation of forests.<sup>1780</sup>

On 11 October 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1781</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.<sup>1782</sup> The initiative proposes "a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund" and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Hurst and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1783</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia's West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Canada and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1784</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Canada alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1785</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Director General Do and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1786</sup>

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<sup>1779</sup> Canada successfully re-opens 10-year green bond to raise an additional \$2 billion, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/10/canada-successfully-re-opens-10-year-green-bond-to-raise-an-additional-2-billion.html>

<sup>1780</sup> Government of Canada Green Bond Framework, Government of Canada (Ottawa) November 2023. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/fin/publications/green-bond/Green%20Bond%20Framework%20Report%20EN%20v02.pdf>

<sup>1781</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1782</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>1783</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1784</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1785</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1786</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Director General Do and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1787</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Executive Director Hurst and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1788</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1789</sup>

On 27 February 2025, Executive Director Hurst and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.<sup>1790</sup> The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.<sup>1791</sup> These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Canada advanced strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the restoration, protection and conservation of forests through its support of fund disbursements by the GEF, CIF and GCF.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Oliver Dungavell*

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<sup>1787</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1788</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1789</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1790</sup> Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1791</sup> CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Senior Advisor for Climate and Environment at the French Ministry for Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Stephane Cieniewski and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totally in USD38.5 million.<sup>1792</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1793</sup>

On 24 June 2024, France and the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.<sup>1794</sup> This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 5 July 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry launched the “Forest Renewal” call for projects.<sup>1795</sup> This initiative strives to promote forest carbon sinks, steady wood supply, the maintenance of ecosystem services and the conservation of biodiversity habitats. Financial assistance will be given to public and private forest owners to renew, enrich and improve forests to promote environmental resilience against climate change. This call for projects is in conjunction with France’s objective to reforest ten per cent of the nation’s forests by planting one billion trees in ten years.

On 15 July 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1796</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

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<sup>1792</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1793</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1794</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD\\_Project%20Approval.pdf](https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf)

<sup>1795</sup> Planification écologique : lancement de l’appel à projets « Renouvellement forestier », Ministère de l’Agriculture de la Souveraineté alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 5 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/planification-ecologique-lancement-de-lappel-projets-renouvellement-forestier>

<sup>1796</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.<sup>1797</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>1798</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1799</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1800</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.<sup>1801</sup> The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1802</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, France and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing

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<sup>1797</sup> Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

<sup>1798</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

<sup>1799</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1800</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1801</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>1802</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1803</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.<sup>1804</sup> Of note, France will be providing EUR50 million to the GBFF in 2024.

On 29 October 2024, Minister of Ecological Transition, Energy, Climate and Prevention Agnès Pannier-Runacher, the Country Partnership Seed Fund, the Finance for Permanence Project by Nature Conservancy, the GEF and the United Nations Development Programme in Gabon announced USD60 million through the Biodiversity Finance Initiative to support sustainable forest management and preserve biodiversity in Gabon.<sup>1805</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Pannier-Runacher launched the national biodiversity credit system.<sup>1806</sup> This system encourages private sector action to protect biodiversity and promote environmental restoration, including forests.

On 14 November 2024, France alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1807</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1808</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries

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<sup>1803</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1804</sup> Joint statement on donors' pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

<sup>1805</sup> Le Gabon, la France et plusieurs partenaires internationaux annoncent un partenariat de 60 millions de dollars pour soutenir l'ambition du Gabon en faveur de la conservation de la biodiversité et du climat, Ministère de la Transition Écologique et de la Cohésion des Territoires (Paris) 29 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/gabon-france-plusieurs-partenaires-internationaux-annoncent-partenariat-60-millions-dollars>

<sup>1806</sup> Agnès Pannier-Runacher annonce le lancement du dispositif français de crédits biodiversité pour mobiliser les financements privés en faveur de la biodiversité, Ministère de la Transition Écologique et de la Cohésion des Territoires (Paris) 14 November 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/agnes-pannier-runacher-annonce-lancement-du-dispositif-francais-credits-biodiversite>

<sup>1807</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1808</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1809</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 11 February 2025, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.<sup>1810</sup> The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1811</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1812</sup>

On 28 February 2025, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.<sup>1813</sup> This additional funding supports actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. France has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF. France has also contributed to innovative financial solutions for forest conservation through CAFI and the Biodiversity Finance Initiative.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Oliver Dungavell*

## Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Head of Climate Finance Division at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Annette Windmeisser and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several

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<sup>1809</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1810</sup> "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval\\_PROCONGO\\_UNEP\\_UNCDF.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf)

<sup>1811</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1812</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1813</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension\\_IFAD\\_FODECC\\_1.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf)

innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.<sup>1814</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 24 June 2024, Germany and the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.<sup>1815</sup> This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1816</sup>

On 25 June 2024, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection allocated EUR19 million to the new Global Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation Hub of the International Union for Conservation of Nature at the 2024 Oslo Tropical Forest Forum.<sup>1817</sup> Funding will be provided through Germany's International Climate Initiative to support forest restoration in six African and Latin American countries.

On 15 July 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1818</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 15 August 2024, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.<sup>1819</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

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<sup>1814</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev.\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev._01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1815</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD\\_Project%20Approval.pdf](https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf)

<sup>1816</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF.\\_SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev.\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev._01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1817</sup> Oslo Tropical Forest Forum: Für den Klimaschutz die Wiederherstellung der Natur beschleunigen, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Berlin) 25 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/oslo-tropical-forest-forum-fuer-den-klimaschutz-die-wiederherstellung-der-natur-beschleunigen>

<sup>1818</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

<sup>1819</sup> Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>1820</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1821</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 8 October 2024, the KfW, Germany's development financial institution unveiled the Worldwide Alliance for Landscape-based Decarbonization at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.<sup>1822</sup> The facility, backed by EUR9 million from the Ministry of International Development and Cooperation provides financing for innovative carbon-sink projects, prioritizing new and biodiverse forests. The alliance aims to crowd in private financing and incentivize carbon market action.

On 8 October 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze, the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Global Affairs Canada and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.<sup>1823</sup> The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to "cushion the risks" for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.<sup>1824</sup>

On 10 October 2024, Vice-Chair of the Adaptation Fund Board and Senior Policy Officer at the Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Nina Alsen and the Adaptation Fund Board approved over USD31 million for innovative environmental projects in several countries.<sup>1825</sup> Projects include promoting resilience to climate change in Benin, Azerbaijan, Somalia and Peru, as well as promoting sustainable ecosystem restoration and protection in Pakistan and Senegal. This action contributes to the conservation, protection and restoration of forests in the specified countries.

On 11 October 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1826</sup>

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<sup>1820</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for "Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central" (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

<sup>1821</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1822</sup> KfW presents new initiative to sequester CO2, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2025. [https://www.kfw.de/About-KfW/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_824384.html](https://www.kfw.de/About-KfW/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_824384.html)

<sup>1823</sup> New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

<sup>1824</sup> Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>

<sup>1825</sup> Decisions of the Adaptation Fund at its forty-third meeting, Adaptation Fund (Bonn) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/FINAL-Board-Decisions-AFB43-October-2024.pdf>

<sup>1826</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)



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On 24 October 2024, Ms Windmeisser, alongside the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board, approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1828</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Germany and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1829</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.<sup>1830</sup> Of note, Germany will be providing EUR50 million to the GBFF in 2024.

On 5 November 2024, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Steffi Lemke launched the Climate Wilderness Fund, a financing mechanism promoting the protection of forests and natural habitats.<sup>1831</sup> The programme enables private and community partners to purchase, protect and maintain 50-hectare areas of forest and other biodiverse habitats.

On 10 November 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock, Minister Schulze, Minister Lemke and Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Robert Habeck attended the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.<sup>1832</sup> The delegates reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to mobilizing private investment and climate finance for environmental purposes including conservation.

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<sup>1827</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>1828</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1829</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1830</sup> Joint statement on donors’ pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

<sup>1831</sup> Bundesumweltministerium startet Förderprogramm für mehr Wildnis in Deutschland, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 5 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-startet-foerderprogramm-fuer-mehr-wildnis-in-deutschland>

<sup>1832</sup> Gemeinsame Pressemitteilung des AA, BMWK, BMZ und BMUV anlässlich der 29. Weltklimakonferenz, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 10 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2683868-2683868>

On 14 November 2024, Germany alongside other members at COP29 pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1833</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 19 November 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection and the Foreign Office collaboratively launched the 2024 International Climate Initiative Ideas Competition at COP29.<sup>1834</sup> This initiative will receive EUR200 million to support private sector investment for climate protection, the development and implementation of innovative financing mechanisms to enable the protection and restoration of forests and other climate-related projects.

On 19 November 2024, Minister Baerbock and Minister Lemke announced a EUR60 million contribution to the International Adaptation Fund (IAF), a multilateral financial instrument facilitating climate adaptation efforts in climate-vulnerable communities.<sup>1835</sup> The IAF supports forest conservation, ecosystem resiliency and sustainable land management initiatives through a blended finance model.

On 21 November 2024, Minister Lemke attended “Nature Day” at COP29, discussing international fund allocation and private investment in nature and biodiversity conservation.<sup>1836</sup> Minister Lemke verbally reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to developing financial solutions relating to nature and biodiversity conservation.

On 4 December 2024, Representative Laura Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.<sup>1837</sup> This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Representative Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.<sup>1838</sup> In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

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<sup>1833</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024.

<sup>1834</sup> COP29: Bundesregierung sucht internationale Vorreiterprojekte für Biodiversitäts- und Klimaschutz, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/cop29-bundesregierung-sucht-internationale-vorreiterprojekte-fuer-biodiversitaets-und-klimaschutz>

<sup>1835</sup> COP29: Deutschland investiert mit Beitrag zu internationalem Klimaanpassungsfonds in globale Resilienz und Stabilität, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/cop-29-deutschland-investiert-mit-beitrag-zu-internationalem-klimaanpassungsfonds-in-globale-resilienz-und-stabilitaet>

<sup>1836</sup> Von Cali über Baku nach Busan: Klimakrise untrennbar mit Artenaussterben und Rohstoffverbrauch verknüpft, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/von-cali-ueber-baku-nach-busan-klimakrise-untrennbar-mit-artenaussterben-und-rohstoffverbrauch-verknuepft>

<sup>1837</sup> Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is\\_4.02.rev02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_ethiopia\\_11282024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf)

<sup>1838</sup> Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_zambia\\_12022024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf)

On 18 December 2024, the Federal Cabinet adopted the National Strategy for Biological Diversity 2030, an action plan of 64 goals across 21 fields of action relating to the protection, maintenance and restoration of biodiverse ecosystems including forests and wooded areas.<sup>1839</sup> The policy outlines several innovative financial adaptations including a framework for the sustainable consumption of raw materials (i.e. wood), mobilization of private green investment and encouragement of corporate responsibility for biodiversity loss through economic incentives, legal requirements and public procurement.<sup>1840</sup> The policy reiterates Germany's commitment to combating biodiversity loss on a global scale through the provision of multilateral aid and continued contribution to international biodiversity funds.

On 20 December 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1841</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1842</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 23 December 2024, Minister for the Environment Steffi Lemke launched "Climate-Adapted Forest Management Plus," a payment for ecosystem services program to support private and municipal forest owners.<sup>1843</sup> The initiative invites forest owners to apply for financing to strengthen the resilience, adaptability and stability of wooded areas through the preservation of species-rich, biodiverse terrestrial ecosystems with enhanced carbon storage capabilities. Through funding provided by the Natural Climate Protection Action Program, EUR10 million will be allocated annually towards this initiative for twenty years, enabling forest restoration and protection.

On 11 February 2025, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.<sup>1844</sup> The project will be implemented by the

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<sup>1839</sup> Eine Strategie, die unsere natürlichen Lebensgrundlagen schützt, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/eine-strategie-die-unsere-natuerlichen-lebensgrundlagen-schuetzt>

<sup>1840</sup> Nationale Strategie zur Biologischen Vielfalt 2030, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 March 2025. [https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten\\_BMU/Download\\_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs\\_2030\\_strategie\\_bf.pdf](https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten_BMU/Download_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs_2030_strategie_bf.pdf)

<sup>1841</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

<sup>1842</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1843</sup> Nationale Strategie zur Biologischen Vielfalt 2030, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten\\_BMU/Download\\_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs\\_2030\\_strategie\\_bf.pdf](https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten_BMU/Download_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs_2030_strategie_bf.pdf)

<sup>1844</sup> "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval\\_PROCONGO\\_UNEP\\_UNCDF.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf)

United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Ms Windmeisser and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1845</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1846</sup>

On 27 February 2025, Representative Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.<sup>1847</sup> The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.<sup>1848</sup> These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

On 28 February 2025, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.<sup>1849</sup> This additional funding supports actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Through the Hamburg Sustainability Platform, Germany has taken strong action to advance the development of private investment in forest conservation, restoration and protection at the international level. Germany has also taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, GCF, CIF and CAFI.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Tiya Gupta*

## Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

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<sup>1845</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1846</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1847</sup> Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1848</sup> CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1849</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension\\_IFAD\\_FODECC\\_1.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf)

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Director of the Global Public Goods Office in the International Financial Relations Directorate of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance Gisella Berardi and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totally in USD38.5 million.<sup>1850</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Berardi and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1851</sup>

On 15 July 2024, Ms Berardi and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1852</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Berardi and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1853</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 11 October 2024, Ms Berardi and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1854</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.<sup>1855</sup> The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee

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<sup>1850</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev.\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev._01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1851</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF.\\_SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev.\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev._01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1852</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

<sup>1853</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1854</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1855</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Ms Berardi and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1856</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35.0 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25.0 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Italy and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1857</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Italy alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1858</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 14 November 2024, Director of International Development Cooperation at Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and Manager of the Italian Climate Fund Paolo Lombardo and Kenya’s Principal Secretary of the Department of State for Environment and Climate Change Festus Ng’eno signed an agreement whereby the Italian Climate Fund will loan EUR150 million for climate mitigation initiatives including “incentivizing reforestation” in Kenya.<sup>1859</sup> The Italian Climate Fund is an innovative financing instrument founded by the government of Italy.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.<sup>1860</sup> This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-

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<sup>1856</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1857</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1858</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1859</sup> Piano Mattei: dal Fondo Italiano per il Clima nuovo accordo da 150 milioni per la resilienza climatica del Kenya, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 15 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/piano-mattei-dal-fondo-italiano-il-clima-nuovo-accordo-da-150-milioni-la-resilienza>

<sup>1860</sup> Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc\\_is\\_4.02.rev02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_ethiopia\\_11282024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc_is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf)

financing.<sup>1861</sup> In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1862</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1863</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Deputy Director Berardi and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1864</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1865</sup>

On 11 April 2025, Italy's representative Antonio Navarra and the Adaptation Fund Board approved USD137 million in funding for sixteen new projects for climate adaptation.<sup>1866</sup> Several of these projects include a focus on conserving, protecting and/or restoring forests including a project for green and resilient ecosystems in Somalia. For this six-year project, the Fund will provide USD10 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development to support "agro-pastoral and pastoral ecosystems" with a significant focus on forest restoration.<sup>1867</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Italy has taken strong action to support innovative financial solutions for the protection,

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<sup>1861</sup> Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_zambia\\_12022024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf)

<sup>1862</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

<sup>1863</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1864</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1865</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1866</sup> DECISIONS OF THE ADAPTATION FUND BOARD AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH MEETING, Adaptation Fund Board (Bonn) 11 April 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/AFB.B.44.16.Rev.\\_1-Decisions-of-the-44th-Meeting-of-the-Adaptation-Fund-Board-1.pdf](https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/AFB.B.44.16.Rev._1-Decisions-of-the-44th-Meeting-of-the-Adaptation-Fund-Board-1.pdf)

<sup>1867</sup> ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL, Adaptation Fund (Bonn) 10 November 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/green-and-resilient-ecosystems-for-somali-livelihoods-hal-abuur/>

restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, Adaptation Fund and GCF. Italy has also supported innovative financial solutions through the Italian Climate Fund.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Tristen Ashworth*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Director for Climate Change and Environmental Issues at the Ministry of Finance Tsuyoshi Hyokai and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.<sup>1868</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1869</sup>

On 15 July 2024, Deputy Assistant Minister and Deputy Director General at the International Cooperation Bureau Affiliation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hideaki Chotoku and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1870</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1871</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their

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<sup>1868</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev\\_.01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_.01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1869</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF.\\_SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev\\_.01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev_.01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1870</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

<sup>1871</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>



projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1872</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.<sup>1873</sup> The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Chotoku and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1874</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Japan and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1875</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Japan alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1876</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Director Hyokai and the GCF’s Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1877</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Director Hyokai and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries

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<sup>1872</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1873</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>1874</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1875</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1876</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1877</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1878</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Deputy Assistant Minister Chotoku and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1879</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1880</sup>

On 27 February 2025, Director Hyokai and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People, and Climate program.<sup>1881</sup> The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.<sup>1882</sup> These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Japan has taken strong action to support innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, CIF, GBFF and GCF.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jack Eaton*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, the United Kingdom's Senior Responsible Officer for the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Ben Green and the GEF Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5

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<sup>1878</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1879</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1880</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1881</sup> Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1882</sup> CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

million.<sup>1883</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Green alongside the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1884</sup>

On 24 June 2024, the United Kingdom and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.<sup>1885</sup> This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 July 2024, Head of Climate Finance and International Systems Department at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Sarah Metcalf and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million. These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 19 July 2024, High Commissioner to Belize Nicole Davison announced the launch of “Resilient and Biodiverse Landscapes of Northern Mesoamerica” project for the conservation and protection of the Selva Maya Forest in Belize.<sup>1886</sup> The project aims to foster multi-sector collaboration, enable policy reform and build innovative financing mechanisms to incentivize the protection of the Selva Maya Forest’s biodiversity and rights for local communities and Indigenous peoples. The Biodiverse Landscapes Fund funds this project.

On 15 August 2024, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.<sup>1887</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

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<sup>1883</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1884</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1885</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD\\_Project%20Approval.pdf](https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf)

<sup>1886</sup> Biodiverse landscapes fund launched by UK and Belize governments, British High Commission Belmopan (Belmopan) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biodiverse-landscapes-fund-launched-by-uk-and-belize-governments>

<sup>1887</sup> Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>1888</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 8 August 2024, Chairperson for Projects for Nature Justin Francis announced a public-private partnership with the Scottish and Southern Electricity Network (SSEN) to restore 24 hectares of woodland in Somerset, England.<sup>1889</sup> SSEN will provide GBP250,000 to Heal Rewilding, a national nature recovery foundation, through Projects for Nature which is a federal initiative to facilitate ecosystem restoration by pairing private investors with pre-screened nature recovery projects.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Green and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1890</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 6 September 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy affirmed ambitions to increase the funds available to Samoa and other Small Island Developing States through the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub, during an address marking 75 years of the modern Commonwealth of Nations alliance.<sup>1891</sup> The Climate Finance Access Hub provides developing nations with financing for climate change mitigation, disaster relief and forest conservation through multilateral technical assistance and investment.

On 17 September 2024, Secretary Lammy announced ambitions to mobilize increased climate finance investment through international development banks, multilateral funds and international development programs to address the climate crisis, including efforts to protect and restore terrestrial biodiversity.<sup>1892</sup> Secretary Lammy also made specific reference to an investment program that coalesced over GBP1 billion in private investments to protect and restore forests covering over nine million hectares of land and announced the intention of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to expand this program in the Congo Basin rainforest in the future.

On 20 September 2024, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Steve Reed affirmed the United Kingdom's focus on mobilizing finance to support the Global Biodiversity Framework ahead of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16).<sup>1893</sup> The

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<sup>1888</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for "Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central" (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

<sup>1889</sup> Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks powers up nature recovery by backing Projects for Nature with £250,000, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://defraenvironment.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/08/scottish-and-southern-electricity-networks-powers-up-nature-recovery-by-backing-projects-for-nature-with-250000/>

<sup>1890</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1891</sup> 75 years of the modern Commonwealth: Foreign Secretary's speech, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/75-years-of-the-modern-commonwealth-foreign-secretarys-speech>

<sup>1892</sup> The Kew Lecture: Foreign Secretary's speech on the climate crisis, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-foreign-policy-speech-on-the-climate-crisis>

<sup>1893</sup> The Government announces new UK Special Representatives on Climate Change and Nature, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://defraenvironment.blog.gov.uk/2024/09/20/the-government-announces-new-uk-special-representatives-on-climate-change-and-nature/>

Global Biodiversity Framework agreement protects at least 30 per cent of marine and terrestrial ecosystems by 2030, emphasizing practices such as sustainable forest management.

On 27 September 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced a new facility within British International Investment dedicated to mobilizing pension and insurance funds for climate change mitigation and green finance in an address to the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>1894</sup> Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the need for both private and public investment in forest protection and nature conservation, citing forests as “vital” to biodiversity and reduced emissions.

On 1 October 2024, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Natural England launched “Natural Towns and Cities,” a collaborative financing initiative between the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Trust and Natural England.<sup>1895</sup> The initiative invites community partners, townships and city councils to apply for grants of between GBP250,000 and GBP1 million to create, preserve and improve access to urban greenspace and parks.

On 8 October 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Global Affairs Canada, the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.<sup>1896</sup> The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to “cushion the risks” for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.<sup>1897</sup>

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Green and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1898</sup>

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<sup>1894</sup> PM United Nations General Assembly Speech: 26 September 2024, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-united-nations-general-assembly-speech-26-september-2024>

<sup>1895</sup> UK Councils invited to join and shape new initiative to improve access to nature and green space for millions of urban residents, National Lottery Heritage Fund (London) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-councils-invited-to-join-and-shape-new-initiative-to-improve-access-to-nature-and-green-space-for-millions-of-urban-residents>

<sup>1896</sup> New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

<sup>1897</sup> Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>

<sup>1898</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1899</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

On 24 October 2024, Ms Metcalf and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1900</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia's West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, the United Kingdom and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1901</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 26 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Secretary Lammy introduced a package of multilateral climate financing contributions to promote climate mitigation, disaster relief and natural conservation efforts in developing and climate-vulnerable economies at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa.<sup>1902</sup> The package includes expanded investment in pre-existing programs with innovative financing and forest conservation dimensions, including the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub and the Inter-American Development Bank's One Caribbean Fund.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.<sup>1903</sup> Of note, the United Kingdom will be providing GBP45 million to the GBFF, in addition to its prior pledge of GBP10 million.

On 5 November 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Nature Mary Creagh, Natural England Chair Tony Juniper and Secretary Reed confirmed the United Kingdom's involvement in the Cali Fund at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.<sup>1904</sup> The delegates reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment to fostering an international strategy to encourage private investment in the conservation, protection and restoration of biodiverse ecosystems.

On 12 November 2024, Secretary Lammy revealed a package of multilateral climate financing contributions to support forest restoration, protection and conservation in an address on Indigenous forest tenure at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.<sup>1905</sup> The package includes a GBP50 million program to reduce illegal logging and a GBP94 million

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<sup>1900</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1901</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1902</sup> UK attends Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-attends-commonwealth-heads-of-government-meeting-in-samoa>

<sup>1903</sup> Joint statement on donors' pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

<sup>1904</sup> COP 16 concludes: UK back on the global stage urging action on nature recovery and supporting 30by30 goals, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cop-16-concludes-uk-back-on-the-global-stage-urging-action-on-nature-recovery-and-supporting-30by30-goals>

<sup>1905</sup> Indigenous Peoples and protecting forests: Foreign Secretary's speech at COP29, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-speech-on-indigenous-peoples-and-protecting-forests>

initiative to support the forest governance rights of Indigenous and local communities in the Amazon. Secretary Lammy also confirmed that the United Kingdom will provide GBP1.5 billion in climate finance for forests overall.

On 14 November 2024, the United Kingdom alongside other members at COP29 pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1906</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 22 November 2024, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Ed Miliband announced GBP239 million in funding to support forest restoration, conservation and protection efforts in forest-rich regions including Columbia and Indonesia.<sup>1907</sup> This commitment includes GBP188 million in funding for the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions programme which enables forest protection through nature-based industrial carbon credits and a GBP48 million contribution to Mobilising Finance for Forests, a blended finance initiative aimed at encouraging private investment in sustainable forest management, conservation and restoration.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director at the Department for Energy and Net Zero Edward Webber and the Climate Investment Funds' Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.<sup>1908</sup> This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Webber and the Climate Investment Funds' Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.<sup>1909</sup> In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Officer Green and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1910</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Officer Green and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including

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<sup>1906</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024.

<https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1907</sup> UK unveils funding boost to help forest nations fight climate change, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (London) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-unveils-funding-boost-to-help-forest-nations-fight-climate-change>.

<sup>1908</sup> Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc\\_is\\_4.02.rev02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_ethiopia\\_11282024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc_is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf)

<sup>1909</sup> Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_zambia\\_12022024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf)

<sup>1910</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1911</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 16 January 2024, Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala Juliana Correa announced USD30 million in funding for environmental objectives, including forest and biodiversity preservation.<sup>1912</sup> The funding, delivered in partnership with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme, will be made available to over forty countries to advance sustainable development and climate ambitions.

On 6 February 2025, Ambassador Correa launched “Nature-based solutions for climate resilience of indigenous and local communities in Guatemala,” a three-year project in collaboration with the Global Centre on Biodiversity for Climate, the University of Greenwich and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.<sup>1913</sup> The initiative will invest over USD1 million in climate resiliency development through nature-based climate solutions, including reforestation, in the local communities of Alta Verapaz and Chiquimula.

On 11 February 2025, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.<sup>1914</sup> The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 17 February 2025, Acting High Commissioner to Belize Christine Rowland awarded a GBP99,191 grant to the non-profit organization MarAlliance for the restoration and sustainable management of local mangrove forests.<sup>1915</sup> The Sustainable Blue Economies Program Blue Social Challenge Fund supports regional climate resilience, ecosystem restoration and conservation efforts by delivering grants through its multilateral climate finance and technical assistance vehicles.

On 20 February 2025, Head of Climate Finance Metcalf and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1916</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1917</sup>

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<sup>1911</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1912</sup> UK will support Guatemala to increase its climate ambitions, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-support-guatemala-to-increase-its-climate-ambitions>

<sup>1913</sup> UK project will improve livelihoods and climate resilience of communities in Alta Verapaz and the dry corridor, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-project-will-improve-livelihoods-and-climate-resilience-of-communities-in-alta-verapaz-and-the-dry-corridor>

<sup>1914</sup> “Regional” - Approval of the project “PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital” implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval\\_PROCONGO\\_UNEP\\_UNCDF.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf)

<sup>1915</sup> UK Government awards grant to strengthen mangrove conservation in Belize, British High Commission Belmopan (Belmopan) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-awards-grant-to-strengthen-mangrove-conservation-in-belize>

<sup>1916</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

<sup>1917</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>



On 27 February 2025, Senior Advisor of Climate Funds and Institutions Department at the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office Jan Wimaladharma and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.<sup>1918</sup> The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the “Amazon and Cerrado biomes” will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.<sup>1919</sup> These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

On 28 February 2025, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.<sup>1920</sup> This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country. As part of this decision, the CAFI Board thanked the United Kingdom for its additional funding to support the CAFI Trust Fund.

On 17 March 2025, Ambassador Correa and Ambassador to El Salvador Ramin Navai travelled to the Trifinio Region of Central America to discuss sustainable land management with local authorities and community representatives including through the UK's Biodiverse Landscapes Fund.<sup>1921</sup> Ambassador Correa and Ambassador Navai reaffirmed the United Kingdom's continued collaboration with Central American communities to support sustainable development, forest protection and the safeguarding of local ecosystems and livelihoods.

On 28 March 2025, Ambassador Correa reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment to promoting the sustainable management of forests through the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund during a visit to Petén, Guatemala.<sup>1922</sup> During the visit, Ambassador Correa met with representatives from local communities, forest protection groups and conservation associations, facilitating dialogue about sustainable forest management, restoration and conservation.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The United Kingdom has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF. It has also contributed to innovative financial solutions for forest conservation through CAFI and conservation and protection through the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund, the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub and the Inter-American Development Bank's One Caribbean Fund. Domestically, the United Kingdom has fostered private-public partnerships to enable forest protection

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<sup>1918</sup> Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1919</sup> CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf\\_tfc.19\\_co-chairs-summary\\_03122025.pdf](https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf)

<sup>1920</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the “Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture” implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension\\_IFAD\\_FODECC\\_1.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf)

<sup>1921</sup> UK Strengthens Commitment to Biodiversity and Community Development in the Trifinio Region, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-strengthens-commitment-to-biodiversity-and-community-development-in-the-trifinio-region>

<sup>1922</sup> British Ambassador visits Peten to strengthen conservation of the Mayan Forest, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-ambassador-visits-peten-to-strengthen-conservation-of-the-mayan-forest>

and provided financing to communities, municipalities and non-profit organizations to encourage the development, restoration and conservation of forests and green spaces.

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

*Analyst: Tiya Gupta*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Director at the Department of the Treasury Abigail Demopulos and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.<sup>1923</sup> These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.<sup>1924</sup>

On 24 June 2024, the United States and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.<sup>1925</sup> This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 July 2024, Director for Climate and Environment at the Department of Treasury Victoria Gunderson and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.<sup>1926</sup> These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

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<sup>1923</sup> Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN\\_GEF.C.67.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work\\_Program\\_GEF\\_Trust\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf)

<sup>1924</sup> Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1925</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD\\_Project%20Approval.pdf](https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf)

<sup>1926</sup> Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.<sup>1927</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>1928</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 25 July 2024, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced USD140 million in funding for government cost-share programs that provide financial support to private forest landowners to make their land more resilient to climate change and USD50 million to incentivize landowners to increase storage and sequestration of carbon on forested land.<sup>1929</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation through management practices.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council announced allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.<sup>1930</sup> The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 10 October 2024, Lead Climate Finance Negotiator Kevin Adams and the Adaptation Fund Board approved over USD31 million for innovative environmental projects in several countries.<sup>1931</sup> Projects include promoting resilience to climate change in Benin, Azerbaijan, Somalia and Peru as well as promoting sustainable ecosystem restoration and protection in Pakistan and Senegal. This action will contribute to the conservation, protection and restoration of forests in these countries.

On 11 October 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.<sup>1932</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.<sup>1933</sup> The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee

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<sup>1927</sup> Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

<sup>1928</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024.

<https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>

<sup>1929</sup> USDA announces \$190M grant opportunity for payment programs that help private forest landowners address climate change, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-190m-grant-opportunity-payment-programs-help-private>

<sup>1930</sup> MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

<sup>1931</sup> Decisions of the Adaptation Fund at its forty-third meeting, Adaptation Fund Board (Bonn) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/FINAL-Board-Decisions-AFB43-October-2024.pdf>

<sup>1932</sup> Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD\\_COP16\\_GEF\\_report\\_Council.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf)

<sup>1933</sup> Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Ms Gunderson and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.<sup>1934</sup> Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, the United States and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.<sup>1935</sup> REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, the United States alongside other members present at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.<sup>1936</sup> The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 17 November 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced new financing for innovative financial solutions supporting forest conservation, protection, and restoration.<sup>1937</sup> The Biden-Harris administration pledged an additional USD50 million for the Amazon Fund, announced USD2.6 million for the Rainforest Wealth Project and declared support for Brazil’s new USD125 billion Tropical Forests Forever Facility. The US launched the Brazil Restoration and Bioeconomy Finance Coalition with a 2030 goal to mobilize USD10 billion for restoration projects including forests. In addition, the administration announced financing and engagement from the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) including a USD37.5 million loan for native-species tree-planting and a cooperation agreement with the Brazilian Development Bank focused on conservation and restoration in the Amazon. The announced actions also include expanded support for the Indigenous Peoples Finance Access Facility and USD1.9 million to launch the Alliance of Indigenous Peoples for the Forests of the Eastern Amazon.

On 11 December 2024, the Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service announced almost USD335 million in funding to provide “financial incentives for private forest landowners to manage their forests sustainably” and

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<sup>1934</sup> Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

<sup>1935</sup> Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

<sup>1936</sup> Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

<sup>1937</sup> FACT SHEET: President Biden Marks Historic Climate Legacy with Trip to Brazil’s Amazon Rainforest, The White House (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 1 January 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/17/fact-sheet-president-biden-marks-historic-climate-legacy-with-trip-to-brazils-amazon-rainforest/>

engage in public-private forest conservation.<sup>1938</sup> These projects include a focus on innovative agroforestry markets, a biodiversity crediting framework and other innovative financial solutions.<sup>1939</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the DFC, the Inter-American Development Bank, The Nature Conservancy and the Bank of America announced that USD1 billion in political risk insurance from the DFC to enable a debt conversion for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems in the Ecuadorian Amazon.<sup>1940</sup> This debt conversion will help Ecuador to generate USD800 million in net fiscal savings by 2035 and USD460 million in finances for the Amazon Biocorridor Program which aims to conserve “4.6 million hectares of existing protected areas and protect an additional 1.8 million hectares of forests and wetlands.”

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.<sup>1941</sup> This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.<sup>1942</sup> In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 11 December 2024, the Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service announced almost USD335 million in funding to provide “financial incentives for private forest landowners to manage their forests sustainably” and engage in public-private forest conservation.<sup>1943</sup> These projects include a focus on innovative agroforestry markets, a biodiversity crediting framework and other innovative financial solutions.<sup>1944</sup>

On 17 December 2024, the DFC, the Inter-American Development Bank, The Nature Conservancy and the Bank of America announced that USD1 billion in political risk insurance from the DFC to enable a debt

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<sup>1938</sup> USDA announces nearly \$335M in grants to support private forestland management and conservation as part of President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-nearly-335m-grants-support-private-forestland>

<sup>1939</sup> Forest Landowner Support Funded Projects, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/state-private-forestry/coop-forestry/ira-forest-landowner-support/funded-projects>

<sup>1940</sup> DFC Announces \$1 Billion in Political Risk Insurance for Ecuador’s First Debt Conversion, U.S. Embassy and Consulate in Ecuador (Quito) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://ec.usembassy.gov/dfc-announces-1-billion-in-political-risk-insurance-for-ecuadors-first-debt-conversion-to-support-terrestrial-and-freshwater-conservation/>

<sup>1941</sup> Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is\\_4.02.rev02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_ethiopia\\_11282024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf)

<sup>1942</sup> Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. [https://cif.org/sites/cif\\_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02\\_npc\\_investment-plan\\_zambia\\_12022024.pdf](https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf)

<sup>1943</sup> USDA announces nearly \$335M in grants to support private forestland management and conservation as part of President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-nearly-335m-grants-support-private-forestland>

<sup>1944</sup> Forest Landowner Support Funded Projects, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/state-private-forestry/coop-forestry/ira-forest-landowner-support/funded-projects>

conversion for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems in the Ecuadorian Amazon.<sup>1945</sup> This debt conversion will help Ecuador to generate USD800 million in net fiscal savings by 2035 and USD460 million in finances for the Amazon Biocorridor Program which aims to conserve “4.6 million hectares of existing protected areas and protect an additional 1.8 million hectares of forests and wetlands.”

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the GCF’s Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.<sup>1946</sup> Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.<sup>1947</sup> The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump ordered the United States’ withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, an international environmental agreement to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>1948</sup> The Paris Agreement incentivizes innovative financial solutions to address climate issues, including forest management.<sup>1949</sup> This withdrawal significantly undermines the United States’ commitment to developing innovative financial solutions to conserve, protect and restore forests.

On 11 February 2025, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.<sup>1950</sup> The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Director Gunderson and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.<sup>1951</sup> Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7

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<sup>1945</sup> DFC Announces \$1 Billion in Political Risk Insurance for Ecuador’s First Debt Conversion, U.S. Embassy and Consulate in Ecuador (Quito) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://ec.usembassy.gov/dfc-announces-1-billion-in-political-risk-insurance-for-ecuadors-first-debt-conversion-to-support-terrestrial-and-freshwater-conservation/>

<sup>1946</sup> GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

<sup>1947</sup> GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

<sup>1948</sup> PUTTING AMERICA FIRST IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/putting-america-first-in-international-environmental-agreements/>

<sup>1949</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations Climate Change (Bonn) n.d. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>1950</sup> “Regional” - Approval of the project “PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital” implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval\\_PROCONGO\\_UNEP\\_UNCDF.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf)

<sup>1951</sup> Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.<sup>1952</sup>

On 28 February 2025, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.<sup>1953</sup> This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The United States has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF and CAFI. The United States has also supported innovative financing through support for private forest landowners domestically. In addition, the US supported a variety of innovative financial mechanisms to protect, conserve, and restore the Amazon.

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

*Analyst: Jack Eaton*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 24 June 2024, the European Union and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.<sup>1954</sup> This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 August 2024, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.<sup>1955</sup> This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>1956</sup> This action contributes to forest restoration and conservation.

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<sup>1952</sup> FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

<sup>1953</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the “Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture” implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension\\_IFAD\\_FODECC\\_1.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf)

<sup>1954</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. [https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD\\_Project%20Approval.pdf](https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf)

<sup>1955</sup> Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

<sup>1956</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>

On 29 October 2024, the European Union announced a EUR12 million contribution to the United Nations Development Programme's Biodiversity Finance Initiative to assist developing countries in achieving national and global biodiversity targets.<sup>1957</sup>

On 29 October 2024, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen and the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced EUR160 million in new initiatives to support partner countries and protect biodiversity, including forest protection through rewards for nature conservation.<sup>1958</sup> This includes two pilot projects, one focusing on private forests in partnership with Estonia.

On 12 November 2024, the EIB announced EUR150 million in funding to protect, restore and expand forests in Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>1959</sup> The EIB will support capital-intensive structural investments and soft-asset investments for reforestation through this initiative.

On 11 February 2025, the European Union and CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.<sup>1960</sup> The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 28 February 2025, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.<sup>1961</sup> This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The European Union advanced strong action to support innovative financing to conserve, restore and protect forests through fund disbursements by CAFI and by funding initiatives through the European Investment Bank.

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

*Analyst: Tristen Ashworth*

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<sup>1957</sup> EU announced 12 million support for global biodiversity conservation efforts led by UNDP's Biodiversity Finance Initiative, United Nations Development Programme (Cali) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.undp.org/news/eu-announces-eu12-million-support-global-biodiversity-conservation-efforts-led-undps-biodiversity-finance-initiative>

<sup>1958</sup> EU delivers on its global financing commitments to protect nature at COP 16, European Commission (Cali) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/eu-delivers-its-global-financing-commitments-protect-nature-cop-16-2024-10-31\\_en](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/eu-delivers-its-global-financing-commitments-protect-nature-cop-16-2024-10-31_en)

<sup>1959</sup> EIB supports transformative forestry project in Côte d'Ivoire, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-supports-transformative-forestry-project-in-cote-d-ivoire>

<sup>1960</sup> "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval\\_PROCONGO\\_UNEP\\_UNCDF.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf)

<sup>1961</sup> CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension\\_IFAD\\_FODECC\\_1.pdf](https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf)



## 9. Food and Agriculture: Global Food Security

“Noting that we have already exceeded our joint commitment of USD 14 billion to global food security, announced in Elmau in 2022, we remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

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

### Background

Global food security and nutrition has been a developmental concern for several decades with the Food and Agriculture Organization noting that an estimated 2.33 billion people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2023.<sup>1962</sup> Between 713 and 757 million people also experienced undernourishment, which is a form of malnutrition. Issues of food insecurity and malnutrition are exacerbated by climate change, conflict, the loss of biodiversity, economic vulnerability, the COVID-19 pandemic and most recently, Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. Given the significance of these issues, G7 leaders have considered global food security to be a priority area at most summits since the early 1980’s. The G7 and World Bank also jointly launched the Global Alliance for Food Security during the German G7 Presidency in 2022, committing to address the global food security and nutrition crisis through coordinated action to consolidate data, “help Ukraine export agricultural goods,” prevent further hunger, enhance sustainable agricultural production and “provide regular agricultural market information.”<sup>1963</sup> Focusing on the need to address the global food security and nutrition crisis, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards this priority area at the 2024 Apulia Summit.

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, the G7 first discussed the topic of food and agriculture, recognizing the need to increase cooperation with developing nations to overcome hunger and malnutrition.<sup>1964</sup>

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders recognized the need for greater world food security and enhanced food production in the developing world.<sup>1965</sup>

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders committed to provide emergency food aid to famine and drought-stricken countries in Africa and agreed to enhance cooperation to support agricultural programs in Africa.<sup>1966</sup>

<sup>1962</sup> 2024 Global Report on Food Crises, Food Security Information Network and Global Network Against Food Crises (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.fsinplatform.org/grfc2024>

<sup>1963</sup> What is the Global Alliance for Food Security?, Global Alliance for Food Security (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.gafs.info/about/>

<sup>1964</sup> Communiqué: Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

<sup>1965</sup> Declaration of the Ottawa Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/communique/index.html>

<sup>1966</sup> The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

G7 leaders also committed to increasing the supply of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides to enhance food production.

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders endorsed the work of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to address agricultural production and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the reform of agricultural policies as outlined in the OECD ministerial communiqué of May 13, 1987.<sup>1967</sup>

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged that solutions need to be developed to address food security and social concerns.<sup>1968</sup>

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders stated that the framework for agricultural negotiations should be equitable and consider concerns about food security.<sup>1969</sup>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders pledged to provide official development assistance to sub-Saharan African countries to address food security, rural development, economic protection and other needs.<sup>1970</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders addressed the importance of biotechnology to ensure food safety and address global food security.<sup>1971</sup> G8 leaders committed to supporting biotechnology capacities, research and development and information sharing.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders committed to supporting rural development and agriculture and ensuring adequate access to food supplies as part of their poverty reduction strategy.<sup>1972</sup> G8 leaders pledged to focus on the most food-insecure regions for this commitment.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders committed to provide emergency food aid to Africa and discussed ways to alleviate the threat of famine and improve long-term food security.<sup>1973</sup>

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders recognized the need for multi-sector public-private partnerships to address global food insecurity, malnutrition and famine.<sup>1974</sup> G8 leaders also committed to increasing institutional capacities in agricultural science and technology to support food insecure countries, particularly in Africa.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyoko Summit, G8 leaders highlighted the need for coordinated international action to address food insecurity and the global food crisis.<sup>1975</sup> In this regard, G8 leaders committed to remove export restrictions on food commodities while developing open and efficient agricultural and food markets and agreed

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<sup>1967</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html>

<sup>1968</sup> Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communique.html>

<sup>1969</sup> Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1990. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

<sup>1970</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>1971</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>1972</sup> Final Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>

<sup>1973</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 10 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique\\_en.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique_en.html)

<sup>1974</sup> Ending the Cycle of Famine in the Horn of Africa, Raising Agricultural Productivity and Promoting Rural Development in Food Insecure Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/famine.htm>

<sup>1975</sup> G8 Leaders Statement on Global Food Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-food.html>

to take action to enhance agricultural productivity. G8 leaders also committed to reforming the Food and Agriculture Organization “to enhance its effectiveness in helping to ensure food security for all.”

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 members agreed to put food security and agriculture at the forefront of their international agenda, committing to increase sustainable food production and agriculture.<sup>1976</sup> The G8 also launched the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative to enhance global food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture through international partnerships, targeted investments, development assistance and efficient markets.<sup>1977</sup>

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards global food security and sustainable agriculture production.<sup>1978</sup> G8 leaders also noted that USD22 billion had been mobilized for sustainable agriculture as part of the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative and shared that the initiative's primary outcome was reduced malnutrition.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders encouraged bilateral and multilateral responses to address food security and sustainable agricultural production. G8 leaders also endorsed the Deauville Accountability Report which documents the G8's actions and funding for health and food security.<sup>1979</sup>

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders recognized an enhanced commitment towards global food security and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting food security through bilateral and multilateral responses.<sup>1980</sup> G8 leaders also launched the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition to enhance sustainable agriculture in Africa.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, the G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to support sustainable global food and nutrition security and to make progress to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.<sup>1981</sup> G8 members also expanded the New Alliance to include Nigeria, Benin and Malawi and began developing a new Cooperation Framework with Senegal to boost smallholder farmers and support agricultural development activities in low-income countries.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, the G7 leaders reiterated their commitment to supporting global food security and nutrition, the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition and the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme.<sup>1982</sup>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed “to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030” as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.<sup>1983</sup> To support this goal, G7 leaders shared the G7 Broad Food Security and Nutrition Development Approach.

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<sup>1976</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 10 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary.html>

<sup>1977</sup> L'Aquila Joint Statement on Global Food Security: L'Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI), G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 2009. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-food.html>

<sup>1978</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>1979</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1980</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

<sup>1981</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>1982</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>1983</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to enhanced cooperation to achieve the goal of lifting 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030.<sup>1984</sup> G7 members also expanded the G7 Broad Food Security and Nutrition Development Approach by endorsing the G7 Vision for Action on Food Security and Nutrition which focuses on empowering women, enhancing nutrition by addressing diverse food security challenges and promoting sustainability and resilience in agricultural systems.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed previous commitment to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and nutrition by 2030 while recognizing the rise of food insecurity in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and northeastern Nigeria.<sup>1985</sup> G7 leaders also acknowledged the international dimension of the global food security and nutrition crisis and pledged to increase support for sub-Saharan Africa in this regard.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards food security and recognized the rise of poverty, hunger and malnutrition globally, exacerbated by climate change, economic shocks and the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1986</sup> G7 leaders endorsed the G7 Famine Prevention and Humanitarian Crises Compact to address these issues and reaffirmed their commitment to provide USD7 billion in humanitarian aid.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to addressing the global food security crisis in part through the launch of the Global Alliance for Food Security which will enhance international partnerships to address global food insecurity.<sup>1987</sup> G7 members also pledged “an additional USD4.5 billion to protect the most vulnerable from hunger and malnutrition” and committed to supporting Ukrainian agriculture and promoting fair trade practices.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders launched the Hiroshima Action Statement for Resilient Global Food Security to address current and future food insecurity issues.<sup>1988</sup> Recognizing the worsening global food security and nutrition crisis, G7 leaders committed to provide USD21 billion in funding over the year to address humanitarian crises including the food crisis.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.”<sup>1989</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

Given the “global” emphasis of the commitment on addressing the food and security nutrition crisis made at the Apulia Summit, only international actions contribute to compliance.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Steadfast” is understood to mean “staying the same for a long time; not changing or losing purpose.”<sup>1990</sup>

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<sup>1984</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>1985</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>1986</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>1987</sup> G7 Statement on Global Food Security, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-food-security.html>

<sup>1988</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 10 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>1989</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>1990</sup> Steadfast, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access date: 6 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/steadfast>

“Address” is understood to mean “to give attention to or deal with a matter or problem.”<sup>1991</sup>

“The global food security and nutrition crisis” is understood to entail the “joint warning” issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP), regarding escalating food insecurity.<sup>1992</sup> The report highlighted Mali, the Palestinian Territories, South Sudan, Sudan, and Haiti as “highest concern” areas, and indicated Yemen, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, and Syria as “high concern” areas, and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Nigeria and the region of Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe as lower risk “hotspots.” The report expresses these regions as “experiencing famine or are at severe risk, requiring urgent action to prevent catastrophic conditions.” The FAO-WFP added Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia and Niger as hotspot areas for November 2024 to May 2025.<sup>1993</sup>

“Aggravate” is understood to mean “to make a bad situation worse.”<sup>1994</sup>

“Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine” is understood to mean the continuing war caused by Russian Federation’s unprovoked invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022.<sup>1995</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Compliance is based on “addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis” as defined in terms of the FAO-WFP Hunger Hotspots reports.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong actions to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis in at least three of the five areas of highest concern and at least 10 of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots.

Strong actions include financial support or direct food donation efforts to address the escalating food and nutrition crisis internationally, treatment or allocation of medical staff to address malnutrition related conditions, joint partnerships to strengthen local food production, funding to enhance agricultural productivity or prevent food loss and waste, funding sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, investments in agricultural equipment and actions to address the food supply chain disruptions caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and actions to address food price volatility.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action in one or two areas of highest concern or between one and nine of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots, or weak action in 12 or more areas. Weak actions include verbal affirmations of support or attending diplomatic meetings or summits that discuss the global food security and nutrition crisis.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member does not take action to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis or has taken only weak action in fewer than 12 of the 25 areas of highest concern or very high concern or hotspots.

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<sup>1991</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>1992</sup> World Bank Group, Food Security Update | World Bank Response to Rising Food Insecurity (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/agriculture/brief/food-security-update>

<sup>1993</sup> Hunger Hotspots FAO–WFP Early Warnings on Acute Food Insecurity November 2024 to May 2025 Outlook, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme (Rome) 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. [https://www.fightfoodcrises.net/sites/default/files/resource/file/HH\\_Nov24-May25\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.fightfoodcrises.net/sites/default/files/resource/file/HH_Nov24-May25_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>1994</sup> Aggravate, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access date: 6 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/english/aggravate>

<sup>1995</sup> The UN and the War in Ukraine, United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (Brussels) 9 March 2022. Access date: 8 September 2024. <https://unric.org/en/the-un-and-the-war-in-ukraine-key-information/>

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has not taken any action or has taken only weak action to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis in fewer than 12 of the 25 areas of “highest concern” or “very high concern” or hotspots.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis in one or two of five areas of highest concern or between one and nine of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots, or weak action in 12 or more areas.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong actions to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis in at least three of the five areas of highest concern and at least 10 of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots[.].

*Compliance Director: Nell Sykes*  
*Lead Analyst: Grace Choi*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, Director General at Global Affairs Canada Cam Do and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>1996</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 2 July 2024, Canada, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>1997</sup>

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>1998</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 28 September 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD10 million in humanitarian assistance to address urgent needs including food, water and protection services for civilians in Lebanon.<sup>1999</sup> This funding addresses the global food security crisis in a hotspot region.

<sup>1996</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>1997</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>1998</sup> Foreign Ministers’ Chair’s Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>1999</sup> Canada provides funding for humanitarian needs in Lebanon, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-provides-funding-for-humanitarian-needs-in-lebanon.html>

On 9 October 2024, Minister Hussen allocated CAD15 million in funding for humanitarian assistance in Lebanon.<sup>2000</sup> This funding supports food security in the hotspot region by enabling Canadian and international organizations to deliver food, water and critical assistance to civilians.

On 17 October 2024, Canada, the United Kingdom, the US Agency for International Development, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, France and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2001</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 18 October 2024, Minister Hussen concluded a two-day visit to Türkiye and the United Arab Emirates during which he met with humanitarian partners to discuss aid delivery to Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank during growing conflicts and famine in the region.<sup>2002</sup> This action addresses the food security crisis in one hotspot and one highest concern hotspot region.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2003</sup> The ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, FinDev Canada was among the G7 public development banks that joined development financial institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2004</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 25 October 2024, Canada provided CAD45 million to the World Food Programme to address the nutrition crisis in Haiti.<sup>2005</sup> The funding aims to enable 100,000 school children to receive daily meals.

On 6 November 2024, Canada alongside the Executive Board of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods

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<sup>2000</sup> Canada announces \$15 million in additional assistance for Lebanon and matching of donations to Canadian Red Cross and Humanitarian Coalition, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/canada-announces-15-million-in-additional-assistance-for-lebanon-and-matching-of-donations-to-canadian-red-cross-and-humanitarian-coalition.html>

<sup>2001</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2002</sup> Minister Hussen concludes visit to Türkiye and United Arab Emirates focused on Canada's humanitarian assistance, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/minister-hussen-concludes-visit-to-turkiye-and-united-arab-emirates-focused-on-canadas-humanitarian-assistance.html>

<sup>2003</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2004</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>2005</sup> Canada and WFP join forces to provide school meals to 100,000 students over five years in Haiti, World Food Programme (Port-au-Prince) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/canada-and-wfp-join-forces-provide-school-meals-100000-students-over-five-years-haiti>

Development Project over eight years.<sup>2006</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2007</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with Canada as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 21 November 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD75 million contribution to a USD394 sustainability-linked loan for agriculture in Africa. The Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (TDB) and the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank arrange the loans. TDB’s member countries, benefiting from the loan, include two highest concern areas: Sudan and South Sudan, one high concern area: The Democratic Republic of Congo and six hotspot areas, Somalia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.<sup>2008</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2009</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 29 November 2024, Minister Hussen announced an additional CAD50 million in funding for humanitarian aid in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>2010</sup> This funding addresses the global food security crisis in a highest concern hotspot region by delivering emergency medical, food and water aid to civilians.

On 6 January 2025, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union and six other countries issued a joint statement condemning the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar.<sup>2011</sup> The statement called for an end to violence, respect for international law and full humanitarian access.

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<sup>2006</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

<sup>2007</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2008</sup> Members, The Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (Bujumbura) n.d. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.tdbgroup.org/members/>

<sup>2009</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2010</sup> Minister Hussen announces \$50 million for humanitarian assistance in Gaza and West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/minister-hussen-announces-50-million-for-humanitarian-assistance-in-gaza-and-west-bank.html>

<sup>2011</sup> Joint statement on the human rights and humanitarian situation in Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/01/joint-statement-on-the-human-rights-and-humanitarian-situation-in-myanmar.html>



On 13 January 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD17.25 million in funding for humanitarian aid in Syria.<sup>2012</sup> This funding provides clean food, water, protection services, sanitation and health services to civilians in this high concern hotspot.

On 31 January 2025, Canada released a joint statement with Australia, the United States, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom calling for de-escalation of violence and full humanitarian access in Myanmar.<sup>2013</sup> In their statement, the allies recognized the acute food crisis in the region.

On 6 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced a CAD360.6 million contribution to Nutrition International, a Canadian-founded non-profit that tackles malnutrition and vitamin deficiency globally.<sup>2014</sup> This funding supports programs enhancing nutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, thus addressing the food security crisis in those regions, including several highest concern, high concern and hotspot regions.

On 7 February 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly allocated CAD100.7 million in humanitarian funding to Sudan and neighbouring Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia and South Sudan to address urgent needs for food, water and medical care.<sup>2015</sup> This funding addresses the food security crisis in two highest concern regions, two high concern regions and one global hotspot.

On 7 February 2025, Minister Hussen allocated CAD248.2 million in funding to fourteen new international development projects, enhancing healthcare strength and resilience in vulnerable regions.<sup>2016</sup> This funding addresses the global food security crisis by preventing malnutrition.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD56.8 million in funding for development and humanitarian projects for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and broader Indo-Pacific region.<sup>2017</sup> This includes initiatives to address food security in the Association and region which includes Myanmar.

On 21 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD7 million in humanitarian aid, including food and nutrition supports, for Haiti.<sup>2018</sup>

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<sup>2012</sup> Minister Hussen announces humanitarian assistance for Syria following visit to Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/01/minister-hussen-announces-humanitarian-assistance-for-syria-following-visit-to-middle-east.html>

<sup>2013</sup> Four Years from the Military Coup in Myanmar: Joint Statement by Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/four-years-from-the-military-coup-in-myanmar-joint-statement-by-australia-canada-the-european-union-the-republic-of-korea-new-zealand-norway-switzerland-the-united-kingdom-and-the-united-state/>

<sup>2014</sup> Minister Hussen announces \$360.6 million for global efforts to eliminate malnutrition, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-3606-million-for-global-efforts-to-eliminate-malnutrition.html>

<sup>2015</sup> Minister Joly announces additional sanctions in response to ongoing conflict in Sudan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-joly-announces-additional-sanctions-in-response-to-ongoing-conflict-in-sudan.html>

<sup>2016</sup> Minister Hussen announces new projects to strengthen health systems that reach the poorest and most vulnerable, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-new-projects-to-strengthen-health-systems-that-reach-the-poorest-and-most-vulnerable.html>

<sup>2017</sup> Minister Hussen announces support to strengthen Canada's development partnerships in Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-support-to-strengthen-canadas-development-partnerships-in-indo-pacific-region.html>

<sup>2018</sup> Minister Hussen announces new funding for multiple countries in the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada (Bridgetown) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 11 May 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/backgrounder-minister-hussen-announces-new-funding-for-multiple-countries-in-the-caribbean.html>

On 20 March 2025, Minister Joly announced CAD99 million in funding directed towards the United Nations, World Bank, Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations to support humanitarian efforts in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>2019</sup> Of this, CAD24.5 million will go towards food, shelter and other key needs.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Joly announced over CAD116 million in humanitarian, development and peace funding for Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>2020</sup> This funding includes CAD75 million for Sudan and over CAD41 million for Congo, providing humanitarian assistance, food and water protection services and developmental assistance in one highest concern hotspot and one high concern hotspot.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Joly announced CAD29.7 million in funding to Lebanon amidst the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.<sup>2021</sup> This funding provides essential aid to the region, including food, healthcare, shelter and clean water.

On 4 April 2025, Global Affairs Canada announced CAD9.75 million in funding for humanitarian assistance after an earthquake in Myanmar on 28 March 2025.<sup>2022</sup> Of this, CAD2 million directly supports the World Food Programme.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Canada has taken strong action to address the global food security and nutrition crisis in four highest concern areas: Haiti, the Palestinian Territories, Sudan and South Sudan; four high concern areas: Syria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad and Myanmar; and eight hotspot areas: Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Canada also taken strong action to address global food insecurity across sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia through funding to Nutrition International and across the globe more broadly through several development projects.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Trevor Cheb*

## **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, Senior Advisor for Climate and Environment at the French Ministry for Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Stephane Cieniewski and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>2023</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-

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<sup>2019</sup> Minister Joly announces assistance for people in Gaza and West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-joly-announces-assistance-for-people-in-gaza-and-west-bank.html>

<sup>2020</sup> Canada provides funding to respond to crises in Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-provides-funding-to-respond-to-crises-in-sudan-and-democratic-republic-of-congo.html>

<sup>2021</sup> Canada provides funding for humanitarian needs in Lebanon, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-provides-funding-for-humanitarian-needs-in-lebanon.html>

<sup>2022</sup> Canada providing assistance in response to earthquake's devastation in Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/04/canada-providing-assistance-in-response-to-earthquakes-devastation-in-myanmar.html>

<sup>2023</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF.\\_SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev\\_.01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev_.01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 21 June 2024, the French Development Agency signed a memorandum of understanding with INNOVX to advance the AgriFinance Platform and sustainable agriculture in Africa.<sup>2024</sup>

On 2 July 2024, France alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2025</sup>

On 19 July 2024, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and other European countries co-financed a shipment of 1,000 tonnes of flour from Ukraine to Gaza for Palestinian civilians.<sup>2026</sup> This shipment supports the wider collaborative effort between France, Ukraine, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Grain from Ukraine program to reduce food insecurity and the humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian Territories, a highest concern hotspot region.

On 30 August 2024, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs condemned Israel's attack on a WFP vehicle in Gaza on 28 August 2024 which led to the suspension of WFP activities in the Gaza Strip and aggravated the food security crisis in a highest concern hotspot.<sup>2027</sup>

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2028</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 16 October 2024, the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs celebrated World Food Day by announcing that Paris will host the 2025 Nutrition for Growth summit which aims to mobilize the international community to address malnutrition.<sup>2029</sup> The Ministry also reaffirmed its commitment to aid the worsening food crisis in conflict zones, particularly in Gaza and Sudan, through international funding and food aid projects. The Ministry reiterated France's role as a leading funder of the Grain from Ukraine program which aims to cope with the impact of Russia's war on Ukraine on rising food insecurity in Somalia, Yemen, Palestine, Djibouti, Malawi and Zambia. These actions signify France's commitment to addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis.

On 17 October 2024, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, the US Agency for International Development, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland and the European Commissioner for Crisis

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<sup>2024</sup> Le groupe AFD et INNOVX signent un protocole d'accord pour promouvoir une agriculture durable en Afrique., Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 21 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/carte-des-projets/projet-r2d2-reponses-risques-pour-developpement-durable>

<sup>2025</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>2026</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Grain from Ukraine program, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-grain-from-ukraine-program-19-jul-2024>

<sup>2027</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-30-aug-2024>

<sup>2028</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2029</sup> World Food Day, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/events-and-news/2024/article/world-food-day-october-16-2024>

Management released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2030</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 24 October 2024, President Emmanuel Macron and the United Nations hosted the International Conference in Support of Lebanon's People and Sovereignty.<sup>2031</sup> As part of the United Nations' USD1 billion commitment for aid, France pledged to raise EUR100 million and provide 100 tonnes of humanitarian freight for Lebanon. These actions address the food security crisis in a hotspot region.

On 22 October 2024, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships Thani Mohamed-Soilihi reaffirmed France's commitment to global food security and adopted a joint statement on the priorities of the G7 and France at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2032</sup> These priorities include support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and support of the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, the French Development Agency joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2033</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 29 October 2024, France criticized the Israeli Parliament's adopted laws banning the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East from operating in Israel, consequently exacerbating the food security and humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian Territories, a highest concern hotspot region.<sup>2034</sup>

On 1 November 2024, France delivered 29 tonnes of food aid to Lebanon, a hotspot area.<sup>2035</sup>

On 6 November 2024, France alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2036</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

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<sup>2030</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2031</sup> International Conference in Support of Lebanon's People and Sovereignty, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/international-conference-in-support-of-lebanon-s-people-and-sovereignty-paris>

<sup>2032</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2033</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>2034</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Laws passed by the Israeli Parliament banning UNRWA's activities in Israel, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-laws-passed-by-the-israeli-parliament-banning>

<sup>2035</sup> Lebanon - Emergency humanitarian aid from France (13 December 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/lebanon-emergency-humanitarian-aid-from-france-13-dec-2024>

<sup>2036</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

On 7 November 2024, the WFP announced the delivery of 19,200 metric tons of maize through the “Grain for Ukraine” program to address food insecurity in Malawi amidst drought due to El Niño.<sup>2037</sup> This initiative was enabled by USD15 million in funding from France, Korea, the Netherlands and Sweden.

On 13 November 2024, France contributed EUR3 million to the WFP to support food security in Afghanistan.<sup>2038</sup>

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2039</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with France as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 18 November 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot announced a 32 tonne humanitarian aid delivery including food to Lebanon, a hotspot area amended to a high concern area for the May to November outlook.<sup>2040</sup>

On 25 November 2024, the French Development Agency, its subsidiaries, and the Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development signed a partnership agreement to advance sustainable agriculture in developing countries.<sup>2041</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2042</sup> the Ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help The Haitian people.

On 13 December 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs delivered 39 tonnes in humanitarian aid including food to Lebanon, a high concern region.<sup>2043</sup>

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<sup>2037</sup> “Grain from Ukraine” maize arrives in Malawi to support drought-stricken communities, World Food Programme (Blantyre) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/grain-ukraine-maize-arrives-malawi-support-drought-stricken-communities>

<sup>2038</sup> France commits €3 million to WFP's efforts to improve nutrition among Afghan mothers and children, World Food Programme (Rome) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/france-commits-eu3-million-wfps-efforts-improve-nutrition-among-afghan-mothers-and-children>

<sup>2039</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2040</sup> Lebanon - France sends emergency humanitarian aid shipment (18.11.24), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/lebanon-france-sends-emergency-humanitarian-aid-shipment-november-18-2024>

<sup>2041</sup> Le Cirad, l'AFD et ses filiales Expertise France et Proparco consolident leur partenariat en faveur d'une agriculture durable dans les pays du Sud, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/le-cirad-lafd-et-ses-filiales-expertise-france-et-proparco-consolident-leur-partenariat-en-faveur-dune-agriculture-durable-dans-les-pays-du-sud>

<sup>2042</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2043</sup> Lebanon – Emergency humanitarian aid from France (13 December 2024), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/lebanon-emergency-humanitarian-aid-from-france-13-dec-2024>

On 20 December 2024, Ambassador to Haiti Antoine Michon outlined French support for Haiti during 2024 including EUR10.5 million in support for school food programs.<sup>2044</sup> Other sources corroborate this support as ongoing within the compliance period.<sup>2045</sup>

On 18 January 2025, Minister of Agriculture, Agrifood, and Forestry Annie Genevard attended the 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' conference with agriculture ministers from 62 countries and 14 international organization representatives in attendance.<sup>2046</sup> In the final communique, the ministers committed to enhanced international cooperation for sustainable bioeconomy efforts, to advance climate action and global food security. The ministers also endorsed a German-funded Global Bioeconomy Partnership led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

On 29 January 2025, Minister Barrot reaffirmed France's commitment to providing humanitarian and food aid to vulnerable populations in Haiti, a highest concern region.<sup>2047</sup>

On 6 February 2024, Proparco, a development finance institution co-owned by the French Development Agency, announced its support for Mirova which is an investment coalition addressing climate and biodiversity challenges and supporting regenerative agriculture and food security in developing regions.<sup>2048</sup>

On 13 February 2025, Minister Soilihi reaffirmed France's commitment to working with international institutions and Syrian transitional authorities to provide emergency food aid, nutrition and support for agricultural resilience during the Paris conference on Syria.<sup>2049</sup>

On 25 March 2025, France endorsed the United Nations General Assembly's decision to extend the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition resolution until 2030.<sup>2050</sup> France also reaffirmed its commitment to global food and nutrition security through measures such as hosting the Nutrition for Growth Summit and participating in the School Meals Coalition and the Global Alliance Against Hunger.

On 28 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Minister Soilihi hosted the Nutrition for Growth Summit.<sup>2051</sup> The Summit resulted in USD27.55 billion in international contributions towards global nutrition with France announcing EUR750 million in funding over five years to support nutrition and food

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<sup>2044</sup> France Announces a €2 Million Contribution to IOM for Assistance to Haitian Migrants Deported, International Organization for Migration (Port-au-Prince) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 2 May 2025. <https://reliefweb.int/report/haiti/france-announces-eu2-million-contribution-iom-assistance-haitian-migrants-deported>

<sup>2045</sup> En 2024, la France a renforcé sa coopération bilatérale en Haïti, Ambassade de France en Haïti (Port-au-Prince) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 2 May 2025. <https://ht.ambafrance.org/En-2024-la-France-a-renforce-sa-cooperation-bilaterale-en-Haiti>

<sup>2046</sup> 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2025 Final Communiqué, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/\\_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

<sup>2047</sup> Haiti – Conversation between M. Jean-Noël Barrot and his Haitian counterpart, Mr. Jean-Victor Harvel Jean-Baptiste, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/haiti/news/article/haiti-conversation-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-and-his-haitian-counterpart-mr>

<sup>2048</sup> Proparco Soutient Mirova Pour Le Lancement De Son Fonds De Deuxième Génération Dédié À La Gestion Durable Des Terres, Proparco (Paris) 6 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 February 2025. <https://www.proparco.fr/fr/actualites/proparco-soutient-mirova-pour-le-lancement-de-son-fonds-de-deuxieme-generation-dedie-la?origin=/fr/actualites?page=1>

<sup>2049</sup> Syria workshop, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/syria/news/2025/article/syria-workshop-13-feb-2025>

<sup>2050</sup> United Nations - Adoption of the resolution on the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/france-and-the-united-nations/news-and-events/news/article/united-nations-adoption-of-the-resolution-on-the-un-decade-of-action-on>

<sup>2051</sup> The Nutrition for Growth Summit mobilizes over US\$27 billion to reach nutrition-related Sustainable Development Goals, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/other-major-sectors/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-mobilizes-over-us-27-billion-to-reach-nutrition>

needs, address malnutrition and increase “food sustainability education.” This funding will support projects led by the French Development Agency and Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

On 16 April 2025, Minister Barrot pledged EUR50 million in additional humanitarian assistance, including food aid, to Sudan.<sup>2052</sup>

On 29 April 2025, France contributed EUR1 million to the WFP to support food security in Afghanistan for those engaging in vocational training.<sup>2053</sup>

France has partially complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. France has taken strong measures to address the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis in the Palestinian Territories, Sudan and Haiti classified as a highest concern area and in Lebanon, Sierra Leone and Malawi, classified as hotspots. France has also taken weak action in Syria, a high concern area. However, France has not taken strong action across at least three of the five highest concern and 10 of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots during the compliance period.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alisa Yudina*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, Head of Climate Finance Division at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Annette Windmeisser and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>2054</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 24 June 2024, Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid Luise Amtsberg visited the Democratic Republic of Congo to learn about the country’s food security issues.<sup>2055</sup> Commissioner Amtsberg also pledged to continue working with the Democratic Republic of Congo’s government to address humanitarian challenges.

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<sup>2052</sup> Sudan - London Sudan Conference (16 April 2025), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2025. Access Date: 7 May 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/sudan-london-sudan-conference-16-apr-2025>

<sup>2053</sup> The Government of France contributes EUR 1 million to WFP resilience projects in Afghanistan, World Food Programme (Kabul) 29 April 2025. Access Date: 2 May 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/government-france-contributes-eur-1-million-wfp-resilience-projects-afghanistan>

<sup>2054</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF.\\_SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>2055</sup> Abreisestatement von der Beauftragten der Bundesregierung für Menschenrechtspolitik und humanitäre Hilfe Luise Amtsberg vor ihrer Reise in die Demokratische Republik Kongo, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 24 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2664362>

On 25 June 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock announced EUR10 million in funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East, as well as EUR14 million for other organizations providing humanitarian assistance and food aid in Gaza.<sup>2056</sup>

On 28 June 2024, Minister Baerbock and Moroccan Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Nationals Abroad Nasser Bourita met to discuss areas of interest for bilateral cooperation.<sup>2057</sup> The Ministers also voiced their concern over the Russia-Ukraine conflict which has exacerbated food security challenges and reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the global ramifications of the conflict.

On 9 July 2024, the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development signed an agreement with Laos's Ministry of Education and Sports to provide EUR22 million for school meals through the World Food Programme (WFP).<sup>2058</sup>

On 16 July 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze, as President of the Sahel Alliance announced the launch of the Sahel Resilience Partnership in cooperation with the World Food Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund.<sup>2059</sup> Germany will provide an initial investment of EUR130 million to support the partnership in enhancing local food systems and social services in the region.<sup>2060</sup> The Sahel region include Mali, a highest concern area, Chad, a high concern area and Burkina Faso, a lower risk hotspot.

On 2 July 2024, Germany alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2061</sup>

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2062</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 7 October 2024, Germany announced that it will join the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, an initiative of Brazil's G20 Presidency, at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.<sup>2063</sup> Germany was the first G20 member to join the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty as well as is part of its Board of Champions.

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<sup>2056</sup> Statement of Germany during the 2024 UNRWA Pledging Conference, 12 July 2024, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations (New York) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://new-york-un.diplo.de/un-en/2666874-2666874>

<sup>2057</sup> Gemeinsame Mitteilung zum Deutsch-Marokkanischen Strategischen Dialog, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/-/2665268>

<sup>2058</sup> German support set to transform school meals in Lao PDR, World Food Programme (Vientiane) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/german-support-set-transform-school-meals-lao-pdr>

<sup>2059</sup> Speech by Federal Minister Svenja Schulze at the opening of the fifth General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/speeches-and-contributions/minister-svenja-schulze/opening-of-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel-alliance-224216>

<sup>2060</sup> Conflicts, Economic Crises, and the Impact of Climate Change: Comprehensive Investments from Germany Bolster Resilience in the Sahel Region, Alliance Sahel (Berlin) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 21 November 2024. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/press/sahel-resilience-partnership/>

<sup>2061</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>2062</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2063</sup> Germany to join the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Hamburg) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-to-join-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-230704>



On 17 October 2024, Germany, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, the US Agency for International Development, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2064</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 17 October 2024, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development contributed EUR10 million to the WFP to support food security in Zambia.<sup>2065</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2066</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced EUR36 million in humanitarian aid, including food, for Lebanon and Syria at the International Conference in Support of Lebanon's People and Sovereignty.<sup>2067</sup> This funding addresses the global food security crisis in one hotspot and one highest concern region.

On 24 October 2024, the Credit Institution for Reconstruction joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2068</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 1 November 2024, Germany agreed to provide EUR6 million to the United Nations Office for Project Services to fund logistical support for aid deliveries in Gaza.<sup>2069</sup>

On 4 November 2024, Minister Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Cem Özdemir and Agriculture Commissioner of the African Union (AU) Josefa Sacko inaugurated the office for the Agricultural Policy Dialogue (APD) project in Addis Ababa.<sup>2070</sup> The APD promotes collaborative solutions for global concerns such as hunger and climate change through sustainable agricultural development in the 55 member states of the AU. This action addresses the global food security crisis in AU members including South Sudan and Sudan

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<sup>2064</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2065</sup> Germany and WFP join hands to help Zambians recover from historic drought, World Food Programme (Lusaka) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/germany-and-wfp-join-hands-help-zambians-recover-historic-drought>

<sup>2066</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2067</sup> Joint statement on further support for Lebanon by the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/joint-declaration-aa-and-bmz-support-for-lebanon-232836>

<sup>2068</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>2069</sup> Germany Supports Aid Delivery Mechanism for Gaza with EUR 6 million [EN/AR], ReliefWeb (New York) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/germany-supports-aid-delivery-mechanism-gaza-eur-6-million-enar>

<sup>2070</sup> MEL stellt Zusammenarbeit mit afrikanischen Partnern auf neues Fundament – Projektbüro in Addis Abeba offiziell eingeweiht, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Addis Ababa) 4 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/123-afrikareise-partnerschaft.html>

which are highest concern areas, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad which are high concern regions and the Central African Republic, Somalia, Nigeria, Ethiopia and other hotspot regions.

On 6 November 2024, Germany alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2071</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

On 6 November 2024, Federal Minister Özdemir signed an agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization for a joint project reducing food waste across production systems and supply chains.<sup>2072</sup> The project aims to strengthen rural-urban linkages and build sustainable, resilient food systems in Lusaka and Medellín, Colombia.

On 7 November 2024, Minister Özdemir reiterated his support for the German-Zambian Agricultural Knowledge Centre during his visit to the project location in Zambia.<sup>2073</sup>

On 15 November 2024, Germany announced plans to deepen its collaboration with the WFP by broadening the reach of the “Accelerating School Meals Program” to more countries.<sup>2074</sup> This effort will include ongoing backing for the School Meals Coalition and related projects, with an emphasis on enhancing access to nutritious food for school-aged children, particularly through programs that source meals locally.

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2075</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with Germany as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 18 November 2024, Minister Özdemir and Denmark Agriculture Minister Jacob Jensen introduced a joint agenda to increase protein supply strength in the EU, addressing nutrition gaps caused by the supply chain disruption from the war in Ukraine.<sup>2076</sup>

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<sup>2071</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

<sup>2072</sup> Wissenstransfer für weniger Nachernteverluste, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 6 November 2025. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 March 2025. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/125-sambia-projekt-startschuss.html>

<sup>2073</sup> Mehr als 18.000 Menschen in klimaresilienter Landwirtschaft in BMEL-Projekt aus- und weitergebildet, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Lusaka) 7 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/126-deutsch-sambisches-wissenszentrum.html>

<sup>2074</sup> Governments and partners pledge to double school meals for children in hardesthit countries by 2030, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 7 June 2025. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/2030-school-meals-sprint-press-release/>

<sup>2075</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2076</sup> Deutschland und Dänemark fordern EU-Proteinstrategie, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Meldungen/DE/Presse/2024/241118-eu-proteinstrategie.html>

On 19 November 2024, the Environment Ministry and the Foreign Office pledged EUR60 million to the Climate Adaptation Fund at COP29, each ministry contributing half of the amount.<sup>2077</sup> The Fund supports countries most at risk from the climate crisis, with agriculture and food security among the targeted sectors.

On 21 November 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Claudia Müller underlined that especially vulnerable countries need support to adapt to low-emission agricultural systems at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>2078</sup> Müller also called for sustainable and local approaches to fight malnutrition, urging these issues to be discussed at the conference.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2079</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 27 November 2024, Germany agreed to contribute EUR3.4 million to the World Health Organization to provide health services including malnourishment treatment in Yemen.<sup>2080</sup> This action addresses the nutrition crisis.

On 5 December 2024, Germany announced a EUR10 million contribution to the Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils via the Global Crop Diversity Trust on the margins of the United Nations Desertification Conference.<sup>2081</sup> These funds support the Power of Diversity Funding Facility to promote the conservation and use of climate-resilient and neglected opportunity crops across Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>2082</sup>

On 13 December 2024, Germany pledged EUR20 million to the Crop Trust Endowment Fund at the COP16 UN Desertification Conference.<sup>2083</sup> This fund supports crop diversification through gene banks, enhancing soil health and advancing global food security.

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<sup>2077</sup> COP29: Deutschland investiert mit Beitrag zu internationalem Klimaanpassungsfonds in globale Resilienz und Stabilität, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Baku) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/cop-29-deutschland-investiert-mit-beitrag-zu-internationalem-klimaanpassungsfonds-in-globale-resilienz-und-stabilitaet>

<sup>2078</sup> Parlamentarische Staatssekretärin Müller beim Weltklimagipfel COP 29, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Baku) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/131-weltklimagipfel-cop29.html>

<sup>2079</sup> 7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2080</sup> WHO signs a €3.4 million agreement with the Government of Germany to sustain lifesaving health services in Yemen, World Health Organization 27 November 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.emro.who.int/yemen/news/who-signs-a-34-million-euros-agreement-with-the-government-of-germany-to-sustain-lifesaving-health-services-in-yemen.html>

<sup>2081</sup> UNCCD COP16: Crop Diversity as a Path to Combat Desertification and Ensure Food Security, Crop Trust (Bonn) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2025. <https://www.croptrust.org/news-events/news/unccd-cop16-crop-diversity-as-a-path-to-combat-desertification-and-ensure-food-security/>

<sup>2082</sup> Power of Diversity Funding Facility, Crop Trust (Bonn) n.d. Access Date: 6 June 2025. <https://www.croptrust.org/what-we-do/projects/power-of-diversity-funding-facility/>

<sup>2083</sup> UNCCD COP16: Crop Diversity as a Path to Combat Desertification and Ensure Food Security, Crop Trust (Bonn) 17 December 2025. Access Date: 2 March 2025. <https://www.croptrust.org/news-events/news/unccd-cop16-crop-diversity-as-a-path-to-combat-desertification-and-ensure-food-security/>

On 20 December 2024, the Federal Foreign Office allocated EUR10 million to the Syria Recovery Trust Fund to finance the restoration of food storage facilities, the rehabilitation of livestock production and other recovery projects.<sup>2084</sup> This action supports food security in a high concern hotspot region.

On 24 December 2024, the Federal Foreign Office contributed EUR1 million to the WFP to support food provisions and farming in Uganda.<sup>2085</sup>

On 14 January 2024, the WFP announced that in 2024, Germany provided EUR278.4 million to the WFP, offering a “critical lifeline” to millions across Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Yemen amid conflict, economic turmoil, and climate shocks.<sup>2086</sup> This funding supported both emergency food aid, such as reaching 1.1 million people monthly in Gaza, and long-term development efforts like school meal programs in Yemen, sustainable agriculture in Lebanon, and social protection in Jordan. Backed by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Germany’s contributions enabled WFP to respond swiftly to overlapping crises while helping communities build resilience and reduce long-term food insecurity.

On 17 January 2025, Minister Özdemir and African Union Agriculture Commissioner Josefa Sacko presented Germany’s Africa Concept for cooperation, promoting sustainable agriculture, climate resilience and functioning food systems in African countries.<sup>2087</sup>

On 18 January 2025, Minister Özdemir chaired the 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers’ conference with agriculture ministers from 62 countries and 14 international organization representatives in attendance.<sup>2088</sup> In the final communique, the ministers committed to enhanced international cooperation for sustainable bioeconomy efforts, to advance climate action and global food security. The ministers also endorsed the Ministry of Food and Agriculture-funded Global Bioeconomy Partnership led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

On 11 February 2025, the German Sparkassenstiftung for International Cooperation and IFAD launched Innovatech 2.0, providing access to agricultural technology for over 340 rural organizations across Latin America and Asia.<sup>2089</sup> The programme also provides technical training to youth, women, Indigenous communities and migrants. This action will support food security in Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru and Bangladesh.

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<sup>2084</sup> Germany Strengthens Its Support to the Syria Recovery Trust Fund, Syria Recovery Trust Fund (Amman) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.srtfund.org/news/846-germany-strengthens-its-support-to-the-syria-recovery-trust-fund>

<sup>2085</sup> Germany Supports Nutrition and Self-Reliance for Refugees in Uganda, World Food Programme (Kampala) 24 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/germany-supports-nutrition-and-self-reliance-refugees-uganda>

<sup>2086</sup> Germany’s Partnership with WFP Drives Humanitarian Aid and Resilience Across Middle East and North Africa, World Food Programme (Cairo) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 7 June 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/germanys-partnership-wfp-drives-humanitarian-aid-and-resilience-across-middle-east-and-north>

<sup>2087</sup> BMEL Lays New Foundation for Cooperation with African Partners, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/EN/2025/africa-concept.html>

<sup>2088</sup> 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers’ Conference 2025 Final Communiqué, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/\\_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

<sup>2089</sup> Innovatech 2.0: Digital solutions to boost the productivity and climate resilience of 17,000 crop and livestock producers, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Panama City) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/innovatech-2.0-digital-solutions-to-boost-the-productivity-and-climate-resilience-of-17-000-crop-and-livestock-producers>

On 25 February 2025, Germany contributed EUR11 million to the WFP to provide daily meals to 28,000 pre-school and primary school children in northern Togo.<sup>2090</sup> This assistance targets schools and communities hosting refugees affected by the Sahel crisis.

On 27 March 2025, Germany joined the Global Compact on Nutrition Integration initiative.<sup>2091</sup> This initiative promotes food security in tandem with other social goals, such as education, economic growth, and poverty reduction.

On 15 April 2025, Minister Baerbock announced EUR125 million in additional humanitarian assistance, including food aid, to Sudan.<sup>2092</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Germany has taken strong action to address the global food security and nutrition crisis in Mali, Sudan and the Palestinian Territories which classify as highest concern areas, Syria, Yemen and Chad which qualify as high concern areas and Malawi, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Zambia and Lebanon which classify as hotspots. Germany has also taken weaker action in South Sudan and Sudan which are highest concern areas, the Democratic Republic of Congo which is a high concern region and the Central African Republic, Somalia, Nigeria, Ethiopia and other hotspot regions through the Agricultural Policy Dialogue and its African Concept.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maggie Hung*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 15 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni provided an overview of the G7 Apulia Summit under the Italian Presidency at the closing press conference.<sup>2093</sup> Prime Minister Meloni stated that G7 members reinforced previous commitments and launched concrete initiatives across various sectors including food security. She also highlighted the G7's adoption of the Apulia Food Systems Initiative which aims to enhance agricultural production in Africa and make food systems in African countries more sustainable and resilient.

On 15 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva to discuss commitments made at the G7 Apulia Summit ahead of the G20 Rio de Janeiro Summit.<sup>2094</sup> The leaders focused on various areas for cooperation including food security and development in Africa.

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<sup>2090</sup> Germany and WFP join forces to reach crisis-affected children in northern Togo with nutritious school meals, World Food Programme (Lome) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/germany-and-wfp-join-forces-reach-crisis-affected-children-northern-togo-nutritious-school>

<sup>2091</sup> Deutschland tritt neuer Initiative zu Ernährungssicherung bei: Kampf gegen Hunger gelingt vor allem im Zusammenspiel, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Paris) 27 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/deutschland-tritt-neuer-initiative-zu-ernaehrungssicherung-bei-249306>

<sup>2092</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock travels to London for the Sudan conference, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 April 2025. Access Date: 7 May 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/sudan-konferenz-2714288>

<sup>2093</sup> President Meloni's closing press conference at the G7 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-closing-press-conference-g7-summit/26481>

<sup>2094</sup> G7 Summit: President Meloni meets with the President of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g7-summit-president-meloni-meets-president-brazil-luiz-cio-lula-da-silva/26021>

On 15 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President of the African Development Bank Group Akinwumi Adesina to discuss Italy's launch of the Mattei plan.<sup>2095</sup> The pair shared plans to collaborate to support the initiative which aims to address climate change, energy, food security, health services and skills and jobs for youth in Africa.

On 16 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni addressed the Summit on Peace in Ukraine, highlighting the importance of discussing food security and reinforcing Italy's commitment to the cause.<sup>2096</sup>

On 19 June 2024, Deputy Director of the Global Public Goods Office in the International Financial Relations Directorate of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance Gisella Berardi and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>2097</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 26 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke to the Chamber of Deputies emphasizing Europe's commitment to "guaranteeing access to commercial ports and freedom of navigation in the Black Sea" to enable Ukraine's grain exports and global food security.<sup>2098</sup>

On 2 July 2024, Italy alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2099</sup>

On 6 July 2024, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forests Francesco Lollobrigida and Algerian Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Youcef Cherfa signed an agreement for agricultural development in Algeria under the Mattei Plan framework.<sup>2100</sup> This action contributes to food security in the Horn of Africa.

On 8 July 2024, Director General for Development Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Stefano Gatti, Director of International Cooperation and Development Finance at the Italian National Promotional Institution Paolo Lombardo signed an agreement with the Government of Mozambique for the construction of the "Centro Agroalimentare di Manica" in the western Manica province of Mozambique.<sup>2101</sup> Italy will

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<sup>2095</sup> G7 Summit: Joint press statement by President Meloni and African Development Bank President Adesina, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024.

<https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-president-african-development-bank-group/26015>

<sup>2096</sup> President Meloni's speech at the Summit on Peace in Ukraine, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 16 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-speech-summit-peace-ukraine/26032>

<sup>2097</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>2098</sup> President Meloni's address to the Chamber of Deputies ahead of the European Council meeting on 27-28 June, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-chamber-deputies-ahead-european-council-meeting-27-28-june/26151>

<sup>2099</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>2100</sup> Lollobrigida, Algeria e Italia pilastri della sicurezza alimentare, Ministero dell'Agricoltura, della Sovranità Alimentare e delle Foreste (Roma) 7 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.politicheagricole.it/Algeria\\_Italia\\_BF](https://www.politicheagricole.it/Algeria_Italia_BF)

<sup>2101</sup> Mattei Plan for Africa: agreement signed for food and agriculture center in Mozambique, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/mattei-plan-africa-agreement-signed-food-and-agriculture-centre-mozambique/26202>

contribute EUR38 million in financing towards building this regional processing and distribution hub for local food and agricultural products.

On 25 July 2024, Italy contributed EUR12 million to support food security in Gaza, an area of highest concern.<sup>2102</sup>

On 28 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with Chinese Premier Li Qiang in Beijing to adopt an Action Plan to strengthen the Global Strategic Partnership for 2024 to 2027.<sup>2103</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Premier Qiang also signed six agreements for collaboration including one focused on food security.

On 29 July 2024, the National Promotional Institution (CDP) announced a joint investment of EUR400 million, including EUR200 million from the CDP to finance private sector growth and launch a new Growth and Resilience Platform for Africa.<sup>2104</sup> Food security will be among the major themes for private equity and venture capital to mobilize the funds towards. The EUR200 million benefits countries across Africa including Burkina Faso, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Zambia.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2105</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 4 October 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani approved EUR17 million for humanitarian aid including food supplies in Lebanon.<sup>2106</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2107</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, CDP joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2108</sup> This collaborative, set up by CDP, aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

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<sup>2102</sup> Italy's humanitarian initiative Food For Gaza supports efforts to alleviate hunger in the Strip, World Food Programme (Rome) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/italys-humanitarian-initiative-food-gaza-supports-efforts-alleviate-hunger-strip>

<sup>2103</sup> President Meloni meets with Premier Li Qiang during official visit to China, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-premier-li-qiang-during-official-visit-china/26320>

<sup>2104</sup> Italy's National Promotional Institution CDP and African Development Bank to invest €400 Million in Africa's Private Sector Growth, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (Rome) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. [https://www.cdp.it/sitointernet/page/en/italys\\_national\\_promotional\\_institution\\_cdp\\_and\\_african\\_development\\_bank\\_to\\_invest\\_400\\_million\\_in\\_africas\\_private\\_sector\\_growth](https://www.cdp.it/sitointernet/page/en/italys_national_promotional_institution_cdp_and_african_development_bank_to_invest_400_million_in_africas_private_sector_growth)

<sup>2105</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2106</sup> 17 million euros from Italy to support the civilian population in Lebanon, Italian Embassy in Beirut (Beirut) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://ambbeirut.esteri.it/en/news/dall\\_ambasciata/2024/10/17-million-euros-from-italy-to-support-the-civilian-population-in-lebanon/](https://ambbeirut.esteri.it/en/news/dall_ambasciata/2024/10/17-million-euros-from-italy-to-support-the-civilian-population-in-lebanon/)

<sup>2107</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2108</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

On 25 October 2024, the Italian government donated 15 trucks of humanitarian aid as part of the “Food for Gaza” initiative.<sup>2109</sup>

On 6 November 2024, Italy alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2110</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

On 17 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with Brazilian President Lula at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, reaffirming their joint commitment to enhance global food security and development.<sup>2111</sup>

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2112</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with Italy as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 18 November 2024, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation announced EUR5.4 million for nine emergency projects in Lebanon including initiatives to combat food insecurity.<sup>2113</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2114</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 27 November 2024, the Italian government delivered 20 tonnes of food aid to Amman as part of the “Food for Gaza” initiative.<sup>2115</sup> Italy also donated 15 “special IVECO trucks” worth EUR2 million to the WFP to assist with their humanitarian mission in the region.

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<sup>2109</sup> Tajani oggi a Genova consegna il primo camion donato dall'Italia al Programma Alimentare Mondiale per “Food for Gaza,” Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/)

<sup>2110</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

<sup>2111</sup> Vertice G20, incontro bilaterale Meloni – Lula, Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 17 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/vertice-g20-incontro-bilaterale-meloni-lula/27063>

<sup>2112</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2113</sup> Italy at the Forefront of the Humanitarian Emergency in Lebanon: Nine New Projects Launched for a Total of €5,400,000, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Beirut) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. <https://www.aics.gov.it/news/litalia-in-prima-linea-per-lemergenza-umanitaria-in-libano-avviati-nove-nuovi-progetti-per-un-totale-di-5-400-000-euro/?lang=en>

<sup>2114</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2115</sup> Food for Gaza. Arrivato oggi in Giordania da Brindisi il secondo volo italiano con 40 tonnellate di aiuti per la popolazione di Gaza, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/food-for-gaza-arrivato-oggi-in-giordania-da-brindisi-il-secondo-volo-italiano-con-40-tonnellate-di-aiuti-per-la-popolazione-di-gaza/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/food-for-gaza-arrivato-oggi-in-giordania-da-brindisi-il-secondo-volo-italiano-con-40-tonnellate-di-aiuti-per-la-popolazione-di-gaza/)



On 29 July 2024, CDP officially signed a joint investment of EUR400 million, including EUR200 million from the CDP to finance private sector growth and launch a new Growth and Resilience Platform for Africa.<sup>2116</sup> Food security will be among the major themes for private equity and venture capital to mobilize the funds towards.

On 20 December 2024, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli approved EUR115 million in funding for emergency aid, with EUR66 million allocated to protecting nutrition and health in Africa and EUR7 million allocated addressing food insecurity in Sudan and supporting Sudanese refugees in Chad and Ethiopia.<sup>2117</sup>

On 18 January 2025, Minister Lollobrigida attended the 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' conference with agriculture ministers from 62 countries and 14 international organization representatives in attendance.<sup>2118</sup> In the final communique, the ministers committed to enhanced international cooperation for sustainable bioeconomy efforts, to advance climate action and global food security. The ministers also endorsed a German-funded Global Bioeconomy Partnership led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

On 28 January 2025, the Italian Armed Forces delivered aid to civilians of the Gaza Strip, including 100 tonnes of food.<sup>2119</sup>

On 6 February 2025, Italy donated fifteen trucks of food aid to the WFP for civilians in Gaza, a highest concern hotspot region.<sup>2120</sup>

On 10 February 2025, the Agency for Development Cooperation donated EUR6.55 million to the WFP in Sudan, providing nutrition assistance to 200,000 women and young children in this highest concern region.<sup>2121</sup>

On 21 February 2025, Italy contributed EUR3 million to the WFP and UNHCR, providing humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees from Myanmar in Bangladesh.<sup>2122</sup> This contribution will support food security in the region.

On 17 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with King Abdullah II of Jordan and discussed the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.<sup>2123</sup> The two expressed appreciation for their cooperation in providing humanitarian aid to civilians.

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<sup>2116</sup> Africa Investment Forum: African Development Bank and Italy's CDP to Mobilise Up to €750 Million for Africa, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-african-development-bank-and-italys-cdp-mobilise-eu750-million-africa-79435>

<sup>2117</sup> Deliberati contributi per 115 milioni di euro per iniziative di emergenza, Ministero degli Affari Esteri della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 December 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/deliberati-contributi-per-115-milioni-di-euro-per-iniziativa-di-emergenza/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/deliberati-contributi-per-115-milioni-di-euro-per-iniziativa-di-emergenza/)

<sup>2118</sup> 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2025 Final Communiqué, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/\\_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

<sup>2119</sup> Assistenza alla popolazione della Striscia di Gaza, la nota di Palazzo Chigi, Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 28 January 2025. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/27570>

<sup>2120</sup> 15 Italian trucks delivered to WFP for humanitarian operations in Gaza, World Food Program (Ashdod) 6 February 2025. Access Date 27 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/15-italian-trucks-delivered-wfp-humanitarian-operations-gaza>

<sup>2121</sup> Italy and WFP partner to reduce malnutrition in Eastern Sudan, World Food Program (Port Sudan) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 27 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/italy-and-wfp-partner-reduce-malnutrition-eastern-sudan>

<sup>2122</sup> Italy partners with WFP and UNHCR to support Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, World Food Programme (Dhaka) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/italy-partners-wfp-and-unhcr-support-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh>

<sup>2123</sup> Incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Re di Giordania, Abdullah II, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 17 March 2025. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-il-re-di-giordania-abdullah-ii/27974>

On 27 March 2025, Minister Tajani announced EUR68 million for projects in Syria including food supply chains to combat insecurity.<sup>2124</sup>

On 4 April 2025, Italy donated EUR4 million to the WFP, connecting local farmers with school food programs, enhancing student nutrition, and supporting sustainable agriculture in Malawi, a hotspot.<sup>2125</sup>

On 10 April 2025, Ambassador to Mali Stefano Dejak and the Italian Development Cooperation Agency delivered food aid as part of an EUR4.1 million package.<sup>2126</sup>

On 7 May 2025, Director General for Development Cooperation of the Farnesina Stefano Gatti led a delegation to Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Guinea supported by the Mattei Plan Implementation Unit.<sup>2127</sup> The mission prioritized the transformation of agri-food systems across the region. In Ghana, the delegation presented a new initiative focused on strengthening sustainable food production and rural livelihoods through partnerships with Mediterranean agricultural institutes and private sector actors. In Guinea, they committed to expanding cooperation in the coffee, cocoa, and rice sectors. Across all three countries, the delegation identified strategic priorities and operational methods to scale up food system interventions, integrating professional training and entrepreneurship support. These efforts reaffirmed Italy's commitment to strengthening food resilience and rural development under the Mattei Plan.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Italy has taken strong action to address the global food and security nutrition crisis in the Palestinian Territories, Mali and Sudan which are highest concern areas, Chad, Syria and Myanmar which are high concern areas, and Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Malawi, Lebanon and Ethiopia which are classified as food insecurity hotspots. Italy also partnered with the with the African Development Bank to provide significant financing for the private sector including for Agriculture highest concern, high concern, and hotspot areas in Africa under the Mattei Plan

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joseph Mai*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, Director for Climate Change and Environmental Issues at the Ministry of Finance Tsuyoshi Hyokai and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>2128</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food

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<sup>2124</sup> Italy pledges 68 million euros in aid for Syria, Reuters (Rome) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/italy-pledges-68-million-euros-aid-syria-2025-03-27>

<sup>2125</sup> WFP and Italy partner to expand home-grown school feeding and resilience interventions in Malawi, World Food Programme (Lilongwe) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-and-italy-partner-expand-home-grown-school-feeding-and-resilience-interventions-malawi>

<sup>2126</sup> Italy's ambassador to Mali delivers food aid to orphanages, National Associated Press Agency (Rome) 10 April 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. [https://www.ansa.it/amp/english/news/news\\_from\\_embassies/2025/04/10/italys-ambassador-to-mali-delivers-food-aid-to-orphanages\\_dfea9ed4-1c0d-40cc-9b2f-78697edc7c99.html](https://www.ansa.it/amp/english/news/news_from_embassies/2025/04/10/italys-ambassador-to-mali-delivers-food-aid-to-orphanages_dfea9ed4-1c0d-40cc-9b2f-78697edc7c99.html)

<sup>2127</sup> Piano Mattei: missione di sistema in Ghana, Costa d'Avorio e Guinea (7-13 maggio), Agenzia Italiana Per la Cooperazione (Rome) 16 May 2025. Access Date: 7 June 2025. <https://www.aics.gov.it/news/missione-del-sistema-italiano-della-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-in-ghana-costa-davorio-e-guinea/>

<sup>2128</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_.SCCF\\_.C.36.03.Rev\\_.01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_.SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev_.01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 2 July 2024, Japan alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2129</sup>

On 8 August 2024, Japan contributed JPY300 million to the World Food Programme (WFP) to support food security in Mozambique.<sup>2130</sup>

On 13 August 2024, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan in Gambia Shinichi Hirose and Gambia's Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambia's Abroad Ambassador Lang Yabou signed a JPY250 million grant whereby Japan will support food security in Gambia, through rice.<sup>2131</sup>

On 14 August 2024, Ambassador to Lesotho Shigeru Ushio and Country Director of the WFP in Lesotho Aurore Rusiga discussed Japan's plan to provide JPY200 million in aid to Lesotho through the WFP.<sup>2132</sup> This funding aims to ensure food security by supplying rice, canned fish and other products.

On 14 August 2024, Ambassador to South Sudan Toshiro Odagiri and Country Director of the WFP in South Sudan Mary-Ellen McGroarty discussed Japan's plan to provide JPY500 million in food aid to South Sudan.<sup>2133</sup> This funding will be used to ensure food security through the provision of rice, especially given the rise of refugees and displaced persons in South Sudan.

On 14 August 2024, Ambassador for Palestinian Relations and Chief Permanent Representative of Japan to Palestine Yoichi Nakajima and Representative and Country Director of the WFP in Palestine Antoine Renard signed an agreement whereby Japan will provide JPY400 million in food aid for Palestine through the WFP.<sup>2134</sup>

On 15 August 2024, Japan contributed USD2.5 million towards food security in Zambia and Namibia in response to drought conditions.<sup>2135</sup>

On 21 August 2024, Ambassador Zimbabwe Shinichi Yamanaka and Deputy Country Director of the WFP in Zimbabwe Billy Mwiinga discussed Japan's plans to provide JPY200 million in food aid to Zimbabwe through

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<sup>2129</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>2130</sup> WFP welcomes US\$2 million from the Government of Japan to support the humanitarian response in Mozambique, World Food Program (Maputo) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-welcomes-us2-million-government-japan-support-humanitarian-response-mozambique>

<sup>2131</sup> ガンビア共和国に対する無償資金協力「食糧援助」に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 14 August 2024. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01004.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01004.html)

<sup>2132</sup> レント王国に対する無償資金協力「食糧援助(WFP連携)」に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01006.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01006.html)

<sup>2133</sup> 南スーダンに対する無償資金協力「食糧援助(WFP連携)」に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01007.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01007.html)

<sup>2134</sup> パレスチナに対する無償資金協力「食糧援助(WFP連携)」に関する書簡の交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 15 August 2024.

Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01013.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01013.html)

<sup>2135</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the Drought in Zambia and Namibia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00483.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00483.html)

the WFP.<sup>2136</sup> This funding will support food security by supplying rice, millet, edible oil and other products to the population.

On 27 August 2024, Ambassador to Sierra Leone Mochizuki Hisanobu met with the Representative and Country Director of the World Food Programme in Sierra Leone to provide JPY200 million in grant aid to the region.<sup>2137</sup> This aid, delivered through the World Food Programme, aims to address the severe food crisis affecting over seven million people in Sierra Leone which is a hotspot region by sending rice, beans and other products.

On 3 September 2024, Japan contributed JPY200 million to support food security in Sierra Leone, a hotspot area.<sup>2138</sup>

On 9 September 2024, Japan contributed USD2 million to the WFP to support food security in Zambia, a hotspot area.<sup>2139</sup>

On 19 September 2024, Japan contributed USD500,000 to the WFP to support food security in Namibia, a hotspot area.<sup>2140</sup>

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2141</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 23 September 2024, Foreign Ministers from Japan, the United Kingdom, Australia, Jordan, Switzerland, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Brazil and Colombia released a joint statement announcing the formation of a Ministerial Group for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel in conflict zones.<sup>2142</sup> This will help humanitarian personnel better deliver and protect food aid to affected civilians.

On 21 October 2024, Japan announced a USD10 million emergency grant for Lebanon amidst its escalating humanitarian situations.<sup>2143</sup> Of this, USD2 million will go to the WFP to support food aid.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2144</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing

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<sup>2136</sup> ジンバブエに対する無償資金協力「食糧援助(WFP連携)」に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (Tokyo) 22 August 2024.

Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01154.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01154.html)

<sup>2137</sup> シェラレオネ共和国に対する無償資金協力「食糧援助(WFP連携)」に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (東京), 外務省 (Tokyo) 28 August 2024. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01025.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01025.html)

<sup>2138</sup> Japan and WFP join hands to tackle food insecurity and promote education in Sierra Leone, World Food Programme (Freetown) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-and-wfp-join-hands-tackle-food-insecurity-and-promote-education-sierra-leone>

<sup>2139</sup> Japan provides critical funding for WFP's drought response in Zambia, World Food Programme (Lusaka) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-provides-critical-funding-wfpps-drought-response-zambia>

<sup>2140</sup> Japan and WFP support drought affected communities in Namibia, World Food Programme (Windhoek) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-and-wfp-support-drought-affected-communities-namibia>

<sup>2141</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2142</sup> Towards a new Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/towards-a-new-declaration-for-the-protection-of-humanitarian-personnel>

<sup>2143</sup> レバノンにおける人道状況の悪化を受けた緊急無償資金協力, 外務省 (Tokyo) 21 October 2024. Translated by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01294.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01294.html)

<sup>2144</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2145</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 29 October, Japan agreed to grant USD10 million for humanitarian support in Syria including USD2 million for food aid.<sup>2146</sup>

On 6 November 2024, Japan alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2147</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2148</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with Japan as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 18 November 2024, Japan donated USD2 million to the WFP to address food insecurity in Lebanon amidst recent conflict.<sup>2149</sup> The funding will be used for food aid including ready-to-eat rations for vulnerable families in the country.

On 21 November 2024, Japan committed USD5.1 million to the WFP for a project to support 37,000 smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe affected by the climate crisis and drought.<sup>2150</sup> The funding will be used to provide food assistance and enable climate-adaptation “by establishing water-based infrastructure, developing value chains and strengthening agricultural extension service capacity.”

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a Statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2151</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the

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<sup>2145</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>2146</sup> Emergency Grant in response to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00681.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00681.html)

<sup>2147</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

<sup>2148</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2149</sup> Japan Provides US\$2 million to assist people impacted by recent conflict in Lebanon, World Food Programme (Beirut) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-provides-us2-million-assist-people-impacted-recent-conflict-lebanon>

<sup>2150</sup> Japan Supports Climate Resilience and Sustainable Agriculture in Zimbabwe, World Food Programme (Harare) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-supports-climate-resilience-and-sustainable-agriculture-zimbabwe>

<sup>2151</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 18 January 2025, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Taku Eto attended the 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' conference with agriculture ministers from 62 countries and 14 international organization representatives in attendance.<sup>2152</sup> In the final communique, the ministers committed to enhanced international cooperation for sustainable bioeconomy efforts, to advance climate action and global food security. The ministers also endorsed a German-funded Global Bioeconomy Partnership led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

On 29 January 2025, Japan donated JPY200 million to WFP operations providing emergency food assistance in Cameroon.<sup>2153</sup>

On 13 February 2025, Japan donated JPY150 million to WFP operations supporting local agricultural production and distributing emergency food rations in Sudan.<sup>2154</sup>

On 18 February 2025, Japan donated USD1.57 million to WFP operations addressing food insecurity, enhancing natural disaster recovery and supporting local agricultural capacity in Malawi, a hotspot.<sup>2155</sup>

On 21 February 2025, Japan donated USD58 million to the WFP, supporting food security for vulnerable in twenty-eight countries.<sup>2156</sup> This funding addresses the food security crisis in Palestine, Mali, South Sudan, Yemen, Chad, Myanmar, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, including several other non-hotspot countries across Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

On 21 February 2025, the Government of Japan donated USD11.9 million to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to scale up humanitarian aid across Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.<sup>2157</sup> These funds will enable fourteen critical projects addressing economic shocks, enhancing food security, agricultural support in many countries including Afghanistan, Chad, Mozambique and Mali.

On 10 March 2025, the WFP announced that Japan will support its “home-grown school meals programme” to advance food security for 18,000 students in Haiti over 2025 and 2026.<sup>2158</sup> In addition, Japan's contribution will support training and skills development for local farmers and strengthen the local food system and economy.

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<sup>2152</sup> 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2025 Final Communiqué, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/\\_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2)

<sup>2153</sup> Japan and WFP join forces to strengthen food security of vulnerable populations in Cameroon, World Food Programme (Yaounde) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-and-wfp-join-forces-strengthen-food-security-vulnerable-populations-cameroon>

<sup>2154</sup> WFP welcomes contribution from Japan to save lives in war-torn Sudan, World Food Programme (Nairobi) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-welcomes-contribution-japan-save-lives-war-torn-sudan>

<sup>2155</sup> Japan steps up funding to WFP to strengthen food security and expand agricultural exports in Malawi, World Food Programme (Lilongwe) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-steps-funding-wfp-strengthen-food-security-and-expand-agricultural-exports-malawi>

<sup>2156</sup> WFP welcomes Japan's commitment to action against global hunger, World Food Programme (Yokohama) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-welcomes-japans-commitment-action-against-global-hunger>

<sup>2157</sup> Japan contributes \$11.9 million to scale up FAO's emergency and resilience activities, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/japan-contributes--11.9-million-to-scale-up-fao-s-emergency-and-resilience-activities/en>

<sup>2158</sup> Japan supports nearly 18,000 students through WFP's school meals programme in Haiti, World Food Programme (Port-Au-Prince) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-supports-nearly-18000-students-through-wfps-school-meals-programme-haiti>

On 24 March 2025, Japan and the WFP announced a USD2 million to support over 27,000 in southern Angola affected by a severe drought.<sup>2159</sup> This initiative will promote sustainable access to water, boost agricultural production, and improve the livelihoods of the communities impacted by the drought. The Government of Japan, Government of Angola and the WFP will achieve this through providing solar-power water supply, small-scale irrigation systems and technical assistance and skill training.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment in addressing the global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Japan has taken strong action to address the food security crisis in all five of the highest concern areas, Mali, South Sudan, Sudan, Haiti and Palestine and eleven high concern or hotspot areas, Yemen, Chad, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Malawi, Lebanon, Syria, Somalia, Ethiopia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Trevor Cheb*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, the United Kingdom's Senior Responsible Officer for the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Ben Greene and the GEF Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis. These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 2 July 2024, the United Kingdom alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2160</sup>

On 22 July 2024, Deputy Political Coordinator Laura Dix spoke at the United Nations Security Council, highlighting the urgency of providing humanitarian aid to civilians in Syria and alleviating severe food scarcity in the high concern region.<sup>2161</sup>

On 22 August 2024, Minister of State for Development and for Women and Equalities Anneliese Dodds announced a support package providing food to 180,000 people and malnutrition treatment to 15,000 children in South Sudan, a highest concern hotspot region.<sup>2162</sup>

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<sup>2159</sup> WFP and Japan support Angola to strengthen food and water security in drought-stricken areas, World Food Programme (Luanda) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-and-japan-support-angola-strengthen-food-and-water-security-drought-stricken-areas>

<sup>2160</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

<sup>2161</sup> Aid access in Syria should be granted for as long as it is needed: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/aid-access-in-syria-should-be-granted-for-as-long-as-it-is-needed-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>2162</sup> Development Minister calls for urgent humanitarian action for crisis-hit South Sudan, announcing life-saving support package on first Africa trip, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/development-minister-calls-for-urgent-humanitarian-action-for-crisis-hit-south-sudan-announcing-life-saving-support-package-on-first-africa-trip>

On 29 August 2024, High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke announced GBP450,000 in humanitarian assistance to support the 36,000 people affected by flooding in Bangladesh.<sup>2163</sup> This substantial food and sanitation support helps to address the food security crisis in the region.

On 5 September 2024, Minister for Africa Ray Collins announced new a GBP25 million investment into the African food and agriculture sector to scale up early-stage agribusinesses.<sup>2164</sup> This strengthens resilience to climate change and promotes food security across the continent, including in several hotspot regions. The contribution will be administered by AgDevCo. AgDevCo operates in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia among other African countries.<sup>2165</sup>

On 13 September 2024, British International Investment announced USD3 million for the Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) technical assistance facility.<sup>2166</sup> CASA operates in “23 countries across Africa and Asia.”<sup>2167</sup>

On 23 September 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy and Foreign Ministers from Australia, Jordan, Switzerland, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Japan, Brazil and Colombia released a joint statement announcing the formation of a Ministerial Group for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel in conflict zones.<sup>2168</sup> This will help humanitarian personnel better deliver and protect food aid to affected civilians.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2169</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 16 October 2024, Secretary Lammy called on Israel to ensure civilian protection and access to food aid in Gaza.<sup>2170</sup> This followed a government commitment to match donations to the Disasters Emergency Committee Middle East Humanitarian Appeal which is providing food, water, shelter and medicine in Gaza, Lebanon and the West Bank.

On 17 October 2024, the United Kingdom, France, Canada, the US Agency for International Development, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland and the European Commissioner for Crisis

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<sup>2163</sup> UK government announces a further £450,000 in humanitarian assistance to support more than 36,000 people affected by flooding in eastern Bangladesh, British High Commission Dhaka (London) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-a-further-450000-in-humanitarian-assistance-to-support-more-than-36000-people-affected-by-flooding-in-eastern-bangladesh>

<sup>2164</sup> Minister for Africa pledges funding to accelerate growth in Africa agriculture sector, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 5 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-pledges-funding-to-accelerate-growth-in-africa-agriculture-sector>

<sup>2165</sup> Our Investments, AgDevCo (London) n.d. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.agdevco.com/our-investments/>

<sup>2166</sup> BII and FMO join forces with the UK Government to boost finance for agribusinesses, British International Investment (London) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/bii-and-fmo-join-forces-with-the-uk-government-to-boost-finance-for-agribusinesses/>

<sup>2167</sup> Where CASA Works, Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (London) n.d. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://casaprogramme.com/new-where-casa-works/>

<sup>2168</sup> Towards a new Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/towards-a-new-declaration-for-the-protection-of-humanitarian-personnel>

<sup>2169</sup> Foreign Ministers’ Chair’s Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2170</sup> Foreign Secretary statement on aid to Gaza, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-aid-to-gaza>



Management released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2171</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 17 October 2024, the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the Fundraising Regulator published advice on how people can donate food and other resources to civilians in conflict zones in the Middle East.<sup>2172</sup> This helps increase the distribution of emergency items and food in the region.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2173</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, British International Investment joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2174</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 27 October 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Secretary Lammy committed to promoting food security through the Inter-American Development Bank's One Caribbean fund in Samoa.<sup>2175</sup>

On 29 October 2024, Ambassador Barbara Woodward reaffirmed the United Kingdom's support for food and water aid in Palestine and pushed for Israel to fully comply with international law in a speech to the United Nations Security Council.<sup>2176</sup>

On 6 November 2024, the United Kingdom alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2177</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

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<sup>2171</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2172</sup> Regulators urge safer giving to help people impacted by humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regulators-urge-safer-giving-to-help-people-impacted-by-humanitarian-crisis-in-the-middle-east>

<sup>2173</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2174</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>2175</sup> UK attends Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-attends-commonwealth-heads-of-government-meeting-in-samoa>

<sup>2176</sup> There is no justification for denying civilians in Gaza access to life-saving aid: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Government of United Kingdom (London) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/there-is-no-justification-for-denying-civilians-in-gaza-access-to-life-saving-aid-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>2177</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

On 17 November 2024, the United Kingdom announced GBP113 million in food, medical and other aid for civilians in Sudan and displaced refugees.<sup>2178</sup> This funding addresses the global food security crisis in a highest concern region.

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2179</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with the United Kingdom as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 20 November 2024, the United Kingdom pledged GBP1 million to aid civilians suffering from the recent typhoons that struck the Philippines.<sup>2180</sup> This action increases the provision of vital food and water aid to civilians.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2181</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 29 November 2024, the United Kingdom announced GBP70 million in funding for the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.<sup>2182</sup> Of this, up to GBP50 million will go towards the Resilience and Adaptation Fund which uses climate finance to support food-insecure households in Ethiopia, Chad and Bangladesh and GBP25.5 will support Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness in Africa and Asia.

On 2 December 2024, Minister Dodds announced GBP12 million in funding for the United Nations’ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the WFP and GBP7 million for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency’s Flash Humanitarian Appeal for Gaza.<sup>2183</sup> This funding will enable the delivery of food assistance for food insecure Palestinians in the region.

On 15 December 2024, Secretary Lammy announced GBP50 million in funding for Syria, including food aid.<sup>2184</sup>

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<sup>2178</sup> UK doubles aid for Sudan and neighbouring countries facing the worst humanitarian crisis of the decade, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-doubles-aid-for-sudan-and-neighbouring-countries-facing-the-worst-humanitarian-crisis-of-the-decade>

<sup>2179</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2180</sup> UK supports Philippine humanitarian response with £1 million, Government of United Kingdom (London) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-supports-philippine-humanitarian-response-with-1-million>

<sup>2181</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2182</sup> UK joins Brazil’s Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty and announces investment in global food security, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/uk-joins-brazils-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-and-announces-investment-in-global-food-security/>

<sup>2183</sup> UK bolsters humanitarian funding for Gaza on minister’s visit to the region, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-bolsters-humanitarian-funding-for-gaza-on-ministers-visit-to-the-region>

<sup>2184</sup> UK announces £50 million new support for vulnerable Syrians, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-50m-new-support-for-vulnerable-syrians>

On 30 December 2024, Minister Dodds announced GBP61 million in humanitarian aid, including food, for civilians in the Middle East, Africa and Asia.<sup>2185</sup>

On 6 January 2025, the United Kingdom released a joint statement with the European Union, the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Timor-Leste expressing concern over Myanmar's ongoing humanitarian crisis which has left over 15 million people facing acute food insecurity.<sup>2186</sup>

On 18 January 2025, the United Kingdom attended the 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' conference with agriculture ministers from 62 countries and 14 international organization representatives in attendance.<sup>2187</sup> In the final communique, the ministers committed to enhanced international cooperation for sustainable bioeconomy efforts, to advance climate action and global food security. The ministers also endorsed a German-funded Global Bioeconomy Partnership led by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

On 20 January 2025, the United Kingdom announced the launch of a Grain Verification Scheme to track stolen grain from occupied areas in Ukraine.<sup>2188</sup> This initiative strengthens Ukraine's domestic food security and protects its capacity to contribute to international supply chains.

On 25 January 2025, Minister Lammy announced GBP20 million providing food assistance and emergency healthcare to refugees at the Chad-Sudan border.<sup>2189</sup>

On 28 January 2025, Minister Dodds announced GBP17 million in humanitarian aid, including food, to the occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>2190</sup>

On 31 January 2025, the United Kingdom released a joint statement with Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United States calling for de-escalation of violence and full humanitarian access in Myanmar.<sup>2191</sup> In their statement, the allies recognized the acute food crisis in the region.

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<sup>2185</sup> UK pledges relief to meet dire humanitarian need in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, London, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-relief-to-meet-dire-humanitarian-need-in-the-middle-east-africa-and-asia>

<sup>2186</sup> Myanmar human rights and humanitarian situation: joint statement, January 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-press-statement-on-the-human-rights-and-humanitarian-situation-in-myanmar>

<sup>2187</sup> 17th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference 2025 Final Communiqué, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 18 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/\\_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf](https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/EN/_International-Affairs/gffa-2025-communique-en.pdf)

<sup>2188</sup> UK and Ukraine agree cutting-edge scheme to protect food security, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-ukraine-agree-cutting-edge-scheme-to-protect-food-security>

<sup>2189</sup> "Sudan must not be forgotten": David Lammy announces political and humanitarian action to address 'catastrophe' in Sudan, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025.

<sup>2190</sup> New humanitarian support for Gaza as ceasefire allows operations to scale up, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-humanitarian-support-for-gaza-as-ceasefire-allows-operations-to-scale-up>

<sup>2191</sup> Four Years from the Military Coup in Myanmar: Joint Statement by Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/four-years-from-the-military-coup-in-myanmar-joint-statement-by-australia-canada-the-european-union-the-republic-of-korea-new-zealand-norway-switzerland-the-united-kingdom-and-the-united-state/>

On 1 February 2025, the United Kingdom announced additional humanitarian aid to support 1 million people in Myanmar.<sup>2192</sup>

On 5 February 2025, the United Kingdom pledged GBP55 million in Ukrainian grain supplies to Syria.<sup>2193</sup>

On 20 February 2025, British International Investment contributed USD50 million to a USD85 million joint investment with Swedfund and Norfund in AgDevCo, a project developer and specialist investor supporting agribusinesses and enhancing food security in sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>2194</sup>

On 26 February 2025, British International Investment provided a USD20 million anchor investment in Summit Africa's Private Equity Fund I.<sup>2195</sup> This fund addresses the food security crisis across Africa by supporting small-and-medium-sized businesses and mitigating food waste through enhanced food processing and distribution systems.

On 12 March 2025, Minister for Africa Ray Collins gave a speech marking the launch of the Joint United Nations Initiative for the Prevention of Wasting.<sup>2196</sup> The initiative plans to address severe malnutrition in children to support the goal of ending malnutrition by 2030.

On 17 March 2025, the United Kingdom government pledged GBP160 million in aid including food, water, and healthcare support to help stabilize Syria after the fall of the Assad regime.<sup>2197</sup>

On 27 March 2025, Minister of State for Development Jennifer Chapman announced the launch of the Global Compact on Nutrition Integration.<sup>2198</sup> This will establish a global framework to combat malnutrition globally.

On 29 March 2025, Minister Chapman announced up to GBP10 million in aid for Myanmar following a devastating earthquake, including food and other life-saving assistance.<sup>2199</sup>

On 4 April 2025, Minister for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West announced an additional GBP10 million to support essential humanitarian needs including food, healthcare, shelter and hygiene in Myanmar following an

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<sup>2192</sup> UK announces additional humanitarian funding for Myanmar, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 1 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-additional-humanitarian-funding-for-myanmar>

<sup>2193</sup> New UK support for Ukraine drives forward 100 Year Partnership, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-for-ukraine-drives-forward-100-year-partnership>

<sup>2194</sup> BII, Swedfund and Norfund invest \$85 million in AgDevCo to support agribusinesses in Africa, British International Investment (London) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/bii-swedfund-and-norfund-invest-85-million-in-agdevco-to-support-agribusinesses-in-africa/?fl=true>

<sup>2195</sup> Summit Africa launches private equity fund II with US\$20 million anchor commitment from British International Investment, supporting businesses in South Africa and the Southern African region, British International Investment (London) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 28 February 2025. <https://www.bii.co.uk/en/news-insight/news/summit-africa-launches-private-equity-fund-ii-with-us20-million-anchor-commitment-from-british-international-investment-supporting-businesses-in-south-africa-and-the-southern-african-region/?fl=true>

<sup>2196</sup> Joint UN Initiative for the Prevention of Wasting: Lord Collins' speech, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/joint-un-initiative-for-the-prevention-of-wasting-lord-collins-speech>

<sup>2197</sup> UK pledges up to £160 million to support Syria's recovery and stability in post-Assad era, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-up-to-160-million-to-support-syrias-recovery-and-stability-in-post-assad-era>

<sup>2198</sup> Launch of the Global Compact on Nutrition Integration: Baroness Chapman's speech, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-the-global-compact-on-nutrition-integration-baroness-chapmans-speech>

<sup>2199</sup> UK sends life-saving aid to the people of Myanmar following devastating earthquake, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 29 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-sends-life-saving-aid-to-the-people-of-myanmar-following-devastating-earthquake>

earthquake.<sup>2200</sup> This brings the United Kingdom's total contribution to GBP25 million, including the funding announced on 29 March 2025 and the announcement of GBP5 million to match donations to the Disasters Emergency Committee public appeal for Myanmar on 3 April 2025.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to address global food insecurity. The United Kingdom has taken strong action to address food insecurity in three of the five areas of "highest concern": the Palestinian Territories, South Sudan and Sudan. The UK has also taken strong action in at nine of the 13 areas of "very high concern" and "hotspots" through funding programs to Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Malawi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia, Chad and Syria.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Joseph Mai*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

On 19 June 2024, Deputy Director at the Department of the Treasury Abigail Demopoulos and the Global Environmental Facility Council approved USD35.3 million in funding through the Least Developed Country Fund to projects addressing the global food security crisis.<sup>2201</sup> These projects include increasing food security and nutrition in Angola, scaling-up agricultural nature-based solutions to improve food security in Sierra Leone and improving climate data systems that ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million people in Tanzania.

On 27 June 2024, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman announced USD66.8 million in funding to Zambia in response to current drought conditions in the country.<sup>2202</sup> This money will not only provide humanitarian aid to alleviate the ongoing crisis but to also support the country's agricultural base and future drought resilience.

On 1 July 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken affirmed US support for food security in Burundi.<sup>2203</sup>

On 2 July 2024, the United States alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Executive Board and Malawi inaugurated a USD58 million programme for agricultural development, enhancing agricultural production and increasing food security in this hotspot region.<sup>2204</sup>

On 5 August 2024, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Xochitl Torres Small announced USD300 million in funding for the Regional Agricultural Promotion Program with USD25 million set specifically for activities in

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<sup>2200</sup> UK assistance reaches 15,000 people after Myanmar earthquake, with further £10 million pledged, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-assistance-reaches-15000-people-after-myanmar-earthquake-with-further-10m-pledged>

<sup>2201</sup> Work Program for Least Developed Country Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN\\_GEF.LDCF\\_SCCF\\_C.36.03.Rev\\_01\\_Work%20Program\\_LDCF.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf)

<sup>2202</sup> USAID Announces More Than \$66 Million to Support Zambia in Efforts to Combat Drought, Support Resilience, and Strengthen Food Security as a Feed the Future Accelerator Country, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-27-2024-usaid-announces-more-66-million-support-zambia-efforts-combat-drought-support-resilience-and-strengthen-food-security-feed-future-accelerator-country>

<sup>2203</sup> Burundi National Day, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/burundi-national-day-4/>

<sup>2204</sup> New US\$53 million agricultural development programme launched in Malawi to combat food insecurity, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/new-us-53-million-agricultural-development-programme-launched-in-malawi-to-combat-food-insecurity>

Africa.<sup>2205</sup> This funding will support American farmers in their access to international markets and contribute to the efforts of promoting global food security.

On 5 September 2024, Secretary Blinken announced almost USD45 million in humanitarian assistance for Haiti amidst political unrest, violence and instability in the country.<sup>2206</sup> This funding will support the delivery of in-kind food assistance and cash payments to support food insecure individuals.

On 11 September 2024, the United States announced over USD100 million in humanitarian assistance for South Sudan through the Department of Agriculture Commodity Credit Corporation.<sup>2207</sup> This funding will enable emergency food assistance for food insecure individuals in the country.

On 11 September 2024, the USAID announced USD2 million in humanitarian aid for Chad amidst ongoing floods.<sup>2208</sup> In part, this funding will enable the World Food Programme (WFP) to provide food assistance to individuals in Chad.

On 19 September 2024, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and Administrator and Feed the Future Coordinator Samantha Power announced over USD80 million in funding for the United States' global hunger initiative called Feed the Future.<sup>2209</sup> This funding will support fertile land, diverse farming systems and economic growth in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia to enable food security.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2210</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

On 24 September 2024, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced USD466.5 million in funding to the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and Food for Progress program to strengthen global food security.<sup>2211</sup> Secretary Vilsack allocated USD248 million to the McGovern-Dole Program to support food security in Angola, Bangladesh, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Laos, Malawi and Rwanda and USD218.5 million to Food for Progress to help Benin, Cambodia, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Tunisia strengthen their agricultural systems, adopt climate-smart technologies, sustainably increase productivity and expand international trade.

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<sup>2205</sup> USDA Announces Additional RAPP Funding to Expand, Diversify Export Markets, U.S Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-announces-additional-rapp-funding-expand-diversify-export-markets>

<sup>2206</sup> The United States Announces \$45 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for Haiti, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-05-2024-united-states-announces-45-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-haiti>

<sup>2207</sup> The United States Announces More Than \$100 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for South Sudan, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-11-2024-united-states-announces-more-100-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-south-sudan>

<sup>2208</sup> The United States Provides \$2 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for Flood-Affected Populations in Chad, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-11-2024-united-states-provides-2-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-flood-affected-populations-chad>

<sup>2209</sup> Feed the Future Announces \$80 Million to Double Down on Food Security in Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-19-2024-feed-future-announces-80-million-double-down-food-security-malawi-tanzania-and-zambia>

<sup>2210</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>2211</sup> USDA Invests \$466.5 Million in Food Assistance, Agricultural Development Projects Worldwide, U.S Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-invests-4665-million-food-assistance-agricultural-development-projects-worldwide>

On 25 September 2024, the United States announced almost USD424 million in funding for Sudan.<sup>2212</sup> Of this, USD175 million from the Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation will enable the delivery of "nearly 81,000 metric tons of food commodities from American farmers to support more than 1.2 million people experiencing acute food insecurity in Sudan."

On 26 September 2024, USAID announced approximately USD535 million in humanitarian assistance for Syria.<sup>2213</sup> This funding will enable the delivery of food, water, medical care and other aid.

On 30 September 2024, USAID announced USD336 million in humanitarian assistance funding for Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>2214</sup> This funding will enable food assistance for Palestinians amidst ongoing crisis and food insecurity.

On 17 October 2024, USAID, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2215</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2216</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, the United States International Development Finance Corporation joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2217</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

On 30 October 2024, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Alexis Taylor announced the Food for Opportunity Program which expands opportunities for non-traditional United States commodities to

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<sup>2212</sup> United States Announces Nearly \$424 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Sudan and Others Affected by the Conflict, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-25-2024-united-states-announces-nearly-424-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-people-sudan-and-others-affected-conflict>

<sup>2213</sup> United States Announces Nearly \$535 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for the Syria Regional Response, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-26-2024-united-states-announces-nearly-535-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-syria-regional-response>

<sup>2214</sup> The United States Announces Nearly \$336 Million in Humanitarian Assistance to Support Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-30-2024-united-states-announces-nearly-336-million-humanitarian-assistance-support-palestinians-gaza-and-west-bank>

<sup>2215</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2216</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2217</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

qualify for international food assistance programs.<sup>2218</sup> This project will receive USD50 million to support the purchasing of “U.S.-grown commodities to provide emergency food assistance” internationally.

On 4 November 2024, Secretary Blinken met with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, advocating for continued humanitarian aid provision, including food, to the civilian population in Gaza.<sup>2219</sup> This action testifies to the United States’ commitment to providing food security in the Palestinian Territories, a highest concern hotspot.

On 6 November 2024, the United States alongside the IFAD Executive Board and Sierra Leone signed a USD105 million agreement for the Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project over eight years.<sup>2220</sup> This project supports local farmers while enhancing food security and sustainable development in Sierra Leone, a hotspot region.

On 15 November 2024, Secretary Blinken discussed the opportunities for increasing access to humanitarian aid for people in Gaza with Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar.<sup>2221</sup> This action demonstrates the United States’ commitment to provide food security in the Palestinian Territories, a highest concern area.

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2222</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with the United States as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 21 November 2024, the United States provided USD4 million in funding to the WFP to support 52,000 people in the Democratic Republic of Congo.<sup>2223</sup> Of this, USD3.5 million will support food security and nutrition for individuals affected by floods.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2224</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

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<sup>2218</sup> USDA Launches Food for Opportunity Program, U.S Department of Agriculture (Washington) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-launches-food-opportunity-program>

<sup>2219</sup> Secretary Blinken’s Call with Israeli Defense Minister Gallant, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-blinkens-call-with-israeli-defense-minister-gallant-4/>

<sup>2220</sup> IFAD and Sierra Leone partner to boost farm productivity with Livestock and Livelihoods Development Project, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/ifad-and-sierra-leone-partner-to-boost-farm-productivity-with-livestock-and-livelihoods-development-project>

<sup>2221</sup> Secretary Blinken’s Call with Israeli Foreign Minister Sa’ar, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-blinkens-call-with-israeli-foreign-minister-saar/>

<sup>2222</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2223</sup> The United States boosts WFP’s emergency operations in the Republic of Congo, World Food Programme (Brazzaville) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/united-states-boosts-wfps-emergency-operations-republic-congo>

<sup>2224</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>



On 26 November 2024, Secretary Blinken acknowledged the humanitarian crisis in Sudan and emphasized the collaborative efforts of the WFP to respond to the crisis.<sup>2225</sup> This action demonstrates the United States' commitment to aiding food insecurity in a highest concern region.

On 3 December 2024, President Joe Biden announced over USD1 billion in humanitarian assistance for 31 African countries including Nigeria, Burkina Faso, South Sudan, Chad and Mali.<sup>2226</sup> This funding will help address the food security and nutrition crisis in the region.

On 5 December 2024, the Department of State announced USD41.1 million in funding for the Vision for Adapted Soils and Crops led by the United States and hosted by IFAD.<sup>2227</sup> This funding will support food security and support small farmers in priority areas such as Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia by “improving soil fertility, promoting crop diversity and boosting agricultural productivity.”

On 12 December 2024, USAID announced USD29 million in funding to address food insecurity in Somalia.<sup>2228</sup> This funding will support approximately 80,000 vulnerable households in South Central Somalia.

On 13 December 2024, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance provided USD118 million to the WFP to provide in-kind food assistance and cash transfers to over one million people in Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.<sup>2229</sup>

On 19 December 2024, Secretary Blinken announced approximately USD200 million in humanitarian assistance, including food aid, for Sudan.<sup>2230</sup>

On 6 January 2025, the United States released a joint statement with the European Union, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Timor-Leste expressing concern over Myanmar's ongoing humanitarian crisis which has left over 15 million people facing acute food insecurity.<sup>2231</sup>

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<sup>2225</sup> Secretary Antony J. Blinken At a Press Availability, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-at-a-press-availability-54/>

<sup>2226</sup> The United States Announces More Than \$1 Billion in Humanitarian Assistance to Address Food Insecurity and Other Needs in Africa, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-03-2024-united-states-announces-more-1-billion-humanitarian-assistance-address-food-insecurity-and-other-needs-africa>

<sup>2227</sup> The US commits to disburse an additional US\$41.1 million to improve soil health and diversify crop production in Africa, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.ifad.org/en/w/news/the-us-commits-to-disburse-an-additional-us-41.1-million-to-improve-soil-health-and-diversify-crop-production-in-africa>

<sup>2228</sup> USAID Provides Additional \$29 Million to Support Resilience and Food Security in Somalia, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-12-2024-usaid-provides-additional-29-million-support-resilience-and-food-security-somalia>

<sup>2229</sup> United States supports displaced families in Eastern and Central Africa, World Food Programme (Nairobi) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.wfp.org/news/united-states-supports-displaced-families-eastern-and-central-africa>

<sup>2230</sup> United States Provides Nearly \$200 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Sudan, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-19-2024-united-states-provides-nearly-200-million-additional-humanitarian-assistance-people-sudan>

<sup>2231</sup> Myanmar human rights and humanitarian situation: joint statement, January 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-press-statement-on-the-human-rights-and-humanitarian-situation-in-myanmar>

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump signed an executive order that paused all foreign aid including food donations for 90 days pending review of all programs.<sup>2232</sup> This action jeopardizes food security in beneficiary countries awaiting payments and in-kind donations.

On 28 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio issued a waiver to allow foreign aid disbursements for “lifesaving humanitarian assistance” including food donations.<sup>2233</sup>

On 31 January 2025, the Department of State released a joint statement with Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom calling for de-escalation of violence and full humanitarian access in Myanmar.<sup>2234</sup> In their statement, the allies recognized the acute food crisis in the region.

On 3 February 2025, the United States directed the WFP to stop work on multiple grants worth tens of millions of dollars that benefit food security in Yemen, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Haiti and Mali.<sup>2235</sup>

On 10 February 2025, the United States resumed support for its food donation operations with the WFP.<sup>2236</sup>

On 4 April 2025, the United States Department of Agriculture’s Food for Progress Program identified Ethiopia as a priority destination for new cooperative agreements.<sup>2237</sup> The Food for Progress Program aims to provide assistance to developing countries to improve their agricultural sectors through increased productivity and trade.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. The United States has taken strong action in all five areas of highest concern: the Palestinian Territories, South Sudan, Sudan, Haiti and Mali. It has also taken strong action in Syria, Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo, three areas classified as high concern, and Sierra Leone, Malawi, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Zambia and Nigeria, six hotspots. However, the United States has not taken strong action in at least 10 high concern and hotspot areas. The United States paused but then resumed both food aid in general and grants to the WFP.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alisa Yudina*

## **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.

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<sup>2232</sup> REEVALUATING AND REALIGNING UNITED STATES FOREIGN AID, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>2233</sup> US issues new waiver for humanitarian aid amid freeze, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-issues-new-waiver-humanitarian-aid-amid-freeze-2025-01-29/>

<sup>2234</sup> Four Years from the Military Coup in Myanmar: Joint Statement by Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/four-years-from-the-military-coup-in-myanmar-joint-statement-by-australia-canada-the-european-union-the-republic-of-korea-new-zealand-norway-switzerland-the-united-kingdom-and-the-united-state/>

<sup>2235</sup> UN food agency WFP received dozens of US stop work orders despite emergency waiver, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/un-food-agency-wfp-received-dozens-us-stop-work-orders-despite-emergency-waiver-2025-02-07>

<sup>2236</sup> U.S. lifts pause on food donations for World Food Programme, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-lifts-pause-food-donations-world-food-programme-2025-02-11/>

<sup>2237</sup> USDA Identifies 2025 Food for Progress Priority Countries, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-identifies-2025-food-progress-priority-countries>

On 19 June 2024, Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič visited the Democratic Republic of Congo announcing the EU's plan to provide EUR99 million in humanitarian aid for the country.<sup>2238</sup> This aid will include food provisions to help address the escalating food security crisis in the region.

On 20 June 2024, the European Commission allocated EUR15 million in humanitarian aid to Myanmar including food provisions.<sup>2239</sup> This action will help to reduce food insecurity in a global high concern hotspot.

On 23 July 2024, European Commissioner of International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen endorsed the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty and expressed the European Union's intent to join the alliance.<sup>2240</sup> In her speech at the G20 Ministerial Task Force meeting, Commissioner Urpilainen expressed concern over food insecurity in Ukraine and Gaza and reiterated the European Union's pledge of EUR20 million to the Amazon Fund, which supports sustainable agroforestry among Indigenous populations and smallholders in Brazil.

On 21 August 2024, the EU allocated EUR122 million in humanitarian aid to the Greater Horn of Africa, funding food and nutrition assistance, along with sanitation and health.<sup>2241</sup> Of this, EUR42 million will go to Ethiopia, EUR40 million to Somalia and EUR40 million to South Sudan, thus addressing the food security crisis in two hotspots and one highest concern hotspot region.

On 22 August 2024, the EU allocated EUR35 million in humanitarian aid to West Africa, with the funding supporting food assistance, nutrition, health, sanitation and shelter.<sup>2242</sup> Of this amount, the EU allocated EUR10 million to Burkina Faso, EUR8 million to Mali, EUR8 million to Niger, EUR8 million to Mauritania, EUR5 million to Nigeria and EUR3 million to countries in the Gulf of Guinea. This funding addresses the food security crisis in one highest concern hotspot and two hotspot regions.

On 6 September 2024, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR30 million loan with the Agricultural Bank of Senegal, supporting the Senegal's food sovereignty, developing sustainable value chains and increasing local production capacity.<sup>2243</sup>

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reiterated their support of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan.<sup>2244</sup> Members also expressed their commitment to cooperation with African states to improve food security and agricultural productivity.

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<sup>2238</sup> EU to provide €99 million in humanitarian assistance for Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3266](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3266)

<sup>2239</sup> EU releases €15 million in humanitarian aid for people in Myanmar and refugees on the country's borders, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3361](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3361)

<sup>2240</sup> Speech by Commissioner Urpilainen at the G20 Ministerial Task Force meeting for the establishment of the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, European Commission (Rio de Janeiro) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech\\_24\\_4003](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_24_4003)

<sup>2241</sup> EU allocates €122 million for humanitarian aid in the Greater Horn of Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4323](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4323)

<sup>2242</sup> EU allocates €35 million in additional humanitarian aid for West Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4322](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4322)

<sup>2243</sup> Senegal: la Banque Agricole and EIB sign agreement to back food sovereignty with EU support, European Investment Bank (Dakar) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-321-la-banque-agricole-et-la-bei-avec-le-soutien-de-l-ue-signent-un-accord-pour-appuyer-la-souverainete-alimentaire-du-senegal>

<sup>2244</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

On 27 September 2024, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen pledged EUR213 million to fight food insecurity in Africa, Afghanistan, Venezuela and Palestine.<sup>2245</sup> The EU also allocated EUR69 million to Sudan in response to the Sudan war.

On 28 September 2024, the European Commission donated EUR10 million in humanitarian aid to Lebanon, funding food assistance to Lebanese and Syrian refugees.<sup>2246</sup>

On 2 October 2024, the European Commission pledged an additional EUR30 million in humanitarian aid to Lebanon.<sup>2247</sup> This aid package provides food assistance, shelter and healthcare to an estimated two million food insecure Lebanese and Syrian refugees.

On 17 October 2024, the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, the US Agency for International Development, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland and Switzerland released a joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan.<sup>2248</sup> The joint statement called for immediate, coordinated assistance to address a humanitarian crisis marked by food insecurity and famine. It also highlighted famine conditions in Zamzam camp for displaced people, an elevated famine risk in South Kordofan and a severe food crisis in Darfur.

On 17 October 2024, the European Council reiterated the importance of global food security at the European Council meeting.<sup>2249</sup> It condemned Russia's attacks on port infrastructure and commercial ships, weaponizing food and disrupting global food security.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers adopted a joint statement at the G7 Development Meeting in Italy.<sup>2250</sup> The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the G7 Apulia Initiative which works towards establishing sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems and for the Innovation Challenge project which aims to combat malnutrition.

On 24 October 2024, the European Investment Bank joined the G7 Public Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions in a Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems.<sup>2251</sup> This collaborative aims to strengthen cooperation and private sector participation in enhancing food security within global emerging markets.

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<sup>2245</sup> European Commission pledges €260 million to Gavi for 2026–2027 and over €200 million in additional humanitarian aid, European Commission (New York) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4828](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4828)

<sup>2246</sup> EU releases €10 million in humanitarian aid for people in Lebanon affected by the escalation of hostilities, European Commission (Brussels) 28 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4941](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4941)

<sup>2247</sup> EU boosts humanitarian aid to Lebanon by €30 million, bringing total to over €100 million for 2024, European Commission (Brussels) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5010](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5010)

<sup>2248</sup> Joint donor statement on Humanitarian Access in Sudan by the UK, USAID, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Canada and the European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/joint-donor-statement-on-humanitarian-access-in-sudan-by-the-uk-usaid-norway>

<sup>2249</sup> European Council conclusions, 17 October 2024, European Council (Brussels). 17 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/17/european-council-conclusions-17-october-2024/>

<sup>2250</sup> Mr Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attended the G7 Development Meeting in Pescara, Italy, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/france-s-action-in-the-g7/article/mr-thani-mohamed-soilihi-minister-of-state-for-francophonie-and-international>

<sup>2251</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank (Pescara) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

On 17 November 2024, President von der Leyen reaffirmed the EU's commitment to food security and the fight against hunger during Session I of the G20: Social Inclusion and the Fight against Hunger and Poverty meeting.<sup>2252</sup>

On 18 November 2024, the G20 officially launched the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>2253</sup> The Global Alliance will work to “eradicate hunger and poverty” by 2030 while supporting sustainable development and reducing inequalities, with France as one of 148 founding members. Beneficiary members of the Alliance include Mali, Palestine and Haiti which are highest concern areas, Chad and Myanmar which are high concern areas and Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Ethiopia, Lebanon and Mozambique which are hotspot areas.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning the increase in Russian attacks in the Black Sea region which impact global food security.<sup>2254</sup> The ministers also welcomed the “Food for Gaza” initiative, acknowledged the importance of humanitarian aid to address food insecurity in Gaza, encouraged the launch of the G7 Apulia Food Systems Initiative to address food insecurity and fight child malnutrition in Africa, expressed concern about rising food insecurity in Haiti and encouraged increased humanitarian aid to help the Haitian people.

On 12 December 2024, the European Commission launched a new Humanitarian Aid Bridge to deliver humanitarian aid, including food, to Syria.<sup>2255</sup> The Commission also announced EUR4 million in additional funding to support the delivery “of food parcels to 61,500 people in northern Syria.”

On 6 January 2025, the European Union released a joint statement with the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Timor-Leste expressing concern over Myanmar's ongoing humanitarian crisis which has left over 15 million people facing acute food insecurity.<sup>2256</sup>

On 12 January 2025, EU Commissioner of Crisis Management Hadja Lahbib visited Ukraine and reaffirmed the EU's support to the country.<sup>2257</sup> The European Commission also allocated EUR140 million in aid to Ukraine, including food provisions. This aid package will target war-impacted regions of eastern and southern Ukraine.

On 15 January 2025, the European Commission announced an initial budget of EUR1.9 billion for 2025 humanitarian aid.<sup>2258</sup> Of this, the Commission allocated EUR375 million to the Middle East with a focus on

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<sup>2252</sup> Remarks by President von der Leyen at Session I of the G20: Social Inclusion and the Fight against Hunger and Poverty, European Commission (Rio de Janeiro) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_24\\_5924](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_24_5924)

<sup>2253</sup> World Leaders Launch the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://globalallianceagainsthungerandpoverty.org/new/world-leaders-launch-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-2/>

<sup>2254</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement (Fiuggi-Anagni, Italy) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>2255</sup> EU launches Humanitarian Air Bridge operation for Syria to deliver emergency supplies and boosts humanitarian funding, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6425](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6425)

<sup>2256</sup> Myanmar human rights and humanitarian situation: joint statement, January 2025, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-press-statement-on-the-human-rights-and-humanitarian-situation-in-myanmar>

<sup>2257</sup> New €148 million EU humanitarian aid package for Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 12 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_244](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_244)

<sup>2258</sup> EU will provide €1.9 billion in initial humanitarian aid for 2025, European Commission (Brussels) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_265](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_265)

Gaza and Syria, EUR95 million to North Africa and Yemen, EUR510 million to Africa broadly and EUR182 million for Asia and the Pacific with a focus on Myanmar.

On 15 January 2025, the European Commission announced EUR120 million in aid for Gaza.<sup>2259</sup> This package includes food provisions and healthcare assistance to address malnutrition and food insecurity in this highest concern region.

On 16 January 2025, Commissioner Lahbib announced EUR235 million in funding providing critical support, including food provisions for an estimated 16.7 million displaced persons in Syria.<sup>2260</sup>

On 16 January 2025, the EU provided EUR2 million in funding to the WFP to support food provision and other aid for refugees in Iran.<sup>2261</sup>

On 20 January 2025, the EU contributed EUR16.5 million to the WFP to extend its food assistance and nutrition programmes in Afghanistan.<sup>2262</sup>

On 27 January 2025, the European Commission donated EUR60 million in humanitarian aid to the Democratic Republic of Congo, including food and water provisions.<sup>2263</sup>

On 31 January 2025, the European Union released a joint statement with Australia, Canada, the United States, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom calling for de-escalation of violence and full humanitarian access in Myanmar.<sup>2264</sup> In their statement, the allies recognized the acute food crisis in the region.

On 10 February 2025, the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations contributed EUR4 million to strengthen early warning systems for climate extremes in the Horn of Africa.<sup>2265</sup> This action aims to mitigate risks of food insecurity.

On 3 March 2025, the European Commission allocated EUR76 million in humanitarian aid to support Rohingya refugees across South and Southeast Asia.<sup>2266</sup> This fund includes provisions for food assistance and emergency nutrition to alleviate food insecurity in the region.

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<sup>2259</sup> EU announces new €120 million humanitarian aid package for Gaza, European Commission (Brussels) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_271](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_271)

<sup>2260</sup> EU provides €235 million humanitarian aid to Syrians, European Commission (Brussels) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_282](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_282)

<sup>2261</sup> The European Union Supports the Most Vulnerable Refugees in Iran Through Additional Funding to WFP, World Food Programme (Tehran) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/european-union-supports-most-vulnerable-refugees-iran-through-additional-funding-wfp>

<sup>2262</sup> European Union Contributes €16.5 Million to WFP in Afghanistan to Help Vulnerable Communities Survive Winter, World Food Programme (Kabul) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/european-union-contributes-eu165-million-wfp-afghanistan-help-vulnerable-communities-survive>

<sup>2263</sup> EU provides €60 million humanitarian aid to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Commission (Brussels) 27 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_336](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_336)

<sup>2264</sup> Four Years from the Military Coup in Myanmar: Joint Statement by Australia, Canada, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/four-years-from-the-military-coup-in-myanmar-joint-statement-by-australia-canada-the-european-union-the-republic-of-korea-new-zealand-norway-switzerland-the-united-kingdom-and-the-united-state/>

<sup>2265</sup> EU supports early action as climate extremes compound hunger in the Greater Horn of Africa, World Food Programme (Nairobi) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.wfp.org/news/eu-supports-early-action-climate-extremes-compound-hunger-greater-horn-africa>

<sup>2266</sup> EU boosts humanitarian aid in Bangladesh, Myanmar and for the Rohingya refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-boosts-humanitarian-aid-bangladesh-myanmar-and-rohingya-refugee-crisis-2025-03-03\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-boosts-humanitarian-aid-bangladesh-myanmar-and-rohingya-refugee-crisis-2025-03-03_en)

On 13 March 2025, the European Commission provided EUR4 million in humanitarian aid to Mauritania.<sup>2267</sup> This aid package includes food assistance to combat resource scarcity, given the influx of refugees and returnees.

On 14 March 2025, the European Investment Bank provided a EUR15 million grant to support Cambodian Agriculture Services Programme for an Inclusive Rural Economy and Agricultural Trade.<sup>2268</sup> This grant supports Cambodia's agricultural sector whilst promoting sustainable growth, food security and climate resilience.

On 28 March 2025, the European Union allocated EUR6.5 billion in funding to address malnutrition, with EUR3.4 billion being provided by the European Commission.<sup>2269</sup> This announcement was made at the Nutrition for Growth Summit in Paris.

On 7 April 2025, the EU committed EUR41 million in humanitarian aid to people in Southern Africa in the Indian Ocean.<sup>2270</sup> This fund includes food and nutrition assistance to combat malnutrition in areas affected by natural hazards and armed conflict.

On 10 April 2025, the European Commission announced EUR74.5 million in humanitarian aid for Chad, EUR160 million for Sudan, and EUR48 million to support "refugees, returnees, and host communities" in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt and Libya.<sup>2271</sup> All packages include food and nutrition provisions.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to remain steadfast in addressing the escalating global food security and nutrition crisis, aggravated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. It has taken strong action in four areas of "highest concern": South Sudan, Sudan, Mali and the Palestinian Territories. It has taken strong action in four areas of "high concern": the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Chad and Myanmar. It has also taken strong action in seven "hotspots": Ethiopia, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Lebanon, Niger and Mozambique. As such, it has taken strong action in at least three of the five highest concern areas and at least 10 of the 20 areas of very high concern and hotspots.

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

*Analyst: Maggie Hung*

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<sup>2267</sup> EU provides €4 million in humanitarian aid to Mauritania, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-provides-eu4-million-humanitarian-aid-mauritania-2025-03-12\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-provides-eu4-million-humanitarian-aid-mauritania-2025-03-12_en)

<sup>2268</sup> Cambodia: Almost €80 million in EU investment to modernise agricultural sector and to boost farmers' access to domestic and global markets, European Investment Bank (Phnom Penh) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-144-almost-eur80-million-in-eu-investment-to-modernise-cambodia-s-agricultural-sector-and-to-boost-farmers-access-to-domestic-and-global-markets>

<sup>2269</sup> The Nutrition for Growth Summit mobilizes over US\$27 billion to reach nutrition-related Sustainable Development Goals, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/other-major-sectors/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-mobilizes-over-us-27-billion-to-reach-nutrition>

<sup>2270</sup> EU announces €41 million in humanitarian aid for people in need in Southern Africa and Indian Ocean, European Commission (Brussels) 7 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_947](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_947)

<sup>2271</sup> EU announces €282.5 million in humanitarian aid for Chad and Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2025. Access Date: 7 May 2025. [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-announces-eu2825-million-humanitarian-aid-chad-and-sudan-crisis-2025-04-10\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/eu-announces-eu2825-million-humanitarian-aid-chad-and-sudan-crisis-2025-04-10_en)

## 10. Health: Sustainable Development Goal 3

“We reaffirm our commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG [Sustainable Development Goal] 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.”

*G7 Apulia Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

Since the early 1980s, the G7 recognized the importance of improving healthcare globally via international cooperation.<sup>2272</sup> This emphasis on improved healthcare and healthcare access continues. In 2015, the United Nation’s introduced the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 which reinforced this emphasis on improving healthcare capabilities and access, especially within developing countries.<sup>2273</sup> The commitment to SDG 3 continued since, focusing primarily on improving health and well-being in developing countries. Efforts toward this end have combined investments in research and development, collaboration with international organizations, particularly the World Health Organization (WHO) and global investment in building infrastructure and resources to improve global health systems and combat diseases of concern. Recent efforts have focused on the global health crisis of the Covid-19 pandemic.

At the 1983 Williamsburg Summit, G7 leaders agreed to strengthen international cooperation in health research.<sup>2274</sup>

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders recognized Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) as one of the biggest potential health problems in the world.<sup>2275</sup> The leaders agreed on the importance of international cooperation and political and financial support for WHO. G7 leaders also reaffirmed the need for improved education and research to tackle the AIDS epidemic.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders committed to aiding developing countries to improve global prosperity.<sup>2276</sup> G7 leaders identified that improvements and aid regarding healthcare systems were of particular importance.

<sup>2272</sup> Declaration on Economic Recovery, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 May 1983. Access Date: 13 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1983williamsburg/communique.html>

<sup>2273</sup> Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations (Geneva) 25 September 2015. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

<sup>2274</sup> Declaration on Economic Recovery, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 May 1983. Access Date: 13 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1983williamsburg/communique.html>

<sup>2275</sup> Chairman's Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>2276</sup> Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 13 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>



At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 leaders called on the World Bank and other regional development banks to strengthen capital flows and provide resources for healthcare in the developing world.<sup>2277</sup>

At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders endorsed the creation and implementation of mechanisms to improve the identification of and response to communicable diseases such as AIDS.<sup>2278</sup> The leaders committed to extending assistance programs to countries hit by the spread of infectious diseases. The G7 leaders also supported the efforts of WHO and the United Nations Program on AIDS to combat the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/AIDS epidemic.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders identified protecting children's health as a shared fundamental value.<sup>2279</sup> They recognized the need to collaborate to reduce children's exposure to environmental health hazards such as lead, environmental tobacco smoke and other air pollutants. The leaders committed to promote effective coordination of international responses to outbreaks and to help build infrastructure that will increase public health capacity to mitigate infectious diseases globally. G7 leaders also emphasized the importance of global cooperation to limit and eliminate the threat of HIV and AIDS.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders expressed their support for the 'Roll Back Malaria' initiative and confirmed their continued support to reduce the impact of the AIDS epidemic through vaccine development and key programs as well as through continued support for UNAIDS.<sup>2280</sup> G7 leaders also pledged to help reduce child and maternal mortality rates globally.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders urged the International Monetary Fund to prioritize core budgets, including basic health, as much as possible.<sup>2281</sup> The leaders also committed to the Köln Debt Initiative, which released investment resources in critical areas such as health and social needs.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders committed to collaborating with governments, the WHO and other international organizations to reduce the number of HIV/AIDS-infected young people, reduce Tuberculosis deaths and prevalence and reduce the burden of disease associated with malaria by 2010.<sup>2282</sup> The leaders aimed to mobilize additional resources to achieve this goal and gave priority to the development of equitable health systems as well as worked to improve access to cost-effective medical interventions in developing countries. G8 leaders also pledged to strengthen cooperation in research and development on new drugs, vaccines and other public health goods.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the pharmaceutical industry's work in making drugs more accessible globally.<sup>2283</sup> The leaders also committed resources to eradicate polio by 2005.

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<sup>2277</sup> Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 1994. Access Date: 13 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/communique/index.html>

<sup>2278</sup> Chairman's Statement: Toward Greater Security and Stability in a More Cooperative World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1996. Access Date: 13 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996lyon/chair.html>

<sup>2279</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>2280</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2281</sup> G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date 14 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2282</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2283</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 14 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to mitigating the damage of infectious diseases.<sup>2284</sup>

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders recognized the need for international cooperation on global research into sustainable public health improvements.<sup>2285</sup>

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders acted toward establishing a “global HIV vaccine enterprise” aimed at increasing access to HIV vaccines worldwide.<sup>2286</sup>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders agreed to boost investments in African healthcare systems and to take action to combat infectious diseases.<sup>2287</sup>

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders pledged to enhance international monitoring and response systems for infectious disease outbreaks.<sup>2288</sup> They also reaffirmed their pledges to combat the HIV/AIDS and polio epidemics and called for greater scientific exchange between states, including developing countries, to ensure the creation of vaccines.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders committed to assisting partner countries in developing and strengthening health systems and availability.<sup>2289</sup> The leaders committed to providing long-term funding to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. They also introduced a new Joint Progress Report on Africa to monitor their progress towards tackling the three pandemics above.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their support for their African partners’ commitment to ensure that all children have access to basic health care by 2015.<sup>2290</sup> They also reiterated their commitment to providing funds to fight infectious diseases and strengthen healthcare systems. The leaders committed to improving sexual and reproductive health, voluntary family planning programs and healthcare access. The G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to providing funding to combat polio.

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving global healthcare and supporting progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) pertaining to health.<sup>2291</sup> They also reaffirmed their support of programs to improve health for women and children.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders launched the Muskoka Initiative, a comprehensive approach to fulfilling MDGs 4 and 5, which aim to significantly reduce maternal and child mortality rates.<sup>2292</sup>

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<sup>2284</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>2285</sup> Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 14 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable\\_development\\_en.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html)

<sup>2286</sup> G8 Action to Endorse and Establish a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/hiv.html>

<sup>2287</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>2288</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 2006. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/summary.html>

<sup>2289</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.html>

<sup>2290</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>2291</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>2292</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving maternal health and combating child mortality rates globally.<sup>2293</sup> They also pledged to collaborate with donors to improve global health programs.

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving maternal, newborn and child healthcare.<sup>2294</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving maternal, newborn and child healthcare, ensuring universal access to health services and sexual and reproductive health.<sup>2295</sup>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to assisting in implementing WHO's International Health Regulations (IHR).<sup>2296</sup> The leaders emphasized their commitment to reducing the number of Ebola cases to zero and the importance of coordination to fight future epidemics. They affirmed their commitment to the One Health approach and invested in controlling neglected tropical diseases.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to compliance with IHR objectives and to supporting country-led health system strengthening.<sup>2297</sup> The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to ending AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and committed to collective efforts to implement a One Health Approach.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders committed to advancing global health security and improving healthcare, especially for women and adolescents.<sup>2298</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to supporting the development and implementation of strong and sustainable health systems globally and continuing the implementation of the One Health Approach.<sup>2299</sup>

In the 2020 Leaders' Statement, G7 leaders committed to accelerating their response to the Covid-19 pandemic as well as strengthening health systems worldwide.<sup>2300</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, beating Covid-19 was identified as the immediate focus of G7 leaders.<sup>2301</sup> The leaders committed to boosting the supply of necessary Covid-19 tools, including vaccines, tests, therapeutics and personal protective equipment.

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<sup>2293</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2294</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

<sup>2295</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 15 September 15, 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>2296</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, Government of Germany (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7germany.de/Content/DE/StatischeSeiten/G7/g7-gipfel-dokumente.html>

<sup>2297</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, Government of Japan (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.japan.go.jp/g7/summit/agenda/index.html>

<sup>2298</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 27 May 2017. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>2299</sup> Charlevoix Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>2300</sup> Leader's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 15 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>2301</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Carbis Bay, Cornwall) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the One Health Approach.<sup>2302</sup> They also pledged to work towards attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) per the 2030 Agenda and strengthen health systems globally.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to adopt the WHO CA+ Pandemic Preparedness Treaty by May 2024.<sup>2303</sup> The leaders committed to reversing the first global decline in life expectancy in more than seven decades, aiming to improve survival rates to better than pre-pandemic levels. The leaders endorsed the “G7 Global Plan for UHC Action Agenda.”

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.”<sup>2304</sup> This commitment relating to SDG 3 builds on commitments from previous summits.

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment can be understood to have the main goal of addressing 13 targets under SDG 3 for all individuals of all ages. In line with the language “accelerating,” to achieve full compliance members must take very strong action in addressing these targets.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Accelerating” is understood to mean hastening the progress or development of something.<sup>2305</sup>

“Progress” is understood to mean the gradual betterment or a forward movement to an objective or a goal.<sup>2306</sup>

“SDG3” is understood to mean ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages, part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030.<sup>2307</sup> SDG 3 has 13 target areas: 1) reducing global maternal mortality, 2) reducing global neonatal mortality preventable deaths of newborns and children under the age of five, 3) ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat communicable diseases, 4) reduce premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being, 5) prevention and treatment of substance use, 6) reduce global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents, 7) ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health services, 8) universal health coverage for all, 9) reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from pollution and contamination, 10) the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, 11) the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and noncommunicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries and providing access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, 12) increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, 13) strengthening the capacity of all countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks. SDG 3 focuses on solutions that tackle health inequalities, ensure equitable provision of health services and aid developing countries and small island nations. Actions supporting SDG 3 include public health campaigns such as childhood immunization but may also include educational initiatives promoting good health and well-being, such as

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<sup>2302</sup> Elmau Summit G7 Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Elmau) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>2303</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Hiroshima) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>2304</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>2305</sup> Accelerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accelerate>

<sup>2306</sup> Progress, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/progress>

<sup>2307</sup> Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/>

national reproductive health education. Some actions may support specific targets of SDG 3, such as increased access to psychological and mental health services.

“Healthy lives” is understood to mean the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in line with the WHO’s definition of health.<sup>2308</sup> “Healthy lives” is understood as the state of health throughout one’s life course at all ages.

“Promoting” is understood to mean supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area. It should not have to be a brand-new initiative.<sup>2309</sup> “Promoting” can also be understood to mean contributing to growth or prosperity of or helping bring into being.<sup>2310</sup>

“Well-being” is understood to mean “a positive state experienced by individuals and societies. Like health, it is a daily life resource determined by social, economic and environmental conditions. Well-being encompasses quality of life and the ability of people and societies to contribute to the world with a sense of meaning and purpose.

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards a minimum of 10 specific targets within the 13 targets of SDG 3. Strong actions which contribute to compliance include but are not limited to: legislation to support universal health coverage and financial risk protection, allocating more funding to develop programs and provide resources such as vaccination campaigns locally and internationally and increasing the provision of health services such as psychological services, physiotherapy, vision care and dental care. Regulations, such as those that ensure more practitioners provide health services in underserved communities, as well as education programs that enhance and promote well-being such as mental health education programs for youth. Any strong action pertaining to legislation or funding that addresses a specific target, or targets within SDG 3 contributes to full compliance. Both domestic and international actions contribute to compliance. Guidance is also taken from the indicators within the SDG targets.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that demonstrate strong action in six of the 13 SDG 3 targets, or a combination of weak and strong action in between six and nine of the targets. Examples of weak actions include statements of support, attending conferences regarding addressing and developing towards the SDG 3 targets, establishing of domestic or international committees to address the targets further at a later stage, or signing memorandums of understanding recommitting to promote health commitments. Actions such as increasing public awareness of the commitment without establishing new programs or initiatives and sharing information, knowledge and monitoring about progress towards the SDG 3 targets domestically or internationally between government organizations and health services can be considered strong actions if the target or indicator specifically highlights these types of actions: i.e. monitoring for infectious disease outbreaks.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member takes action in five or fewer of the 13 targets, or takes action that is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment or SDG 3 targets and indicators, such as rolling back access to reproductive or other healthcare (SDG 3.7).

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<sup>2308</sup> Constitution of the World Health Organization, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.who.int/about/governance/constitution>

<sup>2309</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2310</sup> Promoting, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/promoting>

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has taken insufficient action to accelerate progress towards the 13 targets under SDG 3 to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, by complying with only five or fewer of the 13 targets.
0	The G7 member has taken some action towards SDG 3 by taking strong action in six of the 13 targets or has taken a combination of strong and weak actions in between six and nine of the targets, or has taken weak action in 10 of the targets, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action to accelerate progress towards SDG 3 by taking strong action in 10 or more of the 13 targets, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

*Compliance Director: Mathula Muhundan**Lead Analyst: Maggie Wang***Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 20 June 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced a CAD85 million contribution to the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator to support regional vaccine production across Africa.<sup>2311</sup> This investment aims to strengthen health security, improve vaccine access and build resilience against future pandemics and addresses sections b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 24 June 2024, the Government of Canada launched an online consultation to inform the design of the Youth Mental Health Fund.<sup>2312</sup> The consultation was open from 24 June 2024 to 31 July 2024. The Youth Mental Health Fund addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 25 June 2024, Global Affairs Canada announced its support for improving primary healthcare systems for women, children and adolescents in Bangladesh through its partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).<sup>2313</sup> The five-year project aims to ensure that 1.9 million women of reproductive age and 6 million children and infants have access to essential healthcare services. The partnership addresses sections one, two, seven and eight of SDG 3.

On 26 June 2024, the Government of Canada and the Southern Chiefs' Organization signed an Agreement-in-Principle on health governance.<sup>2314</sup> The agreement intends to close the health gaps for First Nations and First Nations communities by transferring health services from Indigenous Services Canada to the Southern First Nations Health Authority, ensuring culturally appropriate and tailored healthcare services for Indigenous communities.

<sup>2311</sup> Canada announces support for vaccine manufacturing in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-announces-support-for-vaccine-manufacturing-in-africa.html>

<sup>2312</sup> Government of Canada launches consultation to inform design of Youth Mental Health Fund, Health Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-launches-consultation-to-inform-design-of-youth-mental-health-fund.html>

<sup>2313</sup> UNICEF, UNFPA and Canada partner with the Government of Bangladesh to improve the access of 6 million children and almost 2 million women to essential healthcare services, United Nations Children's Fund (Dhaka) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/en/press-releases/unicef-unfpa-and-canada-partner-government-bangladesh-improve-access-6-million>

<sup>2314</sup> SCO and Canada Sign Historic Agreement-in-Principle on Health Governance, Southern Chiefs' Organization (Anishnaabe and Dakota Territory) 27 June 2024. <https://scoinc.mb.ca/sco-and-canada-sign-historic-agreement-in-principle-on-health-governance/>

On 27 June 2024, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Ya'ara Saks, announced a grant totaling CAD749,932 for McMaster University's Canadian Emergency Response Psychosocial Support Network CanEMERG project.<sup>2315</sup> The project aims to provide mental health support to those facing health challenges in emergencies such as wildfires, floods and other traumatic incidents, addressing section four of SDG 3.

On 9 July 2024, Global Affairs Canada signed a five-year programme with UNICEF and UNFPA to improve equitable access to quality sexual and reproductive health and rights services for adolescent girls in Tanzania.<sup>2316</sup> The programme includes a CAD14.7 million investment from Canadian authorities. It aims to target around 1.2 million adolescents between 10 and 19 years old in the regions of Zanzibar, Songwe and Dodoma in Tanzania. It aims to reduce maternal mortality, prevent unwanted pregnancies, prevent and treat sexually transmitted infections and improve the overall economic empowerment of adolescent girls in Tanzania. The programme addresses sections one, three and seven of SDG 3.

On 11 July 2024, Minister Saks and the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages Randy Boissonnault, on behalf of the Minister of Health Mark Holland, announced more than CAD47 million in federal funding for innovative projects to help support Canada's health workforce.<sup>2317</sup> The funding and initiatives aid in delivering Universal Health Coverage advancing section eight of SDG 3.

On 22 July 2024, Member of Parliament Michael McLeod announced CAD67 million for road improvements in the Northwest Territories. The investments include road safety upgrades aligning with section six of SDG 3.<sup>2318</sup>

On 19 August 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly, on behalf of the Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen, announced an additional CAD1 million contribution to the World Health Organization's monkeypox (mpox) response efforts in Africa on top of a previous CAD2 million contribution.<sup>2319</sup> The contribution addresses sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 9 September 2024, Minister Holland and European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides launched the EU-Canada Health Policy Dialogue under the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement.<sup>2320</sup> This dialogue establishes cooperation in areas such as antimicrobial resistance, health security (including climate-related health risks) and non-communicable diseases such as cancer and mental health.

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<sup>2315</sup> Government of Canada supports development of mental health resources to help communities plan for and respond to emergencies, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-supports-development-of-mental-health-resources-to-help-communities-plan-for-and-respond-to-emergencies.html>

<sup>2316</sup> Global Affairs Canada, UNICEF and UNFPA join hands to support adolescent girls in Tanzania, United Nations Population Fund (Dar Es Salaam) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://tanzania.unfpa.org/en/news/global-affairs-canada-unicef-and-unfpa-join-hands-support-adolescent-girls-tanzania>

<sup>2317</sup> Supporting Canada's health workers by improving health workforce research, planning and data, Health Canada (Ottawa) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/07/supporting-canadas-health-workers-by-improving-health-workforce-research-planning-and-data0.html>

<sup>2318</sup> Improvements to highways and roads across the Northwest Territories, Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada (Yellowknife) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 4 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/07/improvements-to-highways-and-roads-across-the-northwest-territories.html>

<sup>2319</sup> Minister Joly announces funding for mpox response, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 August 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/08/minister-joly-announces-funding-for-mpox-response.html>

<sup>2320</sup> GEU and Canada launch Health Policy Dialogue to advance Health Priorities, Health Canada (Ottawa) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/09/canada-and-eu-launch-health-policy-dialogue-to-advance-health-priorities.html>

On 13 September 2024, the Government of Canada announced the donation of up to 200,000 doses of the Imvamune vaccine to help address the mpox outbreak in Africa.<sup>2321</sup> This action aims to enhance vaccine equity, prevent the spread of mpox and promote global health security in affected regions. The donation addresses sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 26 September 2024, Health Canada commissioned the Standards Council of Canada to develop a series of guidelines and resources to standardize mental health and substance use care, with the aim of improving quality and accessibility.<sup>2322</sup> Supported by organizations such as the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction, these resources include guidance for youth services, integrated mental health and substance use care and digital apps.

On 7 October 2024, Minister Holland announced an investment of CAD12.29 million over five years to support cancer prevention and treatment of Canadian firefighters.<sup>2323</sup> This initiative includes tabling the National Framework on Cancers Linked to Firefighting in Parliament, establishing a National Firefighter Cancer Registry, developing health and safety standards and advancing research to reduce cancer risks. These efforts address firefighters' unique health risks, promoting early diagnosis and improved occupational safety standards. The funding addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 10 October 2024, the Senate passed the Pharmacare Act, establishing universal, single-payer access to a selection of contraception and diabetes medications, marking the first phase of a national pharmacare program.<sup>2324</sup> The Act mandates the development of an essential drug list, a national formulary and bulk purchasing strategies to lower drug prices, alongside a committee to guide the program's expansion. This action supports SDG 3 section eight by improving health equity, affordability and accessibility for essential medicines across Canada.

On 17 October 2024, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence Macauley announced an investment of CAD1.8 million in funding for the International Agricultural Worker Wellness Program.<sup>2325</sup> This program provides mental health services in Spanish, Tagalog, French and English for international agricultural workers in Ontario. This initiative promotes mental health and well-being for members of these vulnerable populations and addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 29 October 2024, Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth Marci Ien, Minister Holland and Minister of Public Services and Procurement Jean-Yves Duclos announced legislation requiring charities offering pregnancy counselling to disclose if they do not provide abortions, birth control, or referrals for these services.<sup>2326</sup> Non-compliant organizations risk losing charitable

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<sup>2321</sup> Canada announces vaccines in support of the mpox outbreak in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-announces-vaccines-in-support-of-the-mpox-outbreak-in-africa.html>

<sup>2322</sup> Government of Canada and Partners Pave Way for Standardized Mental Health and Substance Use Care, Health Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/09/government-of-canada-and-partners-pave-way-for-standardized-mental-health-and-substance-use-care.html>

<sup>2323</sup> Health Canada invests \$12.29 million in prevention and treatment of cancer for firefighters, Health Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/10/health-canada-invests-1229-million-in-prevention-and-treatment-of-cancer-for-firefighters.html>

<sup>2324</sup> Government of Canada Passes Legislation for a First Phase of National Universal Pharmacare, Health Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-passes-legislation-for-a-first-phase-of-national-universal-pharmacare.html>

<sup>2325</sup> Governments strengthening mental health services for international agricultural workers, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2024/10/governments-strengthening-mental-health-services-for-international-agricultural-workers.html>

<sup>2326</sup> Government of Canada protecting reproductive freedom and covering essential health care costs, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-protecting-reproductive-freedom-and-covering-essential-health-care-costs.html>



status. This measure promotes transparency in reproductive health care, supporting informed choices and equitable access to services and addressing section seven of SDG 3.

On 1 November 2024, the Government of Canada expanded the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) to include additional services such as partial dentures, crowns and other treatments for patients with complex needs, subject to preauthorization.<sup>2327</sup> This expansion of CDCP services addresses inequities in oral health care and improves access to essential healthcare services by assessing requests on a case-by-case basis. The expanded program contributes to section eight of SDG 3.

On 14 November 2024, Minister Saks announced CAD7.5 million in funding for Kids Help Phone, which will provide 24/7 mental health counselling and crisis support for youth across Canada. This funding enhances bilingual and community-specific services, supports underserved populations and expands service reach through improved data tools and addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 14 November 2024, Minister Sa'aks, Minister of National Revenue Marie-Claude Bibeau, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Élisabeth Brière and Member of Parliament Geneviève Hébert announced CAD2.5 million in funding for five projects responding to drug and substance use issues through the Canada-Quebec Agreement on Addictions and Substance Use.<sup>2328</sup> The funding addresses section five of SDG 3.

On 14 November 2024, Minister Holland announced a CAD5.2 million investment through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to fund 35 research projects on avian influenza A(H5N1).<sup>2329</sup> The projects will address vaccine and therapeutic development, disease monitoring and public health strategies to mitigate the spread of the virus. The funding addresses sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 15 November 2024, Minister Holland, Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings and Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Health and Community Services John Hogan announced over CAD47 million in federal funding as part of two bilateral agreements with Newfoundland and Labrador.<sup>2330</sup> These agreements include CAD25 million to increase wages for 6,000 home support workers by 2027 to address recruitment and retention challenges, particularly in rural and remote areas. This funding also extends the Aging with Dignity Agreement by one year, enabling clients, particularly older adults, to age safely in place. A second National Strategy for Drugs for Rare Disease agreement invested CAD22 million in improving access to rare disease screening, diagnostics and medication such as Poteligeo and Oxlumo. The agreements advance sections four and eight of SDG 3.

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<sup>2327</sup> Canadian Dental Care Plan milestone reached as 1 Million Canadians have received care, Government of Canada (Scarborough) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/10/canadian-dental-care-plan-milestone-reached-as-1-million-canadians-have-received-care.html>

<sup>2328</sup> The government of Canada and the government of Quebec announce \$2.5 million in funding to fight addiction and prevent overdoses in the Eastern Townships, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/11/elisabeth-briere-announces-25-million-to-fight-addiction-and-prevent-overdoses-in-the-eastern-townships.html>

<sup>2329</sup> Government of Canada invests in research on avian influenza A(H5N1), Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-invests-in-research-on-avian-influenza-ah5n1.html>

<sup>2330</sup> Government of Canada signs two bilateral agreements with Newfoundland and Labrador, providing \$25 million to Home Support Workers, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 19 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-signs-two-bilateral-agreements-with-newfoundland-and-labrador-providing-25-million-to-home-support-workers.html>

On 22 November 2024, Parliamentary Secretary Chris Bittle announced CAD3.5 million in funding to Regional Essential Access to Connected Healthcare Niagara for their Transitions Into Comprehensive Care project.<sup>2331</sup> This initiative offers a wide range of services, including counselling, housing and employment support for individuals at risk of substance-related harm and overdose in the Niagara region. The funding supports sections four and five of SDG 3.

On 27 November 2024, Ms Brière announced CAD1.8 million in funding for Mackay Manor’s “Renfrew County Mobile Substance Use Service” project.<sup>2332</sup> This funding will expand access to harm reduction and substance use care, including opioid agonist therapy, wound care and virtual consultations while collaborating with community health partners. The funding addresses sections three, four and five of SDG 3.

On 29 November 2024, President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport Anita Anand announced a CAD1.3 million investment to develop a new national guide dog training school in Oakville, Ontario.<sup>2333</sup> This initiative aims to improve accessibility for disabled persons by reducing barriers and enhancing independence and social well-being and addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 29 November 2024, Minister Holland announced CAD545,000 in funding to advance breast cancer screening in Canada.<sup>2334</sup> This includes CAD295,000 for the Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow’s Health to improve data on disparities in screening practices and CAD250,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society to raise public awareness. The funding addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 6 December 2024, Minister Saks announced two initiatives to strengthen Integrated Youth Services (IYS) hubs across Canada, supporting the expansion of accessible youth mental health care.<sup>2335</sup> The IYS Collaboration Centre and the IYS Data Platform are part of the CAD500 million Youth Mental Health Fund, aiming to expand community-based services and reduce barriers to care, contributing to SDG 3.4 and 3.8.

On 9 December 2024, Minister Anand announced 35 new projects across Canada under the Enhanced Road Safety Transfer Payment Program, providing CAD14.6 million to improve road safety and reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities.<sup>2336</sup> The funded initiatives focus on driver assistance systems, impaired and distracted driving, winter road conditions, speeding and more. These efforts align with SDG 3.6 by working to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries through innovative safety measures and policy development.

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<sup>2331</sup> Improving health outcomes for people at risk of substance-related harms and overdose, Health Canada (Ottawa) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/11/improving-health-outcomes-for-people-at-risk-of-substance-related-harms-and-overdose.html>

<sup>2332</sup> Government of Canada Taking Action to Address Substance Use Harms and Improve Health Outcomes, Health Canada(Ottawa) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-taking-action-to-address-substance-use-harms-and-improve-health-outcomes.html>

<sup>2333</sup> Government of Canada invests in a new national guide and assistance dog training school, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/10/minister-valdez-announces-agreement-to-deliver-health-innovations-to-first-nations-communities.html>

<sup>2334</sup> Government of Canada invests in breast cancer research and public awareness, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-invests-in-breast-cancer-research-and-public-awareness.html>

<sup>2335</sup> Government of Canada invests in transformative youth mental health care model, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-invests-in-transformative-youth-mental-health-care-model.html>

<sup>2336</sup> Government of Canada invests in building safer communities, Transport Canada (Kanata) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-invests-in-building-safer-communities.html>

On 6 January 2025, Canada's Drug Agency and the Canadian Institute for Health Information signed a three-year agreement to strengthen pharmaceutical data and analytics across Canada.<sup>2337</sup> This partnership aims to improve drug access, safety and patient health outcomes by expanding pharmaceutical data holdings and supporting evidence-based decision-making. The initiative aligns with SDG 3.8 by enhancing universal health coverage through better system coordination and informed policy development.

On 13 January 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD17.25 million in humanitarian assistance to support the needs of sixteen million people in Syria.<sup>2338</sup> The funding will provide clean water, food, sanitation, hygiene services and essential health services to ensure access to essential healthcare as per SDG 3.8.

On 15 January 2025, Minister Holland and New Brunswick's Minister of Health John Dornan signed a CAD32 million bilateral agreement to improve access to drugs for rare diseases under the National Strategy for Rare Diseases.<sup>2339</sup> The agreement will fund access to four drugs, support early diagnosis and screening and enhance the affordability of treatments for people in New Brunswick with rare diseases. The funding advances section four of SDG 3.

On 24 January 2025, Minister Holland and Ontario's Minister of Health Sylvia Jones signed a CAD535 million bilateral agreement to improve access to drugs for rare diseases under the National Strategy for Rare Diseases.<sup>2340</sup> The agreement will fund access to five drugs, support early diagnosis and screening and enhance the affordability of treatments for Ontarians with rare diseases. The funding advances section four of SDG 3.

On 30 January 2025, Minister of Indigenous Services Patty Hajdu and Zhiibaahaasing First Nation Chief Irene Sagon Kells marked the groundbreaking of a new water treatment plant and upgrades to the community's water distribution system.<sup>2341</sup> Supported by a CAD47 million investment from Indigenous Services Canada, the project will enhance access to safe drinking water, prevent waterborne diseases, improve hygiene and enhance overall health outcomes for the Zhiibaahaasing First Nation community supporting SDG 3.3 and 3.9.

On 6 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD360.6 million in funding over six years (2025-2031) to support Nutrition International in improving global health by addressing malnutrition.<sup>2342</sup> The funding will focus on Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, providing vitamin A supplementation to approximately 150 million children twice a year. By combating malnutrition, this initiative directly contributes to SDG 3.2 by reducing preventable child deaths and SDG 3.4 by improving overall health and well-being.

On 7 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD248.2 million for fourteen new projects to strengthen health systems in low and middle-income countries, focusing on women, children, Indigenous peoples and

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<sup>2337</sup> Canada's Drug Agency and the Canadian Institute for Health Information Sign Agreement to Improve Pharmaceutical Data, Canada's Drug Agency (Ottawa) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.cda-amc.ca/news/canadas-drug-agency-and-canadian-institute-health-information-sign-agreement-improve>

<sup>2338</sup> Minister Hussen announces humanitarian assistance for Syria following visit to Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/01/minister-hussen-announces-humanitarian-assistance-for-syria-following-visit-to-middle-east.html>

<sup>2339</sup> Government of Canada signs bilateral agreement with New Brunswick to improve access to drugs for rare diseases, Health Canada (Ottawa) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-signs-bilateral-agreement-with-new-brunswick-to-improve-access-to-drugs-for-rare-diseases.html>

<sup>2340</sup> Government of Canada signs bilateral agreement with Ontario for Drugs for Rare Diseases, Health Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-signs-bilateral-agreement-with-ontario-for-drugs-for-rare-diseases.html>

<sup>2341</sup> Zhiibaahaasing First Nation celebrates groundbreaking of new water treatment plant and distribution system upgrades, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2025/01/zhiibaahaasing-first-nation-celebrates-groundbreaking-of-new-water-treatment-plant-and-distribution-system-upgrades.html>

<sup>2342</sup> Minister Hussen announces \$360.6 million for global efforts to eliminate malnutrition, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-3606-million-for-global-efforts-to-eliminate-malnutrition.html>

persons with disabilities.<sup>2343</sup> The projects, running from 2025 to 2032, will expand access to essential healthcare, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and water, sanitation and hygiene services for over four million people in 20 countries.

On 11 February 2025, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the appointment of Kevin Brosseau as Canada's Fentanyl Czar, a new role aimed at accelerating national efforts to detect, disrupt and dismantle the illicit fentanyl trade supporting SDG 3.5.<sup>2344</sup>

On 12 February 2025, Minister Saks announced the publication of Canada's first clinical practice guidelines for managing perinatal mood, anxiety and related disorders.<sup>2345</sup> Developed by the Canadian Network for Mood and Anxiety Treatments, the guidelines support SDG 3.4 by providing healthcare providers with evidence-based recommendations to improve early identification and treatment of perinatal mental health conditions.

On 13 February 2025, Minister Holland announced over CAD1.7 million in funding to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services for underserved communities.<sup>2346</sup>

On 14 February 2025, Minister Saks announced new measures to combat the illicit fentanyl trade by launching consultations for additional controls for three precursor chemicals used in illegal drug production.<sup>2347</sup> This action supports SDG 3.5, reducing substance abuse by strengthening law enforcement's ability to disrupt the illegal drug supply.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD56.8 million in funding to support development projects in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>2348</sup> In addition to projects focusing on gender equality, refugee support and economic growth, other health initiatives will be funded. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Humanitarian Appeal 2025 will receive CAD2.9 million to provide life-saving assistance, essential medical services and protection for Rohingya refugees. The Emergency Health Response in Bangladesh will receive CAD2.75 million to deliver gender-responsive emergency healthcare, specifically focusing on primary care and sexual and reproductive health services. A further CAD2 million will address the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Emergency Response in Bangladesh. Lastly, the Addressing Gaps in Refugee Access to Health initiative will receive an additional CAD10 million to expand comprehensive health services, including maternal and child health, nutrition and disease prevention.

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<sup>2343</sup> Minister Hussen announces new projects to strengthen health systems that reach the poorest and most vulnerable, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-new-projects-to-strengthen-health-systems-that-reach-the-poorest-and-most-vulnerable.html>

<sup>2344</sup> Prime Minister announces the appointment of Canada's new Fentanyl Czar, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2025/02/11/prime-minister-appointment-canadas-new-fentanyl-czar>

<sup>2345</sup> First of their kind Guidelines Provide Recommendations for Treating Mood and Anxiety Disorders in Pregnancy and Postpartum, Health Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/first-of-their-kind-guidelines-provide-recommendations-for-treating-mood-and-anxiety-disorders-in-pregnancy-and-postpartum.html>

<sup>2346</sup> Government of Canada Provides \$1.7 million to Improve Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-provides-17-million-to-improve-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-services.html>

<sup>2347</sup> Government of Canada takes further action to address fentanyl precursor chemicals, Health Canada (Ottawa) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-takes-further-action-to-address-fentanyl-precursor-chemicals.html>

<sup>2348</sup> Backgrounder: Minister Hussen announces support to strengthen Canada's development partnerships in Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/backgrounder-minister-hussen-announces-support-to-strengthen-canadas-development-partnerships-in-indo-pacific-region.html>

On 19 February 2025, the Public Health Agency of Canada secured 500,000 doses of the Arepanrix H5N1 vaccine as a proactive measure to protect individuals at increased risk of exposure to avian influenza.<sup>2349</sup> This acquisition is part of Canada's contingency planning to respond rapidly to potential outbreaks and mitigate public health risks in line with SDG 3.d.

On 26 February 2025, the Government of Canada announced more than CAD84.8 million in funding to support 65 community-led initiatives through the Substance Use and Addictions Program and the Emergency Treatment Fund.<sup>2350</sup> These projects aim to scale up harm reduction, treatment and recovery efforts while addressing urgent local needs in response to the illegal toxic drug and overdose crisis. Initiatives include naloxone distribution, mobile crisis teams, traditional land-based healing, peer support and access to trauma-informed and culturally appropriate services supporting SDG 3.5 by preventing and treating substance use.

On 28 February 2025, Minister Saks, Minister of Public Safety David McGuinty, and Fentanyl Czar Kevin Brosseau announced new measures to combat fentanyl production and organized crime by formalizing controls for three fentanyl precursor chemicals and the drug carisoprodol.<sup>2351</sup> These substances have been temporarily emergency scheduled, and permanent controls will take effect between April and May 2025.

On 4 March 2025, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Steven MacKinnon announced up to CAD14.3 million in funding to address healthcare labour shortages through a Foreign Credential Recognition Program.<sup>2352</sup> The investment will support more than 3,500 internationally educated health professionals with work placements, wage subsidies and training to address immediate labour shortages in the health sector. This action supports SDG 3.c by strengthening health workforce development and training.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Saks announced CAD150 million through the Emergency Treatment Fund to help municipalities and Indigenous communities address the illegal toxic drug and overdose crisis.<sup>2353</sup> The funding will support urgent interventions to strengthen local capacity, including expanded harm reduction and treatment services.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Hussen pledged CAD675 million over five years from 2026–2030 to Global Forum for Vaccine Sovereignty and Innovation, The Vaccine Alliance, to expand global access to lifesaving vaccines.<sup>2354</sup> The funding will help immunize at least 500 million children, prevent over eight million deaths and deliver critical vaccines, including for malaria and HPV, directly supporting SDG 3.b by advancing equitable access to vaccines in low-income countries.

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<sup>2349</sup> Government of Canada purchases avian influenza vaccine to protect individuals most at risk, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-purchases-avian-influenza-vaccine-to-protect-individuals-most-at-risk.html>

<sup>2350</sup> Supporting community-based organizations and helping community address critical needs related to the illegal toxic drug and overdose crisis, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/supporting-community-based-organizations-and-helping-community-address-critical-needs-related-to-the-illegal-toxic-drug-and-overdose-crisis.html>

<sup>2351</sup> Government of Canada takes further action to combat fentanyl production and organized crime, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-takes-further-action-to-combat-fentanyl-production-and-organized-crime.html>

<sup>2352</sup> The Government of Canada is investing up to \$14.3 million to help address labour shortages in the health sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/the-government-of-canada-is-investing-up-to-143-million-to-help-address-labour-shortages-in-the-health-sector.html>

<sup>2353</sup> Statement from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on the toxic illegal drug supply and overdose crisis, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/03/statement-from-the-minister-of-mental-health-and-addictions-and-associate-minister-of-health-on-the-toxic-illegal-drug-supply-and-overdose-crisis.html>

<sup>2354</sup> Minister Hussen renews Canada's pledge for global health and lifesaving vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-hussen-renews-canadas-pledge-for-global-health-and-lifesaving-vaccines.html>

On 20 March 2025, the Government of Canada announced up to CAD52 million in funding for 16 new projects through the Foreign Credential Recognition Program to strengthen Canada's healthcare and construction sectors.<sup>2355</sup> The funding will support the labour market integration of internationally trained health professionals, helping to alleviate workforce shortages and improve healthcare access across Canada. The projects boost access to care and contributed to SDG 3.8.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Joly announced CAD29.7 million in funding to provide humanitarian assistance to Lebanon for hygiene products and medical and health services.<sup>2356</sup> The funding supports access to essential healthcare and health infrastructure amidst the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. Canada has taken strong action by investing in healthcare access, disease prevention, mental health, substance abuse reduction and Indigenous health initiatives, with measures targeting both domestic and global health challenges. These efforts include expanding youth mental health services, strengthening road safety, improving drug access and affordability, investing in rare disease treatment and enhancing Indigenous health infrastructure. Additionally, Canada has played a key role in global health efforts, funding malnutrition reduction programs, refugee health services and strengthening healthcare systems in Syria, Bangladesh, Mozambique, Indonesia and more. Collectively, these actions address at least 10 of the 13 targets of SDG 3.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Siobhan Mehrotra*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 20 June 2024, the Foreign Ministry hosted the Global Forum for Vaccine Sovereignty and Innovation in Paris.<sup>2357</sup> Co-hosted by the Gavi, Vaccine Alliance and the African Union, this forum launched the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator. This initiative supports the manufacturing of vaccines across Africa via mobilizing public and private finance. In addition, France announced EUR10 million for cholera vaccine production. These actions address sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 16 July 2024, the delegation for European and International Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity traveled to Beirut, Lebanon, to celebrate the first anniversary of the declaration of intent for cooperation in health signed between the two countries.<sup>2358</sup> The delegation met with local stakeholders and clarified that hospital governance and provision, regulating health products and technologies and preventing health crises and mental health are priority areas in Lebanon.

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<sup>2355</sup> Backgrounder: Foreign Credentials Recognition Program, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/backgrounder-foreign-credentials-recognition-program0.html>

<sup>2356</sup> Canada provides funding for humanitarian needs in Lebanon, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-provides-funding-for-humanitarian-needs-in-lebanon.html>

<sup>2357</sup> Global Forum for Vaccine Sovereignty and Innovation: France reaffirms its strong commitment to vaccination and regional production in Africa, French Official Development Assistance Open Data Portal (Paris) 20 June 20202. Access Date: 6 October 2024. [https://data.aide-developpement.gouv.fr/pages/forum\\_mondial\\_pour\\_la\\_souverainete\\_et\\_linnovation\\_vaccinales](https://data.aide-developpement.gouv.fr/pages/forum_mondial_pour_la_souverainete_et_linnovation_vaccinales)

<sup>2358</sup> Coopération France-Liban en santé : premier anniversaire de la déclaration d'intention, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 October 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/cooperation-france-liban-en-sante-premier-anniversaire-de-la-declaration-d>

On 23 July 2024, the French Delegation for European and International Affairs at the 25th International Conference on Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in Munich hosted a round table titled “Preserving Access to Care in Emergency Contexts.” The event highlighted France’s efforts to address HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in crisis zones, focusing on maintaining screening, contraception and access to antiretrovirals.<sup>2359</sup> France’s collaboration with partners such as Expertise France and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS supports vulnerable populations affected by conflicts, including those in Ukraine, through shared health strategies.

On 30 August 2024, the Ministry of Health and Prevention implemented a new initiative allowing individuals to request sexually transmitted infection (STI) screenings without a prescription.<sup>2360</sup> This program, known as “My STI Test,” is covered 100 per cent by health insurance for individuals under 26 and 60 per cent for others, with the co-payment supported by complementary health insurance. This initiative aims to improve access to sexual health services and reduce missed prevention opportunities and addresses sections three and seven of SDG 3.

On 4 September 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity announced the strengthening of France’s national mpox vaccination strategy to address the continued circulation of clade 2 mpox and the emergence of clade 1b mpox in certain Central African countries.<sup>2361</sup> The updated strategy includes booster vaccinations for individuals who completed their vaccination schedules in 2022, expanded recommendations for health professionals and humanitarian workers traveling to areas with active mpox outbreaks and tailored guidance for vulnerable populations, such as children, pregnant or breastfeeding women and immunocompromised individuals.

On 12 September 2024, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Solidarity and the Ministry of National Education and Youth announced the renewal of the national HPV vaccination campaign in middle schools.<sup>2362</sup> Building on the success of the 2023 initiative, this campaign aims to increase vaccination coverage among fifth-grade students and achieve 80 per cent coverage by 2030. The campaign includes free, school-based vaccinations and comprehensive awareness efforts to educate parents, students and health professionals about the benefits of HPV vaccination and addresses section three of SDG 3.

On 15 September 2024, the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas Territories launched a preventive campaign to distribute stable iodine tablets to individuals within a ten-kilometer radius of specific nuclear sites.<sup>2363</sup> Managed through local pharmacies and funded by nuclear operators, this campaign aims to protect public health in the event of a nuclear emergency by preventing the harmful effects of radioactive iodine exposure. The campaign prioritizes vulnerable groups, including children, pregnant women and those under 18 for tablet

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<sup>2359</sup> 25ème conférence internationale sur le VIH/sida : « l’Equipe France » mobilisée pour mettre fin au sida d’ici 2030, Ministère de la Santé et de l’Accès aux Soins (Paris) 24 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/25eme-conference-internationale-sur-le-vih-sida-l-equipe-france-mobilisee-pour>

<sup>2360</sup> Renforcement de la prévention des IST : le dépistage à la demande du patient et sans ordonnance à compter du 1er septembre 2024, Ministère de la Santé et de l’Accès aux Soins (Paris) 30 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/renforcement-de-la-prevention-des-ist-le-depistage-a-la-demande-du-patient-et>

<sup>2361</sup> Les autorités sanitaires renforcent la stratégie vaccinale de lutte contre le mpox, Ministère de la Santé et de l’Accès aux Soins (Paris) 4 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/les-autorites-sanitaires-renforcent-la-strategie-vaccinale-de-lutte-contre-le>

<sup>2362</sup> Deuxième campagne nationale de vaccination des enfants dès l’âge de 11 ans contre les infections à papillomavirus humains (HPV) : Sensibiliser les parents et amplifier la dynamique pour renforcer la progression du nombre de jeunes protégés, Ministère de la Santé et de l’Accès aux Soins (Paris) 12 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/25eme-conference-internationale-sur-le-vih-sida-l-equipe-france-mobilisee-pour>

<sup>2363</sup> Lancement de la nouvelle campagne de distribution d’iode stable, Ministère de l’Intérieur (Paris) 15 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/lancement-de-nouvelle-campagne-de-distribution-diode-stable>

distribution, ensuring enhanced protection against thyroid cancer risks in affected areas. The campaign addresses sections four and nine of SDG 3.

On 22 September 2024, the Ministry of Solidarity launched a national awareness campaign to support caregivers.<sup>2364</sup> This campaign aims to increase awareness of the resources and assistance available to caregivers, who support loved ones dealing with illness, disability, or loss of independence. The initiative is part of France's broader strategy, "Acting for Caregivers 2023-2027," and supports SDG 3 by enhancing caregivers' access to health resources, promoting well-being and contributing to mental health support.

On 29 September 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot announced a 12 tonne delivery of medicines and medical equipment to Lebanon, including mobile health units capable of treating 1,000 critically injured patients and released EUR10 million in emergency aid.<sup>2365</sup> The aid addresses section eight of SDG 3, ensuring access to health care for those in need.

On 8 October 2024, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Solidarity hosted a national conference titled "Towards New Spaces Free from Tobacco: Taking Advantage of Health Places and Outdoor Areas Without Tobacco."<sup>2366</sup> The event gathered health professionals, government officials and representatives from various associations to discuss expanding smoke-free environments in line with the National Tobacco Control Program 2023-2027. This initiative aims to reduce tobacco exposure and promote smoke-free areas to protect public health and decrease the social acceptability of smoking, thus supporting SDG 3 by promoting preventative measures to reduce premature mortality from tobacco-related diseases.

On 14 October 2024, Minister of Ecological Transition, Energy, Climate and Risk Prevention Agnès Pannier-Runacher and the Council of the European Union adopted a directive to strengthen air quality standards, targeting zero pollution by 2050 and reducing premature deaths from air pollution.<sup>2367</sup> The directive sets stricter limits for pollutants such as PM10, PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, with a compliance deadline of 2030, allowing extensions under certain conditions. It enables citizens to seek compensation for health damage from air quality violations and mandates action plans for at-risk areas. The action addresses section nine of SDG 3.

On 18 October 2024, the Ministry of Health and Access to Care of France hosted a Franco-Swiss conference focused on strengthening cross-border cooperation in health sector human resources.<sup>2368</sup> This conference, convened by health professionals, elected officials and administrative representatives from France and Switzerland, aimed to address workforce shortages and improve healthcare accessibility in border areas. Discussions covered initiatives to attract and retain health professionals, data collaboration and advancements in digital health.

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<sup>2364</sup> Soutien aux aidants : une campagne de sensibilisation se dévoile, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 25 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024.

<https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/soutien-aux-aidants-une-campagne-de-sensibilisation-se-devoile>  
<sup>2365</sup> Lebanon – Delivery of medicines and medical equipment (29.09.24), Ministère de L'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 29 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/lebanon/news/article/lebanon-delivery-of-medicines-and-medical-equipment-29-september-2024>

<sup>2366</sup> Vers une génération sans tabac : un colloque fait le point, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 24 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/vers-une-generation-sans-tabac-un-colloque-fait-le-point>

<sup>2367</sup> Air quality: Council gives final green light to strengthen standards in the EU, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/air-quality-council-gives-final-green-light-to-strengthen-standards-in-the-eu/>

<sup>2368</sup> Colloque franco-suisse : les ressources humaines du secteur de la santé, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 21 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/colloque-franco-suisse-les-ressources-humaines-du-secteur-de-la-sante>



On 21 October 2024, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industry Antoine Armand and Minister Delegate for Industry Marc Ferracci signed an agreement with Sanofi and Clayton, Dubilier & Rice to maintain Opella's production of essential medicines in France, committing to a EUR70 million investment in health-related manufacturing and R&D.<sup>2369</sup> This action supports SDG 3 by ensuring local access to essential medications and contributing to the sustainability of France's health industry.

On 29 October 2024, the Ministry of Health and Access to Care implemented the generalization of neonatal screening for sickle cell disease to all newborns as of 1 November 2024.<sup>2370</sup> Previously conducted in a targeted manner, this measure expands the national neonatal screening program, ensuring equitable access to early detection and treatment of sickle cell disease. The screening addresses sections two and four of SDG 3.

On 4 November 2024, Minister of Health and Access to Care Geneviève Darrieussecq and Deputy Minister of Health of Kazakhstan Timur Muratov signed a declaration of intent for France to join the Global Coalition of Countries for Primary Health Care.<sup>2371</sup> This agreement commits both countries to strengthen primary healthcare approaches, promoting policy reforms toward universal health coverage and fostering international mobilization.

On 21 November 2024, Minister Darrieussecq, Minister for the Budget and Public Accounts Laurent Saint-Martin and Minister Delegate for Industry Marc Ferracci announced a contractual agreement with pharmaceutical companies to manage health insurance spending on medications.<sup>2372</sup> The initiative aims to generate EUR600 million in savings by promoting good practices and efficiency in medication use while ensuring stability and predictability in healthcare funding and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 28 November 2024, French health authorities took enforcement action against medical companies Primo Medico, Immucura, Immuno and Iaso Health GmbH for the illegal promotion of dendritic cell therapy as a cancer treatment, which lacks marketing authorization in France or Europe.<sup>2373</sup> The authorities suspended the advertising of the unapproved therapy, citing potential health risks and misleading claims regarding its efficacy and safety. The action safeguards access to effective and safe medication, advancing section eight of SDG 3.

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<sup>2369</sup> L'Etat obtient les garanties du maintien et du développement d'Opella en France, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (Paris). 21 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 November 2024. <https://presse.economie.gouv.fr/>

<sup>2370</sup> Le programme national du dépistage néonatal évolue : tous les nouveau-nés seront dépistés pour la drépanocytose à partir du 1er novembre 2024, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 29 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-programme-national-du-dépistage-neonatal-evolue-tous-les-nouveaux-nés-seront>

<sup>2371</sup> La France et le Kazakhstan approfondissent leur coopération en santé, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 5 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/la-france-et-le-kazakhstan-approfondissent-leur-cooperation-en-sante>

<sup>2372</sup> PLFSS 2025 : Le Gouvernement et les industriels du médicament s'engagent ensemble et pour la première fois dans une dynamique nouvelle de contractualisation afin d'améliorer l'efficacité des dépenses de médicaments et respecter les constructions budgétaires, Ministère de la Santé et de l'Accès aux Soins (Paris) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/plfss-2025-le-gouvernement-et-les-industriels-du-medicament-s-engagent-ensemble>

<sup>2373</sup> Thérapie illégale dans le traitement du cancer : nous prenons des décisions de police sanitaire à l'encontre de quatre sociétés promouvant des thérapies cellulaires dendritiques non autorisées en France, L'Agence Nationale de Sécurité du Médicament et des Produits de Santé (Paris) 11 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <http://ansm.sante.fr/actualites/therapie-illegale-dans-le-traitement-du-cancer-nous-prenons-des-decisions-de-police-sanitaire-a-lencontre-de-trois-societes-promouvant-des-therapies-cellulaires-dendritiques-non-autorisees-en-france>

On 9 December 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry allocated EUR2 million to fund 3000 biosecurity audits in pig and wild boar farms to prevent African swine fever (ASF).<sup>2374</sup> The National Swine Health Association will train 600 auditors to conduct the audits, reinforcing biosecurity measures to protect French livestock from ASF introduction and spread. This mitigation of health threats contributes to section D of SDG 3.

On 11 December 2024, the Directorates-General for Risk Prevention, Labour, Health and Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Control (DGCCRF) instructed quarry operators to implement protective measures for workers, the environment and consumers after the Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM) confirmed the presence of natural asbestos in 16 quarries.<sup>2375</sup> Authorities mandated risk assessments, air quality monitoring and compliance with consumer safety regulations, the Labour Inspectorate and DGCCRF led enforcement. Authorities tasked the BRGM with further investigations to enhance asbestos risk management. These actions support SDG 3.9 by reducing public exposure to hazardous materials and improving occupational health protections.

On 13 December 2024, the Ministry of Health and Access to Healthcare activated its Operational Center for Response to Health and Social Emergencies, deploying a task force to manage the health crisis in Mayotte following Cyclone Chido.<sup>2376</sup> The action plan focuses on addressing urgent care needs and restoring the health system by deploying mobile health stations, evacuating patients, distributing medical supplies and reinforcing healthcare personnel. The medical-psychological supports SDG 3.4, restoring the health system addresses SDG 3.8, public health-measures to control communicable and water-borne diseases and epidemic threats address SDG 3.3 and 3.d.

On 19 December 2024, France made vaccinations against meningococcal ACWY and B infections mandatory for infants.<sup>2377</sup> This decision follows the High Authority for Health's recommendations and responds to a resurgence of invasive meningococcal infections observed in 2022 and 2023. The new vaccination mandate aims to enhance infant protection and curb transmission, contributing to SDG 3.2 by reducing child mortality and SDG 3.3 by preventing communicable diseases.

On 20 December 2024, the French National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety announced that beginning January 2025, they will work with pharmaceutical companies to modify medications at high risk of misuse for chemical submission by altering their visual, taste, or odour properties to make them more

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<sup>2374</sup> Prévention de la peste porcine africaine (ou fièvre porcine africaine) : l'État consacre 2 millions d'euros pour 3 000 audits en faveur des mesures de biosécurité dans les élevages, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (Paris) 13 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://agriculture.gouv.fr/prevention-de-la-pest-porcine-africaine-ou-fievre-porcine-africaine-letat-consacre-2-millions>

<sup>2375</sup> Présence d'amiante dans 16 carrières françaises : les services de l'Etat ont demandé aux professionnels de mettre en œuvre des mesures de protection des travailleurs, de l'environnement, de la population et des consommateurs, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/presence-d-amiante-dans-16-carrieres-francaises-les-services-de-l-etat-ont>

<sup>2376</sup> Mayotte : un plan d'actions de gestion des conséquences sanitaires du cyclone, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 19 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/mayotte-un-plan-d-actions-de-gestion-des-consequences-sanitaires-du-cyclone>

<sup>2377</sup> Vaccination : de nouvelles obligations à partir du 1er janvier 2025, pour protéger les nourrissons, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 19 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/vaccination-de-nouvelles-obligations-a-partir-du-1er-janvier-2025-pour-protéger>

detectable.<sup>2378</sup> Chemical submission refers to the administration of a psychoactive substance to a person without their knowledge or under duress. This preventative action supports SDG 3.5 by reducing the misuse of psychoactive substances and SDG 3.9 by mitigating exposure to hazardous chemicals.

On 27 December 2024, France introduced an updated child health record to enhance early detection and prevention of health issues in children and adolescents.<sup>2379</sup> The new version includes a mandatory six-year-old health examination to strengthen screening for sensory and neurodevelopmental disorders. It also reinforces prevention messages on vaccination, nutrition, mental health and physical activity. These measures align with SDGs 3.2 and 3.4, improving early intervention, reducing child mortality and promoting lifelong well-being.

On 17 January 2025, Minister for Health and Access to Care Yannick Neuder announced a national action plan to combat sexist and sexual violence (SSV) in the healthcare sector, following the results of two surveys by the National Council of the Order of Physicians and the National Order of Nurses.<sup>2380</sup> The operational plan includes nine key measures, such as the creation of a national violence observatory, the integration of SSV prevention into medical training and hospital certification and strengthened disciplinary procedures. These actions improve workplace safety and gender equality in healthcare, contributing to SDG 3.8 by ensuring a safer and more supportive environment for healthcare professionals and trainees.

On 30 January 2025, Minister of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Annie Genevard launched the Animal Health Conference, bringing together over 200 representatives from the livestock sector to assess disease risks and develop future sector health contracts.<sup>2381</sup> The working groups established will focus on strengthening disease surveillance, biosecurity and preventive vaccination campaigns. By improving mitigation of health threats, the action contributes to SDG 3.d.

On 6 February 2025, the Ministry of Health and Access to Healthcare, alongside the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, Public Health France and the French National Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health Safety, strengthened cooperation to prevent and control the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza virus.<sup>2382</sup> Authorities expanded surveillance in poultry and wild birds, enhanced pandemic preparedness with vaccine stockpiling and implemented year-round PCR testing for at-risk workers. This action aligns with SDG 3.d by strengthening early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.

On 11 February 2025, Minister Neuder announced the publication of the State of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare in France and the launch of work to develop an Artificial Intelligence (AI) roadmap for

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<sup>2378</sup> Prévention de la soumission chimique : l'ANSM engage de nouvelles mesures afin de réduire le risque du détournement d'usage des médicaments, L'Agence Nationale de Sécurité du Médicament et des Produits de Santé (Paris) 20 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://ansm.sante.fr/actualites/prevention-de-la-soumission-chimique-lansm-engage-de-nouvelles-mesures-afin-de-reduire-le-risque-du-detournement-dusage-des-medicaments>

<sup>2379</sup> Un nouveau carnet de santé de l'enfant pour prendre en compte les nouvelles recommandations sanitaires et les évolutions sociétales, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 27 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/un-nouveau-carnet-de-sante-de-l-enfant-pour-prendre-en-compte-les-nouvelles>

<sup>2380</sup> Violences sexistes et sexuelles en santé (VSS), Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 20 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/violences-sexistes-et-sexuelles-en-sante-vss>

<sup>2381</sup> Annie Genevard lance les Assises du sanitaire animal afin de renforcer le dispositif français face aux maladies touchant les élevages, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (Paris) 30 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/annie-genevard-lance-les-assises-du-sanitaire-animal-afin-de-renforcer-le-dispositif-francais-face>

<sup>2382</sup> Virus Influenza aviaire hautement pathogène (IAHP) : les autorités sanitaires françaises poursuivent leurs actions et renforcent leur coopération face au risque de circulation d'un virus adapté à l'Homme, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 6 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/virus-influenza-aviaire-hautement-pathogene-iahp-les-autorites-sanitaires>

healthcare.<sup>2383</sup> The document outlines AI's role in optimizing diagnostics, streamlining patient care and supporting healthcare professionals while detailing regulatory and ethical principles for its implementation.

On 13 February 2025, the French National Assembly and Senate unanimously adopted a bill banning the sale, manufacture and distribution of disposable electronic cigarettes ("puffs"), following a proposal by Members of Parliament Khalifé and Michel Lauzzana.<sup>2384</sup> This measure is part of the National Tobacco Control Program 2023-2027 and aims to curb nicotine addiction among youth, supporting SDG 3.a.

On 18 February 2025, the Senate passed the Social Security Financing Law for 2025, which includes several provisions to improve healthcare access and system resilience.<sup>2385</sup> The law increases the national health insurance expenditure target to 3.4%, introduces annual dental check-ups for youth up to age 24, covers gynecological and sexual health consultations for women with disabilities and funds a meningococcal vaccination campaign in schools.<sup>2386</sup> It also launched a pilot project to reimburse chemical submission detection tests and provide financial relief to health and medico-social establishments. The law contributes directly to SDG 3.2, 3.7 and 3.8.

On 25 February 2025, Minister of Labor, Health, Solidarity and Families Catherine Vautrin, Minister Neuder, Minister of Higher Education and Research Philippe Baptiste and Minister Ferracci launched the 4th National Rare Disease Plan committing EUR36 million in new funding to improve access to diagnosis, treatment and care for over three million people affected by rare diseases.<sup>2387</sup> The strategy designates 132 new reference centres, expands neonatal screening to three additional diseases and supports innovation through research institutions and industry partnerships. The plan also strengthens France's role in European health cooperation by promoting data sharing and cross-border research. These actions support SDG 3.8 by enhancing access to quality care and SDG 3.b by advancing research for rare diseases.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Vautrin and Minister Neuder announced a new set of measures to strengthen access to voluntary termination of pregnancy and guarantee an effective right to abortion for all women in France.<sup>2388</sup> These include expanding the ability of midwives and healthcare centres to perform instrumental abortions, simplifying agreements between private professionals and hospitals, launching a national awareness campaign to combat misinformation and conducting a national survey to identify barriers to access. These actions support

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<sup>2383</sup> Publication de l'état des lieux de l'intelligence artificielle (IA) en santé en France, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 11 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/publication-de-l-etat-des-lieux-de-l-intelligence-artificielle-ia-en-sante-en>

<sup>2384</sup> Interdiction des puffs : un tournant pour la santé et l'environnement, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 2 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/interdiction-des-puffs-un-tournant-pour-la-sante-et-l-environnement>

<sup>2385</sup> France adopts social security budget ending months-long state finance saga, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 11 May 2025. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20250218-france-adopts-social-security-budget-ending-months-long-state-finance-saga>

<sup>2386</sup> Le Conseil constitutionnel valide la loi de financement de la sécurité sociale pour 2025, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 3 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/le-conseil-constitutionnel-valide-la-loi-de-financement-de-la-securite-sociale-432869>

<sup>2387</sup> "Des territoires vers l'Europe" : le Gouvernement lance le 4e plan national consacré aux maladies rares, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 25 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/des-territoires-vers-l-europe-le-gouvernement-lance-le-4e-plan-national>

<sup>2388</sup> Renforcement de l'accès à l'IVG : de nouvelles mesures pour garantir un droit effectif pour toutes les femmes, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 7 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/renforcement-de-l-acces-a-l-ivg-de-nouvelles-mesures-pour-garantir-un-droit>

SDG 3.7 by ensuring more equitable access to reproductive health services and advancing the right to safe and informed abortion care across France.

On 19 March 2025, Minister Vautrin, Minister Neuder and Minister of Autonomy and Disability Charlotte Parmentier-Lecocq, issued Decree No. 2025-247 to regulate the restoration of certain medical devices to good working order.<sup>2389</sup> The decree establishes clear protocols for certified professionals and centres to repair and redistribute individual-use medical devices without compromising safety or performance. It includes traceability measures through a national database and sets standards for device lifespan, servicing and patient information.

On 31 March 2025, Minister Vautrin, Minister of National Education, Higher Education and Research Élisabeth Borne, Minister Baptiste, Minister Neuder and Minister for Equality between Women and Men and the Fight against Discrimination Aurore Bergé, announced new measures to improve the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of endometriosis.<sup>2390</sup> As part of the national strategy, new improvements include expanding a saliva-based diagnostic programme by opening 20 additional centres and national school-based prevention initiatives to raise awareness among young girls. These actions support SDG 3.7 by enhancing access to reproductive healthcare.

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG [Sustainable Development Goal] 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. France has taken strong action to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, investing in research and development for vaccines and medications, enabling STI testing and continually collaborating with foreign countries to strengthen global healthcare capacity and preparedness for health crises. Additionally, the country has advanced public health initiatives by banning disposable electronic cigarettes, modifying high-risk medications to prevent misuse and introducing a national action plan to combat sexist and sexual violence in the healthcare sector. France has also enhanced its global health partnerships, supporting emergency healthcare in Lebanon and Kazakhstan and collaborating with Switzerland to address healthcare workforce shortages. Furthermore, domestic initiatives, such as awareness campaigns, renewal of vaccine campaigns, preventative campaigns and conferences, highlight France's commitment to public health and well-being. In total, France advanced strong action to address 10 SDG 3 targets, namely, sections two, three, four, five, seven, eight, nine, a), b) and d).

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Siobhan Mehrotra*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 8 July 2024, Minister of Health Karl Lauterbach extended an offer of support and treatment for Ukrainian children following a Russian missile attack that struck a pediatric hospital in Kyiv.<sup>2391</sup> Germany continues to admit sick and injured individuals from Ukraine into German hospitals and clinics since the beginning of the Russo-Ukrainian War. These actions advance section two and eight of SDG 3.

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<sup>2389</sup> Economie circulaire : mise en œuvre de la remise en bon état d'usage des dispositifs médicaux à usage individuel, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 20 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/economie-circulaire-mise-en-oeuvre-de-la-remise-en-bon-etat-d-usage-des>

<sup>2390</sup> Endométriose : des avancées concrètes et de nouvelles mesures fortes annoncées par le Gouvernement, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 31 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/endometriose-des-avancees-concretes-et-de-nouvelles-mesures-fortes-annoncees>

<sup>2391</sup> Germany offers care for Ukrainian children after Kiev hospital struck, Yahoo News (Berlin). 8 July 2024. Access Date: 1 October 2024. <https://www.yahoo.com/news/germany-offers-care-ukrainian-children-200205461.html>

On 24 July 2024, Germany pledged EUR54 million to the Pandemic Fund addressing sections b) and d) of SDG 3.<sup>2392</sup>

On 26 August 2024, the Government of Germany announced the donation of 100,000 doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine to support efforts against the mpox outbreak in Africa.<sup>2393</sup> The initiative, facilitated through the European Union and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) targets countries severely impacted by the virus, especially the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This action demonstrates Germany's commitment to global health by addressing public health emergencies and enhancing vaccination efforts in vulnerable regions. The donation addresses sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 18 September 2024, the Ministry of Finance allocated EUR50 million to provide medical care to injured Ukrainian soldiers, addressing section eight of SDG 3.<sup>2394</sup>

On 13 October 2024, the Ministry of Health provided primary support for the World Health Summit (WHS) took place in Berlin under the motto 'Building Trust for a Healthier World',<sup>2395</sup> with and additional contributions from the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Ministry of Education and Research.<sup>2396</sup> Over three days and 67 sessions, more than 3,500 participants took part, including 380 speakers on site and over 21,000 participants digitally. Since 2009, the WHS has developed into the largest and most important international conference in the field of global health. The 2024 event focused on health financing, antimicrobial resistance, women's and children's health, climate and health and artificial intelligence.

On 14 October 2024, Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Steffi Lemke and the Council of the European Union adopted a directive to strengthen air quality standards, targeting zero pollution by 2050 and reducing premature deaths from air pollution.<sup>2397</sup> The directive sets stricter limits for pollutants such as PM10, PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, with a compliance deadline of 2030, allowing extensions under certain conditions. It enables citizens to seek compensation for health damage from air quality violations and mandates action plans for at-risk areas. The action addresses section nine of SDG 3.

On 15 October 2024, the Government of Germany pledged EUR360 million to the WHO at the World Health Summit in Berlin, where Chancellor Olaf Scholz and WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus highlighted the importance of global health cooperation.<sup>2398</sup> This event resulted in a total of USD1 billion raised for the WHO, including prior contributions from the European Union and African Union. The funds aim to prevent preventable deaths over the next four years, with Scholz emphasizing the need for sustainable financing and a

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<sup>2392</sup> Pandemic Fund Kickstarts Resource Mobilization with \$667 million from the United States, World Bank Group (Rio de Janeiro) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 7 June 2025. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/07/24/pandemic-fund-kickstarts-resource-mobilization-with-667-million-from-the-united-states>

<sup>2393</sup> Germany to donate 100,000 mpox vaccine doses to combat outbreak in Africa, Reuters News (London) 26 August 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/germany-donate-100000-mpox-vaccine-doses-combat-outbreak-africa-2024-08-26/>

<sup>2394</sup> Germany allocates €50 million for treatment of wounded Ukrainian soldiers, Ukrainska Pravda (Kyiv) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 7 June 2025.

<sup>2395</sup> A Look Back World Health Summit 2024, World Health Summit (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 June 2025. [https://www2.worldhealthsummit.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/4\\_Documents/4.16\\_2024/World\\_Health\\_Summit\\_2024\\_-\\_A\\_Look\\_Back\\_\\_7MB\\_.pdf](https://www2.worldhealthsummit.org/fileadmin/user_upload/4_Documents/4.16_2024/World_Health_Summit_2024_-_A_Look_Back__7MB_.pdf)

<sup>2396</sup> Partners, World Health Summit (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 June 2025. [https://www2.worldhealthsummit.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/4\\_Documents/4.16\\_2024/250102\\_WHS\\_Partners\\_2024.pdf](https://www2.worldhealthsummit.org/fileadmin/user_upload/4_Documents/4.16_2024/250102_WHS_Partners_2024.pdf)

<sup>2397</sup> Air quality: Council gives final green light to strengthen standards in the EU, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/air-quality-council-gives-final-green-light-to-strengthen-standards-in-the-eu/>

<sup>2398</sup> WHO sammelt auf Berliner Weltgesundheitsgipfel eine Milliarde US-Dollar ein, Deutschlandfunk (Cologne) 15 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/who-sammelt-auf-berliner-weltgesundheitsgipfel-eine-milliarde-us-dollar-ein-100.html>

global pandemic response framework. Germany's significant pledge advances WHO efforts towards all targets in SDG 3.

On 17 October 2024, the Bundestag passed a significant healthcare reform law aimed at overhauling the country's medical system.<sup>2399</sup> This reform changes the financing model for hospitals from a per-treatment basis to a guaranteed income for essential services, with the goal of minimizing unnecessary medical procedures and enhancing care quality.<sup>2400</sup> It includes plans to close underutilized hospitals, improve digital infrastructure and remove payment caps for general practitioners to encourage increased patient care. The reforms bolster Universal Health Coverage and advance section eight of SDG 3.

On 22 November 2024, the Bundesrat passed the Hospital Transformation Fund reform law, set to take effect on 1 January 2025.<sup>2401</sup> The initiative allocates up to EUR50 billion over the next decade to enhance the efficiency of Germany's public healthcare system while reducing costs. Key reforms include a new hospital reimbursement system designed to discourage medically unnecessary procedures driven by profit motives and restructuring major hospitals to better address patient needs, such as specialized cancer programs. These reforms aim to optimize care delivery and prioritize patient-centered healthcare.

On 9 December 2024, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria announced that Germany will convert EUR29 million in Mongolia's debt into public health investments for Tuberculosis and for "[expanding] HIV services for vulnerable populations."<sup>2402</sup> This agreement was signed under the Global Fund's Debt2Health initiative to support an integrated and decentralized approach to providing tuberculosis; HIV and hepatitis services as well as to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of the Mongolian healthcare system as a whole. The funding addresses section three of SDG 3.

On 17 January 2025, Germany's Federal Ministry of Health launched the Action Plan for a Diverse, Inclusive and Barrier-Free Healthcare System to improve healthcare access for people with disabilities, marginalized communities and families with caregiving needs.<sup>2403</sup> The plan includes measures for physical accessibility in healthcare facilities, improved communication tools, inclusive medical training, digital innovation and multilingual resources for migrant communities. The initiative aligns with Germany's commitment to health equity and will be reviewed every four years to ensure continued progress.

On 28 January 2025, Germany and Norway signed a bilateral Health Partnership in Berlin to enhance cooperation in health preparedness, digitalization, artificial intelligence-driven healthcare and global health challenges.<sup>2404</sup> The agreement establishes a framework for regular dialogue, research collaboration and mutual learning between the two countries. On health preparedness, the bilateral partnership addresses SDG 3.d.

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<sup>2399</sup> Amtliches Protokoll 194. Sitzung des Deutschen Bundestages am Donnerstag, dem 17. Oktober 2024, Deutscher Bundestag (Berlin) 17 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2025.

<https://www.bundestag.de/dokumente/protokolle/amtlicheprotokolle>

<sup>2400</sup> How to fix Germany's ailing health care system, DW News (Bonn) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024.

<https://www.dw.com/en/how-to-fix-germanys-ailing-health-care-system/a-69236520>

<sup>2401</sup> Germany kicks off biggest hospital reform in history, Politico Europe (Berlin) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.politico.eu/article/germany-biggest-reform-hospital-system-health-care-karl-lauterbach/>

<sup>2402</sup> Germany and Mongolia Convert €29 Million Debt into Public Health Investments with Global Fund Support, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Ulaanbaatar) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2024/2024-12-09-germany-mongolia-convert-29-million-euro-debt-public-health-investments/>

<sup>2403</sup> Germany Launches Groundbreaking Action Plan for Inclusive and Barrier-Free Healthcare, Rehabilitation International (New York) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.riglobal.org/germany-launches-groundbreaking-action-plan-for-inclusive-and-barrier-free-healthcare/>

<sup>2404</sup> Germany and Norway sign Health Partnership, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/news/germany-and-norway-sign-health-partnership.html>

On 12 February 2025, over 300 German and Syrian doctors and aid agencies launched plans for 20 Syrian-German hospital partnerships to support Syria's collapsed healthcare system.<sup>2405</sup> Germany's Development Ministry is providing funding and logistical support, with the German Parliament allocating EUR15 million for medical training, equipment and hospital collaborations. The initiative aims to strengthen healthcare in Syria while allowing Syrian doctors in Germany to contribute to rebuilding their homeland. These actions advance SDG 3.8 and 3.c.

On 2 April 2025, Federal Minister of Health Karl Lauterbach announced an additional EUR2 million in funding to the WHO to help address financing gaps following the United States' withdrawal of contributions.<sup>2406</sup> At the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, Minister Lauterbach underscored Germany's ongoing commitment to multilateral health security and global cooperation. This funding aims to strengthen global pandemic preparedness and emergency response systems.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. The country has taken steps such as vaccine donations, financial assistance to the WHO, which addresses all aspects of SDG 3 and policy legislation to enhance health systems in vulnerable regions. These actions reflect Germany's initiatives to address public challenges to health and well-being.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Beisen (Samuel) Gao*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 25 June 2024, Ambassador to Ethiopia Agostino Palese signed an agreement allocating EUR7.2 million to Ethiopia to strengthen mental health services and respond to gender-based violence.<sup>2407</sup> This agreement includes EUR4.2 million in bilateral aid and EUR2.5 million for Civil Society Organisations. The funds will support health interventions in Tigre, Amhara, Afar and Addis Ababa, advancing Italy's commitment to health services. The funding addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 24 July 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni guaranteed citizens' right to healthcare by establishing a national monitor of waiting lists and improving systematic efficacy.<sup>2408</sup> The efficiency improvements aid in the delivery of care and address sections four and eight of SDG 3.

On 6 August 2024, Italy began implementation of a humanitarian agreement with Libya to provide cancer care to children.<sup>2409</sup> These efforts address sections two, four and eight of SDG 3.

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<sup>2405</sup> Over 300 German and Syrian doctors launch hospital partnerships between Syria and Germany, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025

<https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/german-and-syrian-doctors-launch-hospital-partnerships-247268>

<sup>2406</sup> Germany supports World Health Organization, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/news-preview-detail/germany-supports-world-health-organization-pr-02-04-2025.html>

<sup>2407</sup> 7.2 million euro from Italy to Ethiopia for mental health services, ANSA Brasil (Addis Ababa) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ansabrasil.com.br/english/news/news\\_from\\_embassies/2024/06/25/7.2-million-euro-from-italy-to-ethiopia-for-mental-health-services\\_1e098610-c0cd-471d-9738-7b0c5865f8bf.html](https://ansabrasil.com.br/english/news/news_from_embassies/2024/06/25/7.2-million-euro-from-italy-to-ethiopia-for-mental-health-services_1e098610-c0cd-471d-9738-7b0c5865f8bf.html)

<sup>2408</sup> President Meloni's Statement on Healthcare Waiting Lists, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-statement-healthcare-waiting-lists/26310>

<sup>2409</sup> 36 Libyan Children with Serious Oncological Conditions to be Transferred to Italy: First Patient Arrives in Rome, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/36-libyan-children-serious-oncological-conditions-be-transferred-italy-first-patient>



On 23 August 2024, Ambassador Palese signed a EUR1.5 million agreement to provide medical equipment and workforce training at the Sahul Hospital in Ethiopia.<sup>2410</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Italy's Council of Ministers discussed several issues, including animal health protections.<sup>2411</sup> The Council received a proposal from Minister of Health Orazio Schillaci to approve a preliminary examination of legislation from 2022 concerning regulatory policies proposed by the European Union. These regulations clarify the classification of diseases, early identification, notification and communication for surveillance to achieve disease-free status through eradication efforts; reforms associated with animal health protection target the movement and traceability of animals, thus further solidifying the government's responsibilities and role in animal health matters.

On 14 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke to Fabrizio D'Ascenzo, President of the National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work, about enlarging Italy's healthcare fund.<sup>2412</sup> The discussion focused on increased prevention, inspections and harsher penalties for infringements; the Government has since recruited 1,600 workplace inspectors to increase the frequency of inspections in its efforts to prioritize occupational health.

On 14 October 2024, Minister of the Environment and Energy Security Gilberto Pichetto Fratin and the Council of the European Union adopted a directive to strengthen air quality standards, targeting zero pollution by 2050 and reducing premature deaths from air pollution.<sup>2413</sup> The directive sets stricter limits for pollutants such as PM10, PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, with a compliance deadline of 2030, allowing extensions under certain conditions. It enables citizens to seek compensation for health damage from air quality violations and mandates action plans for at-risk areas. The action addresses section nine of SDG 3.

On 28 October 2024, the Ministry of Health, the Italian Medicines Agency and the Agency for Regional Health Services convened with 32 European Health Agencies in Rome.<sup>2414</sup> They discussed opportunities to modernize health systems to ensure technological innovation produces realistic, effective and sustainable benefits to continental health systems.

On 19 November 2024, the Ministry of Health and the Italian Medicines Agency released a communications campaign concerning the use of antibiotics among the public.<sup>2415</sup> In the video, the government highlights its recommendation to use antibiotics only on a medical prescription basis, citing concerns about the development of bacterial resistance to treatment becoming a health risk and emphasizing the importance of addressing growing antibiotic resistance.

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<sup>2410</sup> The Government of Italy and UNOPS sign €1.5 million Project Agreement to strengthen Suhul Hospital in Tigray, ReliefWeb (New York) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 4 January 2025. <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/government-italy-and-unops-sign-eu15-million-project-agreement-strengthen-suhul-hospital-tigray>

<sup>2411</sup> Comunicato stampa del Consiglio dei Ministri n. 95, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 17 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-95/26572>

<sup>2412</sup> President Meloni's Message for the Presentation of INAIL's Annual Report, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-message-presentation-inail-s-annual-report/26914>

<sup>2413</sup> Air quality: Council gives final green light to strengthen standards in the EU, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/air-quality-council-gives-final-green-light-to-strengthen-standards-in-the-eu/>

<sup>2414</sup> A Roma i Direttori delle Agenzie Europee di Health Technology Assessment, Italian Medicines Agency (Rome) 28 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.aifa.gov.it/en/-/a-roma-i-direttori-delle-agenzia-europee-di-health-technology-assessment>

<sup>2415</sup> Campagna di comunicazione sull'uso corretto degli antibiotici, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/27067>

On 27 November 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli signed an agreement to provide a EUR45 million funding package to the Republic of the Congo.<sup>2416</sup> This funding aims to support the development of the Republic of the Congo's healthcare system.

On 20 December 2024, the Chamber of Deputies passed the 2025 Budget Bill.<sup>2417</sup> The budget outlines additional spending for the National Health Service, Palliative Care Fund and the National Health Fund, in addition to measures to reduce waiting lists including regional incentives. The budget also includes funds for lung screening, breast-cancer detection, rare diseases, addictions treatment, and mental health. The Bill enshrines EUR5 million annually for the “fight against the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), human papilloma virus (HPV) and sexually transmitted infections and diseases.” As well, the budget allocates EUR100 million to combat anti-microbial resistance and hundreds EUR500 million over the next three years for the National Pandemic Plan. The budget also contains fiscal measures to reduce pollution and improve air quality and EUR56.6 million over three years for road safety improvements.<sup>2418</sup> The budget's provisions specifically address sections three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine and d) of SDG 3.

On 10 February 2025, the Ministry of Health published a press release on the findings of Italy's Steering Committee advocating the creation of “Pancreas Unit” centers throughout the country.<sup>2419</sup> This financial and infrastructural expansion of Italian healthcare aims to ensure greater effectiveness and standardized care for patients affected by pancreatic cancers. These units are designed to define criteria and standards for regional referral units while centralizing pancreatic surgery interventions. This action contributes to section four of SDG 3.

On 31 March 2025, the Minister of Health Orazio Schillaci spoke at the “Projects for Ukraine” event, which aimed to increase Italy's health support for Ukraine's population.<sup>2420</sup> These healthcare assistance activities are targeted at strengthening Ukrainian military and civilian abilities to treat disabilities during conflict. Moreover, Italy will provide training, coaching, and technical support in orthopedic and orthoclastic surgeries, involving over 200 Ukrainian healthcare and social workers. These actions reassert Italy's role in promoting healthcare diplomacy within Europe and its wartime support of Ukraine. These actions contribute to section C of SDG 3.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. Italy advanced strong actions in at least 10 of the 13 specific targets within SDG 3 including support for reducing child mortality, ending the epidemics of AIDS combatting communicable diseases, addressing non-communicable diseases and mental health, prevention and treatment of substance use, road safety improvements, access to sexual health services, universal health coverage, reducing environmental health hazards, workforce training in developing countries, and management of national and international health risks.

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<sup>2416</sup> Deputy Minister Cirielli signs an agreement for the development of integrated healthcare services in the Republic of the Congo, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/vice-ministro-cirielli-firma-accordo-per-lo-sviluppo-dei-servizi-sanitari-integrati-della-repubblica-del-congo/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/vice-ministro-cirielli-firma-accordo-per-lo-sviluppo-dei-servizi-sanitari-integrati-della-repubblica-del-congo/)

<sup>2417</sup> Budget Law: Green light from the Chamber, passes to the Senate, Nova News (Rome) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 3 January 2025. <https://www.agenzianova.com/en/news/legge-di-bilancio-via-libera-dalla-camera-passa-al-senato/>

<sup>2418</sup> Bilancio di previsione dello Stato per l'anno finanziario 2025 e bilancio pluriennale per il triennio 2025-2027, Camera dei Deputati (Rome) 23 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 January 2025. <https://documenti.camera.it/leg19/pdl/pdf/leg.19.pdl.camera.2112.19PDL0112500.pdf>

<sup>2419</sup> Verso una Rete Nazionale per la Cura del Cancro del Pancreas: la Cabina di regia definisce standard per l'istituzione delle Pancreas Unit (Rome) 10 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 February 2025. [https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6740](https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6740)

<sup>2420</sup> Ucraina, i progetti del Ministero della Salute e INMP a supporto della popolazione, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 31 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.salute.gov.it/new/it/news-e-media/notizie/ucraina-i-progetti-del-ministero-della-salute-e-inmp-supporto-della/>

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dylan Dittrich*

## **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 21 June 2024, the Government of Japan and UNICEF delivered improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services to the Vanuatu Ministry of Health.<sup>2421</sup> The action highlighted a commitment to developing a needs-based primary healthcare framework in Vanuatu and the services are expected to reach thousands of people who access them at the Mele Health Centre. The WASH program aims particularly to reduce infection in newborns and mothers in addition to other patients. This distribution addresses sections one, two, three, and eight of SDG 3.

On 24 June 2024, the Government of Japan requested Japan's water providers to test for per- and polyfluoroalkylated substances (PFAS) and assess whether the water concentration of PFAS exceeded the provisional target of 50 nanograms per liter.<sup>2422</sup> This action addresses section nine of SDG 3.

On 25 June 2024, Japan's food safety panel concluded its first health assessment of PFAS and set the allowable daily intake maximum of perfluorooctanesulfonic acid and perfluorooctanoic acid as twenty nanograms per kilogram of body weight for each substance.<sup>2423</sup> The movement aims to curb the effects of PFAS on low birthweight, reduced immunity after vaccination and cancer risk.

On 26 June 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare initiated an expert panel meeting on eliminating co-payment for normal labour in the fiscal year 2026.<sup>2424</sup> The panel discussed insurance coverage scope.

On 1 July 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) officially granted JPY794 million for the Project for Improvement of Medical Service at the Innovative Clinic under the Medical Institute of Karakalpakstan.<sup>2425</sup> The grant aid will provide medical equipment, including a CT scanner, mobile clinic and portable X-rays and workforce training in Uzbekistan. The grant addresses sections eight and c) of SDG 3.

On 2 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced plans to have educational material on blood donation available for middle school students starting in the fiscal year 2025.<sup>2426</sup> This initiative aims to increase the number of young people donating blood in Japan amidst a decline in young donors. While one must be 16 years old to donate blood in Japan, the government aims to introduce blood donation basics to younger children to encourage them to be future donors by promoting student council activities and projects to raise awareness.

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<sup>2421</sup> Thousands to benefit from strengthened healthcare services through access to reliable and safe water supply, United Nations Children's Fund (Port Vila) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/press-releases/thousands-benefit-strengthened-healthcare-services-through-access-reliable-and-safe>

<sup>2422</sup> Government instigates nationwide survey on PFAS in Japan's tap water, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/06/24/japan/science-health/pfas-tap-water-survey/>

<sup>2423</sup> Japan gov't says health impact of PFAS chemicals "undeniable", Kyodo News (Tokyo) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2024/06/1d9e59fe33b8-japan-govt-says-pfas-chemicals-health-impact-undeniable.html>

<sup>2424</sup> Japan health ministry looks to eliminate co-payment of childbirth fees, Mainichi Japan (Tokyo) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20240627/p2a/00m/0na/014000c>

<sup>2425</sup> Project Plate Unveiling Ceremony of JICA's Grant Aid Project at the University Clinic of Karakalpakstan Medical Institute, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 12 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/uzbekistan/information/press/2024/1544570\\_53537.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/overseas/uzbekistan/information/press/2024/1544570_53537.html)

<sup>2426</sup> Health ministry aims to educate middle schoolers in bid to raise blood donation rate, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/07/02/japan/society/middle-school-blood-donation/>

On 2 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced that it would host the “Japan Healthcare Venture Summit 2024” on 9 October 2024, which aims to connect key figures from major companies and research institutes to venture companies and academics looking to commercialize pharmaceuticals and other related goods.<sup>2427</sup> The event seeks to promote greater research, development and innovation in pharmaceutical products, medical devices and regenerative medicine.

On 5 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, in cooperation with 25 university campuses, began an information campaign about Japan’s publicly funded Human Papillomavirus “catch-up vaccination” program for cervical cancer prevention. To address existing gaps in awareness among eligible students, the campaign will encourage greater participation in vaccine administration.

On 9 July 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida instructed ministers of the Cabinet to draft plans for hospital ships to be operated from the fiscal year 2025.<sup>2428</sup> The purpose of the hospital ships would be to evacuate disaster victims and provide them with medical assistance. The Prime Minister also expressed intentions to develop human resources to provide medical care in the case of large-scale disasters.

On 22 July 2024, the Government of Japan contributed USD2.4 million to the United Nations Population Fund to support its humanitarian intervention in Yemen.<sup>2429</sup> Amidst a conflict that has devastated Yemeni healthcare systems, funding will provide “more than 120,000 vulnerable women and girls with access to life-saving reproductive health and protection services,” many of whom are pregnant and lactating women who face significant challenges in accessing reproductive health services.<sup>2430</sup> The funding addresses section seven of SDG 3.

On 30 July 2024, Prime Minister Kishida announced Japan’s commitment to promote an internationally standardized system for clinical trials.<sup>2431</sup> The Prime Minister emphasized the importance of drug discovery in providing patients access to critical drugs no matter the country in which they reside.

On 31 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare designated 24 new substances as being narcotics, psychotropic substances and stimulant raw materials, which will prohibit their manufacturing, importation, sale and possession.<sup>2432</sup> The increased regulation recognizes the addictive, dangerous properties of the specified substances. The designation and legal limitations imposed prevent substance abuse in line with section five of SDG 3.

On 1 August 2024, JICA signed an agreement to provide grant aid to the Government of Kyrgyzstan for multiple initiatives backed by up to JPY2.153 billion in grants.<sup>2433</sup> Initiative targets include improving air

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<sup>2427</sup> 「ジャパン・ヘルスケアベンチャー・サミット2024」を開催します, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 2 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 October 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41093.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41093.html)

<sup>2428</sup> Kishida aims for hospital ship operations from fiscal year 2025, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/07/09/japan/science-health/kishida-hospital-ship-plan/>

<sup>2429</sup> Japan contributes US\$2.4 million to strengthen lifesaving services for Yemeni women and girls, United Nations Population Fund (Sana’a) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/japan-contributes-us24-million-strengthen-lifesaving-services-yemeni-women-and-girls>

<sup>2430</sup> Japan contributes US\$2.4 million to strengthen lifesaving services for Yemeni women and girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/japan-contributes-us24-million-strengthen-lifesaving-services-yemeni-women-and-girls>

<sup>2431</sup> 創薬エコシステムサミット, 首相官邸 (Tokyo) 30 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 October 2024. [https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202407/30souyaku.html](https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101_kishida/actions/202407/30souyaku.html)

<sup>2432</sup> 新たに24物質を麻薬等に指定し、規制の強化を図ります, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 31 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41724.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41724.html)

<sup>2433</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with the Kyrgyz Republic: Contributing to improving the quality of public medical services through the provision of medical equipment and to enhance regional connectivity and economic development through the improvement of international airports, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808_31.html)

connectivity and supporting healthcare infrastructure in Kyrgyzstan including the treatment of breast cancer and cardiovascular disease.

On 2 August 2024, Minister for Digital Transformation Taro Kono announced the beginning of Japan's plans to digitalize the qualifications certificates of professionals, starting with care workers, social workers, mental health workers and certified psychologists.<sup>2434</sup> The transformation seeks to simplify the organization and submission of qualifications, increasing convenience and encouraging retention throughout the healthcare workforce.

On 25 August 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare indicated plans to expand its subsidy program to include funding for robots used in nutrition management and dementia care.<sup>2435</sup> With a labor shortage and only 30 per cent of nursing facilities currently using robotization in providing care, increased subsidization will maintain the quality of care while addressing the risks of overburdening nursing staff.

On 28 August 2024, Japan's health ministry approved the drug Truvada for use as (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication as a preventative, rather than exclusively reactive, measure to HIV infection.<sup>2436</sup> In doing so, Japan joins 144 countries that have adopted WHO's recommendations on oral PrEP, representing a major move in the fight against the HIV epidemic in line with SDG section three.

On 23 October 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare approved plans to reform outdated organ allocation standards such that those "under 60 years of age who are expected to live only for a month or less without a transplant" receive the highest priority.<sup>2437</sup> These plans were in response to staff shortages and stalled organ transplants. Updates on the standards of medical urgency were necessary to recognize immense changes that had taken place since their original writing in 1977. The updates aim to prevent preventable deaths from non-communicable diseases and advance section four of SDG 3.

On 25 October 2024, Japan announced an additional contribution of USD6 million to the World Bank Group's Universal Health Coverage program, USD50 million to the WHO's Pandemic Fund and USD5.5 million to the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Scaling Up Nutrition.<sup>2438</sup> Funding will go towards capacity building in developing states to craft effective health policies, strengthen global Pandemic Preparedness and Response and improve nutrition in populations worldwide. The donations address sections eight and d) of SDG 3.

On 13 November 2024, Japan's Central Social Insurance Medical Council approved public health insurance coverage for the Alzheimer's medicine donanemab.<sup>2439</sup> The government will subsidize most out-of-pocket expenses for consumers. Subsidies will increase access to donanemab to support its anticipated 26,000 users a decade from today. This approval expands Universal Health Coverage and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 15 November 2024, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Takamaro Fukuoka pledged to address the staff shortages at care facilities by raising wages for care workers and reforming employee pension systems to

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<sup>2434</sup> Japan to digitize national qualifications processes, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/08/02/japan/society/digital-qualifications/>

<sup>2435</sup> Japan to expand nursing care robot introduction support, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 25 August 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/08/25/japan/society/nursing-care-robots/>

<sup>2436</sup> Health ministry approves Truvada as HIV prevention drug, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/08/29/japan/science-health/hiv-drug-approved/>

<sup>2437</sup> New medical priority criteria for transplant patients to come, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/15479086>

<sup>2438</sup> Japan's Statement at the 110th Meeting of the Development Committee (Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the Bank and the Fund) (Washington, D.C. - October 25, 2024), Ministry of Finance of Japan (Tokyo) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. [https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/international\\_policy/imf/dc/20241023190212.html](https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/international_policy/imf/dc/20241023190212.html)

<sup>2439</sup> Japan OKs insurance coverage of Alzheimer's drug donanemab, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/11/13/japan/science-health/insurance-coverage-alzheimers-drug/>

expand access.<sup>2440</sup> Minister Fukuoka emphasized the importance of strengthening community-based support systems for elderly people without relatives to depend upon.

On 28 November 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare presented a draft framework at an expert meeting panel outlining plans to permit the sale of over-the-counter drugs at convenience stores and vending machines, without the need to first visit an on-site pharmacist.<sup>2441</sup> This would allow more immediate, convenient access to drugs, particularly in areas facing pharmacist shortages late at night and in the early morning.

On 28 November 2024, the health ministry extended the deadline for its “catch-up” HPV vaccination program such that “eligible women [can] receive their first dose of the vaccine by the end of March 2025 and complete the remaining two doses within the following year.”<sup>2442</sup> The extension comes in response to vaccine supply shortages and the importance of vaccines in mitigating cervical cancer risks in women.

On 25 December 2024, Minister Fukuoka reached an agreement with Finance Minister Katsunobu Kato to halve the price of approximately half of all drugs, expecting a reduction in national medical expenses of JPY246.6 billion in 2025.<sup>2443</sup> This action increases medication affordability in line with SDG 3.8.

On 26 December 2024, the health ministry announced plans to reform regulations surrounding over-the-counter drugs.<sup>2444</sup> The revision will permit pick-up at convenience stores without the presence of pharmacists if customers can present a verification certificate obtainable online. The revision will improve accessibility to medication, especially in areas with few pharmacies, contributing to SDG 3.8.

On 3 February 2025, The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare announced a call for applications from organizations experienced in chronic kidney disease (CKD) treatment for funding to create CKD prevention programs.<sup>2445</sup> The projects will address SDG 3.4.

On 18 February 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba held the 49th meeting of the Headquarters for Healthcare and Medical Strategy Promotion, compiling the Healthcare Policy Phase III and the Plan for Promotion of Medical Research and Development Phase III.<sup>2446</sup> The plans support the “promotion of medical research and development (R&D) in Japan and the creation of new industries that will contribute to a society of health and longevity over the five-year period from FY2025 to FY2029.”

On 20 February 2025, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare released educational materials intended to inform young people of the dangers of over-the-counter drug abuse and available support organizations.<sup>2447</sup> The booklets and videos contribute to greater preventative measures to address the sharp increase in youth drug abuse.

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<sup>2440</sup> Government aims to ease care worker shortages through wage hikes, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/11/24/japan/health-minister-care-worker-wages/>

<sup>2441</sup> Convenience stores, vending machines to soon sell OTC drugs, The Asahi Shimbun (Osaka) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/15529271>

<sup>2442</sup> Deadline for ‘catch-up’ HPV vaccination program extended until March, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/11/28/japan/science-health/japan-hpv-vaccine-program-extension/>

<sup>2443</sup> Japan ministers agree on price cuts for half of all drugs, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 25 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/12/25/japan/drugs-price-cuts/>

<sup>2444</sup> Japan to allow convenience stores to handle over-the-counter drugs, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 27 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/12/27/japan/science-health/otc-drugs-convenience-stores/>

<sup>2445</sup> 令和7年度慢性腎臓病(CKD)重症化予防のための診療体制構築及び多職種連携モデル事業の公示について, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 3 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_49621.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_49621.html)

<sup>2446</sup> Headquarters for Healthcare and Medical Strategy Promotion Prime Minister’s Office of Japan (Tokyo) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/actions/202502/18kenkouiryou.html>

<sup>2447</sup> 市販薬の乱用防止を目的とした啓発関連資料を公開しました, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 20 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_50612.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_50612.html)

On 5 March 2025, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare listed three additional new substances as “designated drugs,” prohibiting manufacturing and distribution barring explicitly medical purposes.<sup>2448</sup> Tighter controls surrounding synthetic drugs regulate abuse and the spread of dangerous substances in line with SDG 3.5.

On 7 March 2025, the Government of Japan announced the launch of the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS), merging the National Center for Global Health and Medicine and National Institute of Infectious Diseases.<sup>2449</sup> Centralizing scientific experts, the JIHS will support “information analysis, research, and crisis response on infectious diseases, human resource development, international cooperation, and medical care provision.”

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. Japan has taken strong actions to accelerate progress towards SDG 3 including significant funding contributions to initiatives to consolidate healthcare systems in developing states, information campaigns to spread awareness of vaccination programs and strengthened regulation in progress of restricting narcotic access. Japan’s efforts to bolster health outcomes have regularly produced results on both domestic and international levels. Collectively, the actions address at least 10 of the 13 targets of SDG 3.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Barry Gu*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 11 July 2024, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Wes Streeting announced a comprehensive, independent investigation into the issues facing the National Health Service (NHS) and affirmed that the findings of this investigation will inform the government’s 10-year plan to reform the NHS.<sup>2450</sup> Secretary Streeting committed to improving the overall health of the United Kingdom through technological advancement, increased training and job opportunities and cutting wait times.

On 17 July 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Public Health and Prevention Andrew Gwynne announced a national program to vaccinate infants and older adults from respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).<sup>2451</sup> This vaccine will be made available to pregnant women over 28 weeks and older adults over 75 years of age. The program addresses sections two and three of SDG 3.

On 30 August 2024, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities released a Health Equity Assessment Tool (HEAT) concerning a broad range of questions and prompts to help the government systematically assess health inequalities related to occupational health.<sup>2452</sup> This tool considers issues of equity in population planning concerning the preparatory stages of program or service development, based on the Equality Act of 2010, while also demonstrating compliance with the public sector equality duty. Crucially, HEAT considers several different

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<sup>2448</sup> 危険ドラッグの成分3物質を新たに指定薬物に指定, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 5 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000212707\\_00025.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000212707_00025.html)

<sup>2449</sup> 国立健康危機管理研究機構 (JIHS), 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 7 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou\\_iryuu/kenkou/kekkaku-kansenshou/jihs.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/kenkou/kekkaku-kansenshou/jihs.html)

<sup>2450</sup> Independent investigation ordered into state of NHS, UK Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/independent-investigation-ordered-into-state-of-nhs>

<sup>2451</sup> National RSV vaccination programme announced, UK Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-rsv-vaccination-programme-announced>

<sup>2452</sup> Health Equity Assessment Tool (HEAT): what it is and how to use it, Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (London) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-equity-assessment-tool-heat/health-equity-assessment-tool-heat-executive-summary>

dimensions or characteristics in its assessment capabilities; these include age, sex, race, religious disposition, disability, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy status, as well as marriage and civil partnership.

On 30 August 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary Gwynne announced that more than 130,000 citizens would be prioritized for life-saving health checks concerning occupational health; these checks, distributed by the NHS help determine cardiovascular risk.<sup>2453</sup> Those eligible may be in the construction, building, hospitality, transport, or social care sectors. The health check program addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 18 September 2024, Secretary Streeting spoke about progress on ending a junior doctors strike that lasted over a year and a half, alongside reform to receiving care via the NHS.<sup>2454</sup> Steering emphasized the United Kingdom's role in reducing wait times and costs to receive care while continuing to expand the NHS through additional funding and hiring of staff.

On 25 September 2024, Minister of State for Development and for Women and Equalities Anneliese Dodds announced GBP5 million to support humanitarian response including health equipment and services in Lebanon.<sup>2455</sup> The funding also provides training for health staff in Lebanon in line with section c) of SDG 3.

On 30 October 2024, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves tabled the Autumn Budget in the House of Commons.<sup>2456</sup> The budget includes annual two per cent NHS spending increases aiming to create an extra 40,000 appointments each week, a dedicated fund for general practitioners, guaranteeing no real decrease in research and development budgets including for medicines and vaccines to benefit developing countries, GBP26 million for mental health crisis centres, GBP2 billion for technologies to increase health access GBP460 million to bolster pandemic response and GBP1.5 billion in capital investment for capacity and diagnostics. The budget also improves tobacco disincentives in line with SDG section a), provides incentives to improve air quality and allocates GBP1.6 billion for local road repairs including road safety. Collectively, the budget addresses sections four, six, eight, nine, a) and d) of SDG 3.

On 1 November 2024, Chancellor Reeves welcomed the GBP50 million deal with one of Europe's largest chemotherapy product suppliers, Accord Healthcare.<sup>2457</sup> This deal seeks to build a state-of-the-art automated medical manufacturing facility. The deal aims to produce and supply oncology-related medicines that extend to treating autoimmune diseases, within NHS facilities and across European health systems, addressing section four of SDG 3.

On 5 November 2024, Secretary Streeting spoke on the importance of preparation for future diseases, particularly global pandemics.<sup>2458</sup> These remarks spoke to the government of the United Kingdom's 10-Year Health Plan, shifting the NHS away from analogue to digital technologies and emphasizing partnerships between the government and the tech sector; in this case, the United Kingdom seeks a partnership with Oxford Nanopore to

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<sup>2453</sup> Over 130,000 people to benefit from life-saving health checks, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-130000-people-to-benefit-from-life-saving-health-checks>

<sup>2454</sup> Secretary of State for Health and Social Care's address to IPPR, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/secretary-of-state-for-health-and-social-cares-address-to-ipp>

<sup>2455</sup> UK provides essential humanitarian supplies to civilians in Lebanon as the situation deteriorates, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 4 January 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-provides-essential-humanitarian-supplies-to-civilians-in-lebanon-as-the-situation-deteriorates>

<sup>2456</sup> AUTUMN BUDGET 2024 FIXING THE FOUNDATIONS TO DELIVER CHANGE, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn\\_Budget\\_2024\\_Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn_Budget_2024_Accessible.pdf)

<sup>2457</sup> Chancellor welcomes £50m boost for medicines manufacturing, Gov.UK (London) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-welcomes-50m-boost-for-medicines-manufacturing>

<sup>2458</sup> UK to create world-first 'early warning system' for pandemics, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-create-world-first-early-warning-system-for-pandemics>



draw on technology in diagnosing cancer, as well as rare and infectious diseases. This demonstrates the United Kingdom's commitment to mitigating potential bacterial or viral disease outbreaks concerning global health.

On 6 November 2024, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Liz Kendall and Secretary Streeting toured North Central London's WorkWell service facilities before launching the Get Britain Working White Paper.<sup>2459</sup> The paper targets local-led health promotion, work and skills to assist approximately 2.8 million people who cannot work due to long-term illness. The two secretaries advocate for creating new jobs and career service positions to help citizens find work while providing health and skill plans targeting economic inactivity and unemployment at the locale. These efforts assist the government in reducing NHS waiting lists, with particular concern for social determinants of health across employment, income, and gender lines.

On 29 November 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced GBP27 million in funding to expand NHS response programs for HIV and GBP37 million for "HIV and other sexual and reproductive health services" in up to 40 countries, including for women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ people.<sup>2460</sup> Prime Minister Starmer unveiled the Government of the United Kingdom's promise to support living patients with HIV, with the help of advisors and charities, to shape an upcoming governmental HIV Action Plan aimed at ending new HIV cases within England by 2030. The UK government's actions address sections three and seven of SDG 3.

On 11 December 2024, Minister Dodds announced a new investment of GBP5 million in the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership to End Malaria.<sup>2461</sup> This investment will support global governments and RBM in tackling Malaria within Africa and addresses section three of SDG 3.

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<sup>2459</sup> "Good work is good for health" Work & Pensions and Health Secretaries declare on visit to health and work support service, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/good-work-is-good-for-health-work-pensions-and-health-secretaries-declare-on-visit-to-health-and-work-support-service>

<sup>2460</sup> "I am determined this generation will be the one that ends new cases of HIV within England by 2030", Prime Minister said ahead of World AIDS Day, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/i-am-determined-this-generation-will-be-the-one-that-ends-new-cases-of-hiv-within-england-by-2030-prime-minister-said-ahead-of-world-aids-day>

<sup>2461</sup> UK expertise to help reinvigorate global efforts to end malaria, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expertise-to-help-reinvigorate-global-efforts-to-end-malaria>

<sup>2462</sup> "I am determined this generation will be the one that ends new cases of HIV within England by 2030", Prime Minister said ahead of World AIDS Day, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/i-am-determined-this-generation-will-be-the-one-that-ends-new-cases-of-hiv-within-england-by-2030-prime-minister-said-ahead-of-world-aids-day>

<sup>2463</sup> UK expertise to help reinvigorate global efforts to end malaria, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expertise-to-help-reinvigorate-global-efforts-to-end-malaria>

On 30 January 2025, the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency revealed complete details on a revitalized UK Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway.<sup>2464</sup> This initiative incentivizes clearer, more streamlined and better-integrated processes for developers to access transformative medicines from the NHS in a shorter time period. These actions reaffirm the UK's commitment to providing government oversight for UK-based or global healthcare firms at the cutting edge of scientific innovation and development.

On 7 February 2025, Secretary Streeting announced the allocation of GBP200 million in funds to local health services to target smoking cessation and addiction recovery, as well as children's health across the UK.<sup>2465</sup> The spending addresses section A of SDG 3.

On 11 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, alongside Secretary Streeting and Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Peter Kyle, announced GBP82.6 million in research funding to support companies within the United Kingdom addressing cancer and drug discovery.<sup>2466</sup> These funds are tasked with accelerating collaboration between British and European experts on cancer and drug discovery research in line with section four of SDG 3.

On 13 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, alongside UK Research and Innovation, endorsed the creation of new government-financed fellowships to target artificial intelligence (AI) and its applications to the life sciences.<sup>2467</sup> The AI Metascience Fellowship Program seeks to fund key research questions about AI and consider ethical concerns such as biases and transparency in AI research and discovery. These are key steps in reshaping an understanding of AI-driven research, particularly on global challenges such as sustainability and healthcare.

On 19 February 2025, the Department of Health and Social Care announced a GBR62 million research project financed by UK Research and Innovation to investigate adolescent care related to vaping.<sup>2468</sup> This groundbreaking research will investigate the long-term health effects of vaping across young populations and track 100,000 young people between the ages of 8 and 18 over a decade. This research aligns with SDG 3 section A.

On 25 March 2025, the UK Health Security Agency unveiled the "Priority Pathogens" reference tool to focus research funding.<sup>2469</sup> This list provided information on pathogen classes where further research could boost preparedness against future bio-related security threats in line with SDG 3 section D.

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<sup>2464</sup> UK patients enabled access to transformative new medicines in shortest time possible via new, integrated Innovative Licensing and Access Pathway, Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (London) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-patients-enabled-access-to-transformative-new-medicines-in-shortest-time-possible-via-new-integrated-innovative-licensing-and-access-pathway>

<sup>2465</sup> Local public health services given £200 million boost, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-public-health-services-given-200-million-boost>

<sup>2466</sup> UK-backed AI companies to transform British cancer care and spark new drug breakthroughs, Department of Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-backed-ai-companies-to-transform-british-cancer-care-and-spark-new-drug-breakthroughs>

<sup>2467</sup> Fellowships launched to explore how AI could change the way scientists drive new discoveries, Department of Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fellowships-launched-to-explore-how-ai-could-change-the-way-scientists-drive-new-discoveries>

<sup>2468</sup> 10-year study to shed light on youth vaping, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/10-year-study-to-shed-light-on-youth-vaping>

<sup>2469</sup> UKHSA highlights pathogens of greatest risk to public health, Government of the UK (London) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-highlights-pathogens-of-greatest-risk-to-public-health>

On 27 March 2025, Member of Parliament Jo Stevens announced GBP3.27 million in mental health funding in Wales. This finding contributes to SDG 3 section four.<sup>2470</sup>

On 4 April 2025, Science and Technology Secretary Peter Kyle allocated a record GBP13.9 billion in funding for research and development, specifically targeting job growth and innovation.<sup>2471</sup> The sectors impacted by this funding included life sciences, green energy and space to improve both public health and economic growth. Secretary Kyle spoke on UK AI innovation, focused on tackling the global issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), emphasizing the need to address evolved bacteria that are becoming increasingly resistant to previously working medicines. Secretary Kyle's efforts to bridge AI development with medicinal innovation, addressing both public and global health concerns. The focus on contributes to SDG sections three and D.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. The United Kingdom advanced strong action to end the AIDS and malaria epidemics, prevent, diagnose and treat non-communicable diseases and promote mental health, improve road safety, provide sexual and reproductive health services, bolster universal health coverage delivery, reduce environmental health risks, disincentivize tobacco use, fund research and development of vaccines and medicines, train health workers in developing countries and strengthen pandemic prevention and response. The United Kingdom demonstrated strong action towards more than 10 specific targets within SDG 3.

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

*Analyst: Dylan Dittrich*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 17 June 2024, Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called on lawmakers to require a warning label on social media platforms. The label would inform consumers of the harmful effects of social media on the mental health of children and youth.<sup>2472</sup> Surgeon General Murthy also recommended that companies be required to make their data on the health effects of social media available to the public and allow independent safety audits.

On 20 June 2024, the Air Force released a statement announcing that 240 service members from the United States provided free health care to more than 2,000 Virgin Islands residents over a week.<sup>2473</sup> The healthcare provided included medical, optometry and dental services. The event involved extensive collaboration between the military, community partners and leaders in the Virgin Islands and addresses section eight of SDG 3.

On 20 June 2024, the Army Reserve announced the commencement of the 14-day collaborative Medical Readiness Exercise (MEDREX) between Army Reserve soldiers and the Chadian Armed Forces medical professionals.<sup>2474</sup> MEDREX will allow for exchanges of medical practices, techniques and expertise in line with

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<sup>2470</sup> UK Government funds mental health support to help steelworkers, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-funds-mental-health-support-to-help-steelworkers>

<sup>2471</sup> Record £13.9 billion of R&D funding unveiled to boost innovation, jobs and growth, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-139-billion-of-rd-funding-unveiled-to-boost-innovation-jobs-and-growth>

<sup>2472</sup> US health official calls for cigarette-style warning labels on social media, Euronews (Lyon) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/06/17/us-health-official-calls-for-cigarette-style-warning-labels-on-social-media>

<sup>2473</sup> Air Guard Helps Provide Free Medical Care to Virgin Islands, US National Guard (Washington D.C.) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 1 October 2024. <https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Article-View/Article/3811830/>

<sup>2474</sup> U.S., Chad medical readiness exercise begins, US Army Reserve (Washington D.C.) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 1 October 2024. <https://www.usar.army.mil/News/News-Display/Article/3812626/>

section c) of SDG 3. Members of the Armed Forces will also provide medical assistance to Chadian citizens in various medical sectors. The United States has also committed USD30,000 in medical supplies for MEDREX.

On 21 June 2024, a delegation from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) visited the Ministry of Health in Kenya, where they strengthened collaborative efforts with Kenya and established the Kenya Biovax Institute.<sup>2475</sup> The institute aims to support Kenya's Pharmacy and Poisons Board to achieve WHO Maturity Level 3, which will remove barriers to manufacturing and importing medical products. These actions contribute to section b) of SDG 3.

On 25 June 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released an announcement warning doctors to be alert for rising cases of the dengue virus.<sup>2476</sup>

On 25 June 2024, Surgeon General Murthy released an announcement declaring gun violence a public health crisis.<sup>2477</sup> With this action, Surgeon General Murthy aims to raise awareness of gun violence as a public health rather than a political issue and reduce deaths related to gun violence in the US.

On 26 June 2024, the FDA released guidance for drug and medical device makers to improve racial, ethnic, age and sexual diversity in their clinical trials. The agency also required companies to submit plans on how they intend to increase diversity in their trials.<sup>2478</sup>

On 26 June 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced reduced costs for prescription drugs for Medicare participants, expanded eligibility for health subsidies, and capped out-of-pocket prescription drug costs.<sup>2479</sup> These actions come as the HHS implements provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act. The enhanced medication access contributes to sections three, four, and eight of SDG 3.

On 2 July 2024, the HHS approved a regulation allowing for healthcare coverage of incarcerated individuals before their release, such as coverage of a substance-use disorder treatment.<sup>2480</sup> This will expand access to health care and recovery supports, a key contribution to resolving the opioid epidemic in line with section five of SDG 3.

On 2 July 2024, Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra announced a commitment of USD176 million to Moderna, which will expedite the development of an mRNA-based flu vaccine that could treat cases of bird flu in humans.<sup>2481</sup> The HHS noted that this investment is part of increasing national preparedness. The funding addresses sections b) and d) of SDG 3.

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<sup>2475</sup> US FDA Delegation Strengthens Ties with Kenya's Ministry of Health, Ministry of Health (Nairobi) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.health.go.ke/us-fda-delegation-strengthens-ties-kenyas-ministry-health>

<sup>2476</sup> U.S. officials warn doctors about dengue as worldwide cases surge, Columbia Broadcasting System News (New York) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cdc-warn-doctors-dengue-record-cases-worldwide/>

<sup>2477</sup> Tackling US gun violence as a public health crisis. Will it help?, British Broadcasting Corporation (Washington D.C.) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cjqqlzqg17o>

<sup>2478</sup> US FDA recommends steps to improve diversity in clinical trials, Reuters (London) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/us-fda-issues-guidance-drugmakers-diversity-studies-2024-06-26/>

<sup>2479</sup> HHS Announces Cost Savings for 64 Prescription Drugs Thanks to the Medicare Rebate Program Established by the Biden-Harris Administration's Lower Cost Prescription Drug Law, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/06/26/hhs-announces-cost-savings-64-prescription-drugs-thanks-medicare-rebate-program-established-biden-harris-administrations-lower-cost-prescription-drug-law.html>

<sup>2480</sup> HHS Authorizes Five States to Provide Historic Health Care Coverage for People Transitioning out of Incarceration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/02/hhs-authorizes-five-states-provide-historic-health-care-coverage-people-transitioning-incarceration.html>

<sup>2481</sup> U.S. Government to Pay Moderna \$176 Million to Develop mRNA Flu Vaccine, U.S. News (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 1 October 2024. <https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2024-07-02/u-s-government-to-pay-moderna-176-million-to-develop-mrna-flu-vaccine>

On 10 July 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed new policies, including an add-on payment to the All-Inclusive Rate for certain Indian Health Services to improve access to high-cost drugs and eliminate barriers for individuals returning from incarceration to enrolling and maintaining Medicare coverage, among other related programs.<sup>2482</sup> CMS's proposals aim to increase access to critical care and further health equity with a particular focus on fighting maternal mortality among underserved communities.

On 12 July 2024, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of Global Affairs Susan Kim led a delegation of health officials to participate in a Special Meeting of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Senior Officials Meeting on Health Development and the United States.<sup>2483</sup> Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Kim reaffirmed the United States' commitment to continued collaboration with ASEAN member states to improve their ability to detect, respond to and prevent health threats in Southeast Asia.

On 16 July 2024, the US Department of Health and Human Services announced an investment of USD2.5 million into a "Licensure Portability Grant Program investment in a multi-state social worker licensure compact," which will enable states to cooperate in licensing health care providers and allow providers to practice across different states with one license.<sup>2484</sup> Streamlining licensure will improve access to behavioral health care services by training additional providers and increasing access to existing social workers. The investment addresses section four of SDG 3.

On 24 July 2024, Germany pledged EUR54 million to the Pandemic Fund addressing sections B and D of SDG 3.<sup>2485</sup>

On 31 July 2024, Secretary Becerra announced over USD68 million in funding for the Ryan White Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) program, which provides medical care and support services to "women with low incomes, infants, children and youth with HIV."<sup>2486</sup> This funding targets women and their babies who face social barriers to being able to access proper HIV care and treatment. The funding addresses sections two, three, and seven of SDG 3.

On 27 August 2024, Secretary Becerra announced over USD558 million in funding to expand maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting services and continue strengthening the capacity of public health

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<sup>2482</sup> Biden Harris Administration Proposes Policies to Reduce Maternal Mortality, Advance Health Equity, and Support Underserved Communities, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/10/biden-harris-administration-proposes-policies-reduce-maternal-mortality.html>

<sup>2483</sup> U.S. Health Officials Strengthen Collaboration with ASEAN at Meeting Held in Lao PDR, U.S. Embassy in Laos (Vientiane) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://la.usembassy.gov/u-s-health-officials-strengthen-collaboration-with-asean-at-meeting-held-in-lao-pdr/>

<sup>2484</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Launching Initiative to Build Multi-state Social Worker Licensure Compact to Increase Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Address Workforce Shortages, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/16/biden-harris-administration-launching-initiative-build-multi-state-social-worker-licensure-compact-increase-access-mental-health-substance-disorder-treatment-address-workforce-shortages.html>

<sup>2485</sup> Pandemic Fund Kickstarts Resource Mobilization with \$667 million from the United States, World Bank Group (Rio de Janeiro) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 7 June 2025. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/07/24/pandemic-fund-kickstarts-resource-mobilization-with-667-million-from-the-united-states>

<sup>2486</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$68 Million to Improve Access to HIV Care for Women, Infants, Children and Youth, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/31/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-68-million-improve-access-hiv-care-women-infants-children-youth.html>

infrastructure to identify and prevent pregnancy-related deaths.<sup>2487</sup> These investments build on the United States government's existing commitments to reduce maternal mortality rates through the White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis. The funding addresses sections one and two of SDG 3.

On 10 September 2024, the US Agency for International Development delivered 50,000 doses of the JYNNEOS mpox vaccine to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in response to the clade I mpox outbreak.<sup>2488</sup> This effort comes within larger coordinated efforts with allies such as the Vaccine Alliance and the World Health Organization to protect high-risk communities amidst the public health emergency.

On 19 September 2024, the Health Resources and Services Administration announced USD240 million in awards to build on mental health and substance use disorder services in community health centers across the United States.<sup>2489</sup> Health centers serve as important sources of care in tackling the nation's mental health and opioid crises, particularly for individuals who are uninsured, underinsured, or enrolled in Medicaid. The funding accelerates progress towards SDG 3 sections four and five.

On 26 September 2024, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration announced over USD1.5 billion in grant funding for the State Opioid Response and Tribal Opioid Response programs.<sup>2490</sup> Funding will support the development of prevention, harm reduction and treatment services such as overdose reverse medication and recovery supports in fighting the overdose crisis and addresses SDG 3 section five.

On 1 October 2024, the FDA announced the implementation of the unified Human Foods Program, which will restructure the agency to refocus the field operations unit to focus on inspections and enhance collaboration between field investigators and experts throughout the FDA.<sup>2491</sup> Building a more sophisticated and integrated FDA will enhance work conducted in laboratories to promote nutrition and regulate products such as tobacco and cosmetics. The ability to better regulate tobacco addresses section a) of SDG 3.

On 9 October 2024, the CMS released list of prescription drugs preliminarily intended as a part of the proposed Medicare Two Dollar Drug List Model.<sup>2492</sup> This would expand the drugs available to those with a Medicare prescription drug coverage plan purchasable at a month's supply for no more than USD2.

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<sup>2487</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards Over \$558 Million to Improve Maternal Health, including \$440 Million to Support Pregnant and New Moms, Infants, and Children through Voluntary Home Visiting Programs Proven to Improve Maternal and Child Health, Child Development, and School Readiness, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/08/27/biden-harris-administration-awards-over-558-million-to-improve-maternal-health.html>

<sup>2488</sup> United States Donation of 50,000 Mpox Vaccine Doses Arrives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, US Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-10-2024-united-states-donation-50000-mpox-vaccine-doses-arrives-democratic-republic-congo>

<sup>2489</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Historic Investment to Integrate Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment into Primary Care, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/19/biden-harris-administration-announces-historic-investment-integrate-mental-health-substance-disorder-treatment-primary-care.html>

<sup>2490</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards More than \$1.5 Billion in State and Tribal Opioid Response Grants to Advance the President's Unity Agenda for the Nation, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/26/biden-harris-administration-awards-more-1-5-billion-state-tribal-opioid-response-grants.html>

<sup>2491</sup> FDA's Unified Human Foods Program, New Model for Field Operations, and Other Modernization Efforts Go into Effect, US Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fdas-unified-human-foods-program-new-model-field-operations-and-other-modernization-efforts-go>

<sup>2492</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Takes Next Step on Proposed Model to Lower Prescription Drug Costs for People with Medicare, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/10/09/biden-harris-administration-takes-next-step-proposed-model-lower-prescription-drug-costs-people-medicare.html>

On 16 October 2024, the HHS approved amendments to the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program to extend coverage to care provided by Indian Health Services facilities, Tribal facilities and urban Indian organizations.<sup>2493</sup> This will improve access to health insurance, in line with SDG 3 section eight, particularly for communities such as American Indian and Alaska Native populations, who depend heavily on traditional healthcare practices.

On 21 October 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration proposed new rules that would mandate group health plans and health insurance providers to cover over-the-counter contraceptives without cost sharing or a prescription and provide consumers with additional choice over contraceptive drugs.<sup>2494</sup> The proposed rules would further expand access to birth control and grant women additional control over personal health care decisions. The new rules address sections seven and eight of SDG 3.

On 31 October 2024, the Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy released its five-year Strategy, which details the State Department's role in ending HIV/AIDS, advancing global health security and strengthening pandemic prevention preparedness.<sup>2495</sup> The Strategy seeks to "catalyze the political will, financing and leadership necessary" to achieve these ends.

On 1 November 2024, the HHS announced new baseline health and safety regulations for "the organization, staffing and delivery of care within obstetrical units."<sup>2496</sup> The new requirements will ensure safer, quality care for pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum care as a part of larger efforts to combat maternity mortality in line with SDG section one.

On 26 November 2024, the HHS announced the final rule of the HIV Organ Policy Equity, which will eliminate clinical research and institutional review board requirements for kidney and liver transplants for HIV patients.<sup>2497</sup> This serves to increase the availability of lifesaving organs and reduce the stigma surrounding people with HIV.

On 20 December 2024, the HHS launched the Let's Get Real program, a campaign to help parents obtain accurate information about childhood vaccines.<sup>2498</sup> Vaccines are important protections against diseases like polio and Haemophilus influenza type b, and Let's Get Real will cut through rampant misinformation to enable parents to make informed medical decisions. The information campaign support SDG 3 sections three and D.

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<sup>2493</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Takes Groundbreaking Action to Expand Health Care Access by Covering Traditional Health Care Practices, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/10/16/biden-harris-administration-takes-groundbreaking-action-expand-health-care-access-covering-traditional-health-care-practices.html>

<sup>2494</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Proposes Expanding Coverage of Birth Control and Other Preventive Services, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/10/21/biden-harris-administration-proposes-expanding-coverage-birth-control-other-preventive-services.html>

<sup>2495</sup> GHSD Five-year Strategy 2024-2028 (October 2024), US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/ghsd-five-year-strategy-2024-2028>

<sup>2496</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Policies to Reduce Maternal Mortality, Increase Access to Care, and Advance Health Equity, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/11/01/biden-harris-administration-announces-new-policies-to-reduce-maternal-mortality-increase-access-to-care-and-advance-health-equity.html>

<sup>2497</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Policy Expands Access to Life-Saving Organs for People with HIV, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/11/26/biden-harris-administration-policy-expands-access-life-saving-organs-people-hiv.html>

<sup>2498</sup> HHS Launches Let's Get Real Campaign to Highlight Facts About Childhood Vaccines and Share Stories from Confident Parents Who Vaccinate Their Kids, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/12/20/hhs-launches-lets-get-real-campaign-highlight-facts-about-childhood-vaccines-share-stories-confident-parents-vaccinate-kids.html>

On 31 December 2024, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded USD10 million in grants through the Community-Based Maternal Behavioral Health Services Program.<sup>2499</sup> The grant program is designed to support pregnant and postpartum women's behavioral health as part of the larger White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis in line with SDG 3 section seven.

On 15 January 2025, the FDA issued a proposed rule that would significantly limit the level of nicotine permitted in products such as cigarettes and other combusted nicotine tobacco in line with SDG 3 section A.<sup>2500</sup>

On 16 January 2025, the FDA authorized the marketing of 20 ZYN nicotine pouch products for the first time through the premarket tobacco product application.<sup>2501</sup> To grant marketing authorization, the FDA determined that there were benefits to people in switching to nicotine patch products from products such as cigarettes due to the lower risk of cancer after switching to nicotine patch products. This action advanced SDG 3 section A.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump announced the pausing of all foreign development assistance for 90-days, pending review to ensure alignment with the Trump Administration's foreign policy.<sup>2502</sup> Foreign development assistance may be continued, modified, or stopped based on review. Consistent with this Executive Order, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the pause of all foreign development assistance provided by the Department of State or USAID on 26 February 2025.<sup>2503</sup> USAID carries out the majority of the United States' commitments to global health system development, infectious disease preparedness, and equitable health services. Thus, the cessation of funding for the Department and Agency constitutes an action directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

On 20 January 2025, President Trump announced the United States' withdrawal from the World Health Organization (WHO) via Executive Order.<sup>2504</sup> This action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment to UN SDG 3, as the WHO is the United Nations agency that supports universal health coverage globally.<sup>2505</sup>

On 13 February 2025, US President Donald Trump established the Make America Healthy Again Commission, "tasked with the responsibility of tasked with rethinking policy on 'nutrition, physical activity, healthy lifestyles,

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<sup>2499</sup> HHS Awards \$10 Million for New Community-Based Maternal Behavioral Health Services Grant Program, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 31 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/12/31/hhs-awards-10-million-new-community-based-maternal-behavioral-health-services-grant-program.html>

<sup>2500</sup> FDA Proposes Significant Step Toward Reducing Nicotine to Minimally or Nonaddictive Level in Cigarettes and Certain Other Combusted Tobacco Products, US Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-proposes-significant-step-toward-reducing-nicotine-minimally-or-nonaddictive-level-cigarettes>

<sup>2501</sup> FDA Authorizes Marketing of 20 ZYN Nicotine Pouch Products after Extensive Scientific Review, US Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-authorizes-marketing-20-zyn-nicotine-pouch-products-after-extensive-scientific-review>

<sup>2502</sup> REEVALUATING AND REALIGNING UNITED STATES FOREIGN AID, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>2503</sup> Implementing the President's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/implementing-the-presidents-executive-order-on-reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>2504</sup> WITHDRAWING THE UNITED STATES FROM THE WORLD, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/withdrawing-the-united-states-from-the-world-health-organization>

<sup>2505</sup> About WHO, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.who.int/about>



over-reliance on medication and treatments, the effects of new technological habits, environmental impacts and food and drug quality and safety.”<sup>2506</sup>

On 25 February 2025, the Department of State announced the cancellation of 5800 USAID contracts including those related to global health.<sup>2507</sup> In particular, these cuts include funding for HIV/AIDS treatment in developing countries. These contract cancellations directly contravene SDG 3’s goals and the United States’ commitment.

On 28 February 2025, the FDA publicly alerted patients using smartphone-connected diabetic tracking devices (continuous glucose monitors, insulin pumps, automated insulin dosing systems, etc.) of configuration issues that interfere with life-saving notifications.<sup>2508</sup> Awareness of hardware errors minimizes patient harm to those who control diabetic devices from their smartphones.

On 18 March 2025, the FDA launched Operation Stork Speed, which seeks to maintain the “ongoing quality, safety, nutritional adequacy, and resilience of the domestic infant formula supply.”<sup>2509</sup> Measures involving additional testing for harmful substances in infant formula and comprehensive nutrient reviews of formula to ensure confidence in the safety of products.

On 18 March 2025, the HHS announced the renewal of the Opioid Public Health Emergency (PHE) Declaration.<sup>2510</sup> Extending the PHE allows the U.S. government to continue expanding treatment access and coordinate interagency response in line with SDG 3 section five.

On 20 March 2025, the FDA launched the Chemical Contaminants Transparency Tool (CCT Tool), “an online searchable database providing a consolidated list of contaminant levels (e.g., tolerances, action levels, and guidance levels) that are used to evaluate potential health risks of contaminants in human foods.”<sup>2511</sup> The CCT empowers public awareness and supports SDG 3 section nine.

On 16 April 2025, the NIH blocked clinical trial networks for HIV/AIDS from collaborating with South Africa.<sup>2512</sup> Eight million HIV/AIDS patients live in South Africa.<sup>2513</sup> This action directly contravenes SDG section b.

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<sup>2506</sup> Make America Healthy Again Commission Aims To Combat Chronic Disease and Reform Health Policies, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (New York) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.skadden.com/insights/publications/2025/02/make-america-healthy-again-commission-aims>

<sup>2507</sup> ‘A bloodbath’: HIV field is reeling after billions in U.S. funding are axed, Science (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.science.org/content/article/bloodbath-hiv-field-reeling-after-billions-u-s-funding-axed>

<sup>2508</sup> FDA Alerts Patients of Potential to Miss Critical Safety Alerts Due to Phone Settings When Using Smartphone-Compatible Diabetes Devices, US Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-alerts-patients-potential-miss-critical-safety-alerts-due-phone-settings-when-using-smartphone>

<sup>2509</sup> HHS, FDA Announce Operation Stork Speed to Expand Options for Safe, Reliable, and Nutritious Infant Formula for American Families, US Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/hhs-fda-announce-operation-stork-speed-expand-options-safe-reliable-and-nutritious-infant-formula>

<sup>2510</sup> Secretary Kennedy Renews Public Health Emergency Declaration to Address National Opioid Crisis, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/12/31/hhs-awards-10-million-new-community-based-maternal-behavioral-health-services-grant-program.html>

<sup>2511</sup> HHS, FDA Announce Chemical Contaminants Transparency Tool for Foods, US Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.hhs.gov/press-room/chemical-contaminant-food-fda-research-tool.html>

<sup>2512</sup> NIH halts more collaborations with South Africa on HIV/AIDS trials, Science (Washington D.C.) 18 April 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.science.org/content/article/nih-halts-more-collaborations-south-africa-hiv-aids-trials>

<sup>2513</sup> ‘A bloodbath’: HIV field is reeling after billions in U.S. funding are axed, Science (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.science.org/content/article/bloodbath-hiv-field-reeling-after-billions-u-s-funding-axed>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. Strong actions have been taken, including the introduction of significant investments, rules, and strategies with goals of reducing maternal mortality, maximizing access to drugs and medical care, and zeroing in on issues affecting underserved populations on both a domestic and international dimension. Collectively, the United States' actions address at least 10 of the 13 targets of SDG 3. However, the United States has also taken actions directly antithetical to the commitment, such as withdrawing from the WHO and reducing support for global health systems by cancelling USAID contracts and restricting clinical trials for HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Barry Gu*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

On 19 June 2024, the European Commission hosted the EU4Health Stakeholders' Conference in Brussels.<sup>2514</sup> The programme focused on key topics to reflect on priorities and future initiatives, such as health promotion and disease prevention, health systems, crisis preparedness, cancer and digital health.

On 20 June 2024, the European Commission's International Partnerships InfoPoint held a conference on the "Local Private Sector and Nutrition for Women and Children."<sup>2515</sup> The conference aimed to highlight the importance of increasing quality and adequate nutrition for families and children to prevent the health consequences of chronic malnutrition by encouraging innovation in business models that can market safe, nutritious and affordable products.

On 21 June 2024, the Council of the EU adopted a recommendation to help combat vaccine-preventable cancers by increasing human papillomavirus (HPV) and Hepatitis B (HBV) vaccination rates in the EU.<sup>2516</sup> Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Health Minister Frank Vandenbroucke emphasized the importance of vaccines in preventing cancers linked to these viruses. The recommendation aims for 90 per cent HPV vaccination for girls and greater coverage for boys by 2030, alongside World Health Organization (WHO) targets for HBV. It urges member states to ensure free, accessible vaccinations, enhance public awareness and integrate these efforts into national cancer strategies, addressing sections three and four of SDG 3.

On 21 June 2024, the European Council reaffirmed the importance of health as a priority for the European Commission in its upcoming five-year term.<sup>2517</sup> The council stated its support for improving key areas that need to be the focus of the European Health Union to tackle healthcare challenges in the region, such as the shortage of healthcare workers, the security of the supply of medical devices and the prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

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<sup>2514</sup> EU4Health Stakeholders' Conference, European Commission (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://health.ec.europa.eu/events/eu4health-stakeholders-conference-2024-06-19\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/events/eu4health-stakeholders-conference-2024-06-19_en)

<sup>2515</sup> InfoPoint conference: Local Private Sector and Nutrition for Women and Children, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/events/infopoint-conference-local-private-sector-and-nutrition-women-and-children-2024-06-20\\_en](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/events/infopoint-conference-local-private-sector-and-nutrition-women-and-children-2024-06-20_en)

<sup>2516</sup> Council adopts recommendation to help combat vaccine-preventable cancers, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/21/council-adopts-recommendation-to-help-combat-vaccine-preventable-cancers/>

<sup>2517</sup> European Health Union: Council calls on Commission to keep health as a priority, European Council (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/21/european-health-union-council-calls-on-commission-to-keep-health-as-a-priority/>

On 26 June 2024, European Union Representative to the West Bank, Gaza Strip and United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East Alexandre Stutzman and the World Health Organization signed an agreement of EUR2.88 million to support the Palestinian health system.<sup>2518</sup> The funding aims to strengthen the public health financing system and focuses on health workforce training across specializations. The agreement advances sections eight and b) of SDG 3.

On 26 June 2024, the European Medicines Agency and the Executive Steering Group on Shortages and Safety of Medicinal Products issued recommendations to tackle the shortage of GLP-1 agonists, medications authorized for the treatment of diabetes and weight management such as Ozempic (semaglutide), Saxenda (liraglutide), Trulicity (dulaglutide) and Victoza (liraglutide).<sup>2519</sup> The agency recommended guidelines for patients, medical providers and marketing authorities to ensure the effective distribution of these medications to patients who need them and curb the inappropriate use of these medications for cosmetic weight loss.

On 3 July 2024, the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA) officially launched in Portugal to address health and security threats from illicit drugs.<sup>2520</sup> European Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson emphasized the agency's role in enhancing drug monitoring and cross-border cooperation. Formed from a 2022 initiative to strengthen the EUDA, the agency aims to tackle rising drug consumption highlighted in the European Drugs Report 2024. EUDA will introduce a European Drug Alert System and collaborate internationally, including a new agreement with Ecuador to share expertise on drug-related challenges. The agencies actions advance section five of SDG 3.

On 9 July 2024, the European Union allocated EUR500,000 in humanitarian funding to the World Health Organization.<sup>2521</sup> The funding was prioritized for providing primary healthcare to vulnerable populations, particularly women and children, in Darfur, where Sudanese people are fleeing to Libya to escape the escalating conflict. The emergency funding will assist approximately 160 thousand people and is estimated to last six months. Local health workers will be supplied with training and laboratory equipment to meet healthcare demands adequately. The funding addresses sections two, eight and c) of SDG 3.

On 19 July 2024, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the Critical Medicines Act and Biotech Act as part of the next Commission's priorities.<sup>2522</sup> The Critical Medicines Act aims to address shortages of essential drugs, while the Biotech Act, expected in 2025, will simplify regulations for the life sciences sector. Both initiatives are intended to enhance the resilience of the European Health Union and promote innovation for research in the health sciences.

On 2 September 2024, the European Commission, led by Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides, launched the EU4Health Nursing Initiative, a EUR1.3 million program designed to combat the nursing shortage across Europe.<sup>2523</sup> This initiative, developed in partnership with the WHO's Regional Office for Europe, aims to retain existing nurses and attract new talent over the next three years in at least half of the

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<sup>2518</sup> The European Union and the World Health Organization sign an agreement of EUR 2.88 million to support the Palestinian Health System, The Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA) (Jerusalem) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-world-health-organization-sign-agreement-eur-288-million-support-palestinian\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-world-health-organization-sign-agreement-eur-288-million-support-palestinian_en)

<sup>2519</sup> EU actions to tackle shortages of GLP-1 receptor agonists, European Medicines Agency (Amsterdam) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/eu-actions-tackle-shortages-glp-1-receptor-agonists>

<sup>2520</sup> EU pushes against drugs with new Lisbon-based agency, Euro News (Lyon) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/07/03/eu-pushes-against-drugs-with-new-lisbon-based-agency>

<sup>2521</sup> The European Union supports urgent health services for Sudanese fleeing the conflict and their host communities in Libya, Delegation of the European Union to Libya (Tripoli) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/libya/european-union-supports-urgent-health-services-sudanese-fleeing-conflict-and-their-host-communities\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/libya/european-union-supports-urgent-health-services-sudanese-fleeing-conflict-and-their-host-communities_en)

<sup>2522</sup> Von der Leyen confirms Critical Medicines, Biotech Acts in pipeline, Euro News (Lyon) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/07/19/von-der-leyen-confirms-critical-medicines-biotech-acts-in-pipeline>

<sup>2523</sup> EU outlines €1.3m initiative to make nursing more attractive, Euro News (Lyon) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/09/02/eu-outlines-13m-initiative-to-make-nursing-more-attractive>

EU member states facing severe shortages. Key components include mentoring and training programs to engage young people and mid-career professionals in nursing and a comprehensive report analyzing interest in the profession.

On 8 September 2024, Commissioner Kyriakides and Canadian Minister of Health Mark Holland met to launch the EU-Canada Health Policy Dialogue under the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement.<sup>2524</sup> This Policy Dialogue focuses on cooperation between three crucial priority areas: antimicrobial resistance, health security and non-communicable diseases.

On 7 October 2024, the European Commission delivered 5240 doses of the MVA-BN vaccine to the Rwanda Biomedical Centre to support the country's response to the ongoing monkeypox outbreak.<sup>2525</sup> This delivery is part of the EU's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) pledge of 215,000 doses to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. The initiative aims to enhance health emergency preparedness and response capacities across Africa. Furthermore, HERA invested in local vaccine manufacturing and fast-tracking projects worth USD190 million to bolster pandemic prevention efforts in the region. The funding addresses sections three, b) and d) of SDG 3.

On 7 October 2024, the European Union signed its first HERA Invest agreement, committing EUR20 million to support the French biopharmaceutical company Fabentech.<sup>2526</sup> HERA is an EU initiative established to enhance the EU's capacity to respond to health emergencies. This funding will facilitate the development of broad-spectrum therapeutics to address future public health threats, thereby enhancing the EU's emergency health preparedness and promoting rapid innovation in medical countermeasures. The funding addresses section d) of SDG 3.

On 14 October 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted a directive to strengthen air quality standards, targeting zero pollution by 2050 and reducing premature deaths from air pollution.<sup>2527</sup> The directive sets stricter limits for pollutants such as PM10, PM2.5, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, with a compliance deadline of 2030, allowing extensions under certain conditions. It enables citizens to seek compensation for health damage from air quality violations and mandates action plans for at-risk areas. The action addresses section nine of SDG 3.

On 31 October 2024, the European Commission fined pharmaceutical company Teva over EUR460 million for misusing patent protections related to its multiple sclerosis drug, Copaxone.<sup>2528</sup> The Commission determined that Teva engaged in a campaign to disparage a competitor's product, hindering access to more affordable alternatives and undermining fair competition. This enforcement underscores the EU's dedication to maintaining a fair healthcare market that promotes patient access to essential medicines.

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<sup>2524</sup> EU and Canada launch Health Policy Dialogue to advance Health Priorities, European Commission (Brussels) 8 September 2024. Access Date: 21 November 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4602](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4602)

<sup>2525</sup> Mpox vaccines delivered to Rwanda amid broader health response efforts, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/mpox-vaccines-delivered-rwanda-amid-broader-health-response-efforts-2024-10-07\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/mpox-vaccines-delivered-rwanda-amid-broader-health-response-efforts-2024-10-07_en)

<sup>2526</sup> First HERA Invest agreement signed to support research and development in cross-border health threats, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/first-hera-invest-agreement-signed-support-research-and-development-cross-border-health-threats-2024-10-07\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/first-hera-invest-agreement-signed-support-research-and-development-cross-border-health-threats-2024-10-07_en)

<sup>2527</sup> Air quality: Council gives final green light to strengthen standards in the EU, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/air-quality-council-gives-final-green-light-to-strengthen-standards-in-the-eu/>

<sup>2528</sup> European Commission fines MS drug maker Teva over improper patent use, Euro News (Lyon) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/business/2024/10/31/european-commission-fines-ms-drug-maker-teva-over-improper-patent-use>

On 13 November 2024, the European Commission announced infringement decisions against EU Member States that failed to incorporate the EU's directives into national law. This includes directions for Slovakia to conduct tunnel inspections to improve safety in line with SDG 3 section six.

On 1 December 2024, the European Commission advanced its health policy by dividing responsibilities between two commissioners to address diverse health challenges more effectively.<sup>2529</sup> Hadja Lahbib assumed oversight of sexual and reproductive health, HERA and crisis preparedness to ensure focused leadership on gender equity and emergency readiness. Olivér Várhelyi retained responsibility for the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) and the Critical Medicines Act, targeting drug shortages and pharmaceutical innovation. Driven by concerns over inclusivity in health policy and the need for specialized focus areas, the restructure aims to improve policy coherence, strengthen crisis response and advance equitable healthcare across the EU.

On 15 December 2024, the European Commission announced infringement decisions against EU Member States that failed to incorporate the EU's directives into national law.<sup>2530</sup> These include directives on chemical substances and environmental health. They also include directives on chemical substances and environmental health in line with SDG 3 section nine.

On 18 December 2024, the European Parliament approved the creation of the Public Health Committee, a stand-alone body overseeing EU health policy, previously managed by the Environment Committee.<sup>2531</sup> The committee will handle pharmaceuticals, medical devices, health crisis response, mental health and bioterrorism preparedness. It will also coordinate with the Epidemiology and Disease Control Division and the WHO aligning with SDG 3 section D.

On 28 January 2025, the European Union reaffirmed its regulations on chlorate levels in food and beverages following Coca-Cola Europacific Partners' recall of soft drinks in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands due to excessive chlorate contamination.<sup>2532</sup> The EU enforces strict limits on chlorate residues to protect public health, particularly for vulnerable groups such as infants and individuals with thyroid disorders in line with SDG 3 sections three, four and nine.

On 29 January 2025, the European Commission launched the Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to help start-ups and small and midsize enterprises access EU funding, research support and regulatory guidance, strengthening Europe's biotech sector.<sup>2533</sup> The initiative aims to strengthen innovation in health by also providing guidelines on authorisation processes for human medicines in line with SDG 3 section B.

On 11 March 2025, European Commissioner for Health Olivér Várhelyi presented the Critical Medicines Act proposal to the European Parliament.<sup>2534</sup> The regulation targets drug shortages by incentivising regional production and improving strategic stockpiling. Increasing access to medicines advances SDG 3 section eight.

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<sup>2529</sup> Why does the EU now have two health Commissioners, and what will it mean?, Euro News (Lyon) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024 <https://www.euronews.com/health/2024/11/29/why-does-the-eu-now-have-two-health-commissioners-and-what-will-it-mean>

<sup>2530</sup> December infringements package: key decisions, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf\\_24\\_6006](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_6006)

<sup>2531</sup> New European Parliament health committee to start work in 2025, Euro News (Lyon) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/12/18/new-european-parliament-health-committee-to-start-work-in-2025>

<sup>2532</sup> Coca-Cola drinks recalled in 3 European countries due to high chlorate levels, Euro News (Lyon) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.euronews.com/health/2025/01/28/coca-cola-drinks-recalled-in-3-european-countries-due-to-high-chlorate-levels>

<sup>2533</sup> Commission launches new Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to support innovative companies, European Commission (Brussels) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_365](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_365)

<sup>2534</sup> Commission proposes Critical Medicines Act to bolster the supply of critical medicines in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_733](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_733)

On 13 March 2025, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced a EUR4.7 billion Global Gateway investment package at the EU–South Africa Summit in Cape Town.<sup>2535</sup> The package includes EUR700 million earmarked for the health sector, supporting South Africa’s capacity to manufacture vaccines and essential medicines. The funding will strengthen local health infrastructure and bolster pandemic resilience through increased regional production in line with SDG 3 section B.

On 26 March 2025, the European Commission and the EU High Representative jointly launched the Preparedness Union strategy to enhance health and societal resilience in future crises.<sup>2536</sup> The strategy outlines 30 priority actions to improve coordination, surveillance and healthcare continuity during pandemics and other emergencies. It also supports cross-border healthcare responses and early warning systems across member states, which contributes to SDG 3 section D.

The European Union has fully met its commitment to accelerating progress towards SDG 3, ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. The EU has implemented key policies including the EU4Health program to enhance access to healthcare, stricter air quality standards aligned with WHO guidelines to combat pollution and initiatives targeting health inequalities to reduce health. The EU advanced strong action to prevent child mortality, combat communicable diseases, treat and prevent cancer, limit substance abuse, improve road safety, bolster universal health coverage, reduce environmental health risks, improve vaccine access in developing countries, provide health training in developing countries and prepare for health emergencies.

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

*Analyst: Beisen (Samuel) Gao*

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<sup>2535</sup> President von der Leyen in South Africa: launches talks on a new trade and investment deal, unveils €4.7 billion Global Gateway package (Cape Town) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_774](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_774)

<sup>2536</sup> EU Preparedness Union Strategy to prevent and react to emerging threats and crises, European Commission (Brussels) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_856](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_856)

## 11. Gender: Health Services for Women

“We reiterate our commitments in the Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué to universal access to adequate, affordable, and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.”

*G7 Apulia Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

G7 leaders first recognized the importance of comprehensive sexual health at the 1987 Venice Summit where they affirmed that international cooperation was needed to combat AIDS through education programs and clinical studies on the prevention, treatment and a cure for AIDS.<sup>2537</sup> While the G7 did not substantially discuss health services for women or comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights at several summits after 1987, G7 leaders began addressing sexual health at the 2000 Okinawa Summit in regard to HIV/AIDS. At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders committed to addressing maternal health and improving sexual and reproductive health in light of AIDS, eventually launching the Muskoka Initiative in 2010 to address maternal, newborn and child health as well as sexual and reproductive health and services.<sup>2538</sup> At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders broadened their focus to include sexual and reproductive rights and have continued to address sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as health for women since then.<sup>2539</sup> Most recently, the G7 reaffirmed commitments towards health services for women and comprehensive sexual and reproductive rights for all at the 2024 Apulia Summit.

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders declared AIDS “one of the biggest health problems in the world,” acknowledging the need for intensified national efforts and international cooperation.<sup>2540</sup> G7 leaders emphasized that public education is necessary to prevent the spread of AIDS and acknowledged the need for cooperation to support clinical studies aimed at preventing, treating and developing potential vaccines or a cure for AIDS.

<sup>2537</sup> Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>2538</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>; Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communiqué.html>

<sup>2539</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 12 September 2024.

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

<sup>2540</sup> Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders pledged to address pressing global health challenges, committing to “reduce the number of HIV/AIDS-infected young people by 25 per cent by 2010.”<sup>2541</sup> G8 leaders also stressed the importance of strengthening “equitable and effective health systems” and endorsed measures such as expanding immunization, improving nutrition and ensuring access to treatments for infectious diseases.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders and the United Nations Secretary-General announced the creation of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis which supports “an integrated approach emphasizing prevention in a continuum of treatment and care.”<sup>2542</sup> The leaders committed USD1.3 billion in funding to this initiative.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders released the “Health: A G8 Action Plan,” which focused on six main pillars, including fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as well as strengthening health systems.<sup>2543</sup> The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to “work in partnership with developing countries, the private sector, multilateral organizations, and NGOs” to achieve these health objectives. They also supported efforts to strengthen the Global Fund.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders endorsed and established a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, seeking to increase HIV vaccine manufacturing capacity and development, “expand an integrated international clinical trials system” and encourage scientists to collaborate regarding HIV internationally.<sup>2544</sup>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders committed to supporting health and education in Africa, including by taking action to address HIV/AIDS and other deadly illnesses.<sup>2545</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to “improving health systems” and addressing HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, particularly in African countries.<sup>2546</sup> They highlighted the importance of “equitable, sustainable financing of health systems” and underscored the need to prioritize the health of vulnerable populations, especially women, adolescent girls and children.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems, including social health protection.”<sup>2547</sup> G8 leaders also committed to improving maternal, newborn and child health and pledged to “take concrete steps to work toward improving the link between HIV/AIDS activities and sexual and reproductive health and voluntary family planning programs.”

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing health needs for vulnerable groups including women and children.<sup>2548</sup> G8 leaders also committed to address maternal health, in part “through sexual and reproductive health care and services and voluntary family planning.” They also committed to working towards “universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010.”

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<sup>2541</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2542</sup> Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>2543</sup> Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health\\_en.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html)

<sup>2544</sup> G8 Action to Endorse and Establish a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/hiv.html>

<sup>2545</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>2546</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-summary.html>

<sup>2547</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>2548</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>



At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the need for sexual and reproductive health care and services as well as voluntary family planning to address the Millennium Development Goal of improving maternal health.<sup>2549</sup> In this context, they launched the Muskoka Initiative to “significantly reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under five child deaths in developing countries” through health systems strengthening and interventions including sexual and reproductive health care and services, pre- and post-partum care and health education. The Initiative aimed to achieve “universal access to reproductive health” by 2015.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 members endorsed the Deauville Accountability Report which records actions taken by the G8 for health and food security.<sup>2550</sup> G8 members also reaffirmed their commitment towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Muskoka Initiative for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders committed to increasing action to address maternal and child health and other challenges.<sup>2551</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders committed to supporting sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.<sup>2552</sup> G8 leaders also recognized the importance of “ensuring universal access to affordable, quality [and] essential health services” to support the health of women and children.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders G7 focused on developing universal health coverage, addressing noncommunicable diseases and supporting the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases.<sup>2553</sup> G7 leaders also committed to addressing health rights for women and girls including through sexual and reproductive health services and the promotion of mental and physical health.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders committed to advancing global health security and strengthening health systems, with an emphasis on preparedness for public health emergencies.<sup>2554</sup> G7 leaders also recognized the importance of healthcare for women and adolescents.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed the importance of universal access to “affordable quality health services” and underscored the importance of strengthening health systems.<sup>2555</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to “promote and protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of all individuals and recognise the essential and transformative role they play in gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment.”<sup>2556</sup> They also highlighted the importance of tackling negative impacts on access to SRHR for women and girls due to the Covid-19 crisis and recognised the need to combat the disproportionate barriers that women face in access to affordable care.

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<sup>2549</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>2550</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2551</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>2552</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>2553</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>

<sup>2554</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>2555</sup> Biarritz Chair's Summary on Fighting Inequalities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/chairs-summary-inequalities.html>

<sup>2556</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to enhance their commitment towards SRHR for all and committed to improving health for women, children and adolescents through the Global Financing Facility for women, children and adolescents.<sup>2557</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards SHRH for all, “including maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, especially in vulnerable circumstances.”<sup>2558</sup> They also reiterated the importance of reproductive healthcare and rights through access to safe and legal abortion and post abortion care.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders reiterated their commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as health services for women.<sup>2559</sup> G7 leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to end HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, establish universal health coverage and advance maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “universal access to adequate, affordable, and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.”<sup>2560</sup> This commitment is a reiteration of commitments made at the 2023 Hiroshima Summit.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Universal” is understood to mean all of an intended group, not a fraction or percentage of the whole.<sup>2561</sup>

“Access” is understood to mean “the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.”<sup>2562</sup> The World Health Organization characterizes access as “a broad concept that measures three dimensions of key health sector interventions:

1. *Availability*, defined in terms of the reachability (physical access), affordability (economic access) and acceptability (socio-cultural access) of services that meet a minimum standard of quality. Making services available, affordable and acceptable is an essential precondition for universal access.
2. *Coverage*, defined as the proportion of a population needing an intervention who receive it. Coverage is influenced by supply (provision of services) and by demand from people in need of services.
3. *Impact*, defined as reduced new infection rates or as improvements in survival. It results from the coverage of services, modulated by the efficiency and effectiveness of interventions and changes in other relevant factors. Impact goals were set in the context of the Millennium Development Goals.”<sup>2563</sup>

“Adequate” is understood to mean “sufficient for a specific need or requirement.”<sup>2564</sup>

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<sup>2557</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

<sup>2558</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 20 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communication.html>

<sup>2559</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>2560</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>2561</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2562</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2563</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2564</sup> Adequate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adequate>

“Affordable” is understood to mean “not expensive.”<sup>2565</sup> In the context of this commitment, this may include actions such as the provision of free or low-cost menstrual supplies.

“Quality” refers to the standard or “degree of excellence of something.”<sup>2566</sup> According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), high quality health services are “delivered in a safe, effective, timely, efficient, integrated, equitable and people-centred manner, based on care standards and treatment guidelines and taking into account people’s experiences and perceptions of care, including affordability and acceptability.”<sup>2567</sup>

“Health services” is understood to mean “any service, not limited to medical or clinical services, that contributes to the improved health or to the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of people who are sick.”<sup>2568</sup>

“Woman” is understood to mean “an adult female person.”<sup>2569</sup> “Women,” therefore, is understood to refer to female persons aged 18 and older.

“Comprehensive” is understood to mean “covering completely or broadly.”<sup>2570</sup>

“Sexual and reproductive health and rights” encompass each of the following: “sexual health, sexual rights, reproductive health and reproductive rights,” according to the UNFPA.<sup>2571</sup> “Sexual and reproductive health” is understood to mean “a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to all aspects of sexuality and reproduction, not just the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity.” “Sexual and reproductive rights” encompass the rights of all individuals to “have their bodily integrity, privacy and personal autonomy respected; freely define their own sexuality, including sexual orientation and gender identity and expression; decide whether and when to be sexually active; choose their sexual partners; have safe and pleasurable sexual experiences; decide whether, when and who to marry; decide whether, when and by what means to have a child or children and how many children to have; and have access over their lifetime to the information, resources, services and support necessary to achieve all of the above, free from discrimination, coercion, exploitation and violence.” Sexual and reproductive rights are necessary for sexual and reproductive health to be realized. In the context of this commitment, actions that effectively ensure access to sexual and reproductive health and rights include, but are not limited to, “accurate information and counselling on sexual and reproductive health; maternal health; safe and effective antenatal, childbirth and postnatal care; safe and effective abortion services and care; the prevention, management and treatment of infertility; the prevention, detection and treatment of STIs [sexually transmitted infections], including HIV infection, and of reproductive tract infections; and the prevention, detection and treatment of reproductive cancers.”

### General Interpretive Guidelines

The commitment can be broken down into two main dimensions: 1) universal access to health services for women and 2) comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. The commitment also has three

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<sup>2565</sup> Affordable, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/affordable>

<sup>2566</sup> Quality, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/quality>

<sup>2567</sup> Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: An Essential Element of Universal Health Coverage, United Nations Population Fund (New York) November 2019. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SRHR\\_an\\_essential\\_element\\_of\\_UHC\\_2020\\_online.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SRHR_an_essential_element_of_UHC_2020_online.pdf)

<sup>2568</sup> World Health Organization Health Systems Strengthening Glossary, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/documents/health-systems-strengthening-glossary.pdf>

<sup>2569</sup> Woman, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/woman>

<sup>2570</sup> Comprehensive, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/comprehensive>

<sup>2571</sup> Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: An Essential Element of Universal Health Coverage, United Nations Population Fund (New York) November 2019. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SRHR\\_an\\_essential\\_element\\_of\\_UHC\\_2020\\_online.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SRHR_an_essential_element_of_UHC_2020_online.pdf)

pillars: 1) adequacy, 2) affordability and 3) quality (to be assessed in line with the “definitions “section). To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take strong action across both commitment dimensions and at least two of the three pillars.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards universal access to health services for women and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health for all. Strong action must be taken across at least two of the three commitment pillars of adequacy, affordability and quality, to constitute full compliance. Examples of strong domestic actions include modifying or updating domestic regulations, laws or statutes to ensure universal access to health services for women or comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, investing in domestic health services to ensure universal access for all women and launching initiatives such as national sexual health education programs and national reproductive cancer screening programs that ensure comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Examples of strong international actions include financial or in-kind support to other countries to ensure universal access to health services for women and sponsoring or ratifying treaties or agreements that address the commitment.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards universal access to health services for women or towards comprehensive sexual and reproductive health for all, or to members that take weak actions across both commitment dimensions, or to members that take strong action toward both dimensions but address fewer than two commitment pillars. G7 members must also take action across at least one commitment pillar to satisfy the requirements for partial compliance. Examples of weak domestic actions include verbal reaffirmations of commitments to address universal access to health services for women or comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, attending meetings and conferences discussing health services for women and assigning the responsibility for addressing the commitment to a national office or institution for future implementation. Examples of weak international actions include multilateral or bilateral agreements that reaffirm the importance of the commitment without taking new action and attending international forums or meetings regarding the commitment.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member demonstrates weak action towards one or less commitment dimensions, or to a member that does not comply with any of the three pillars of adequacy, affordability, and quality, or has taken action that is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment, such as rolling back SRHR.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has taken weak action towards ensuring one or none of: 1) universal access to health services for women and 2) comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, or the G7 member has not addressed any of the commitment pillars: 1) adequacy, 2) affordability and 3) quality.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action towards one of 1) universal access to health services for women and 2) comprehensive sexual and reproductive health for all, or has taken weak action across both commitment dimensions, or has otherwise addressed only one of the commitment pillars: 1) adequacy, 2) affordability and 3) quality.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards both 1) universal access to health services for women and 2) comprehensive sexual and reproductive health for all, and has taken strong action in at least two of the three pillars of: 1) adequacy, 2) affordability and 3) quality.

*Compliance Director: Mathula Mubundan  
Lead Analyst: Ridhima Sinha*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 17 June 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced CAD11.2 million in development funding for the Caribbean.<sup>2572</sup> Of this, CAD2 million will be directed to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to replenish the Enhancing Quality, Access and Logistics of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights program which aims to improve the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago whilst protecting them from gender-based violence.

On 24 June 2024, Member of Parliament for Madawaska-Restigouche René Arseneault announced funding of approximately CAD2.1 million over six years for the Escale MadaVic project to support sexual crime survivors in New Brunswick's Madawaska and Victoria counties.<sup>2573</sup> Escale MadaVic provides services to victims of sexual crimes, including mental health services.

On 25 June 2024, the Sexual Misconduct Support and Resource Centre initiated funding for nine community-based service providers across Canada, launching eleven new projects through its Community Support for Sexual Misconduct Survivors Grant Program.<sup>2574</sup> One of the nine providers is St. John's Status of Women Council/Women's Centre which helps women affected by sexual misconduct.

On 25 June 2024, Global Affairs Canada announced its support and funding to improve primary healthcare systems for women, children and adolescents in Bangladesh through its partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UNFPA.<sup>2575</sup> The five-year project will target 1.9 million women of reproductive age and 6 million children and infants to ensure that they have access to quality health care.

On 5 July 2024, Global Affairs Canada pledged USD7.2 million to the UNFPA to address urgent humanitarian needs in 13 sub-Saharan African countries.<sup>2576</sup> The funding aims to strengthen UNFPA's sexual and reproductive health and rights efforts in the region over the next two years by supporting comprehensive sexual and gender-based violence response services.

On 9 July 2024, Global Affairs Canada signed a five-year programme with UNICEF and UNFPA to improve equitable access to quality sexual and reproductive health and rights services for adolescent girls in Tanzania, which includes a CAD14.7 million investment from Canadian authorities.<sup>2577</sup> The program aims to target around 1.2 million adolescents between 10 to 19 years old in the regions of Zanzibar, Songwe and Dodoma in Tanzania and has the goal of reducing maternal mortality, preventing unwanted pregnancies, preventing and

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<sup>2572</sup> Canada hosts 54th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of Caribbean Development Bank and announces development funding for Caribbean region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-hosts-54th-annual-meeting-of-board-of-governors-of-caribbean-development-bank-and-announces-development-funding-for-caribbean-region.html>

<sup>2573</sup> Increased support for victims of sexual violence in the Madawaska and Victoria counties of New Brunswick, Department of Justice Canada (New Brunswick) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-justice/news/2024/06/increased-support-for-victims-of-sexual-violence-in-the-madawaska-and-victoria-counties-of-new-brunswick.html>

<sup>2574</sup> The Sexual Misconduct Support and Resource Centre funds 11 new projects through the Community Support for Sexual Misconduct Survivors Grant Program, Department of National Defence (Ottawa) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2024/06/the-sexual-misconduct-support-and-resource-centre-funds-11-new-projects-through-the-community-support-for-sexual-misconduct-survivors-grant-program.html>

<sup>2575</sup> UNICEF, UNFPA and Canada partner with the Government of Bangladesh to improve the access of 6 million children and almost 2 million women to essential healthcare services, UNICEF (Dhaka) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/en/press-releases/unicef-unfpa-and-canada-partner-government-bangladesh-improve-access-6-million>

<sup>2576</sup> UNFPA, Canada boosts UNFPA's efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa with CAD 10 million grant, UNFPA (New York) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://esaro.unfpa.org/en/news/canada-boosts-unfpas-efforts-sub-saharan-africa-cad-10-million-grant>

<sup>2577</sup> Global Affairs Canada, UNICEF and UNFPA join hands to support adolescent girls in Tanzania, UNFPA (Dar Es Salaam) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://tanzania.unfpa.org/en/news/global-affairs-canada-unicef-and-unfpa-join-hands-support-adolescent-girls-tanzania>

treating sexually transmitted infections and improving the overall economic empowerment of adolescent girls in Tanzania.

On 23 July 2024, the Government of Canada granted CAD950,000 to the Democratic Republic of Congo through UNFPA as part of its goal to strengthen access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights.<sup>2578</sup> This funding aims to support the needs of vulnerable women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo and address issues related to maternal and neonatal mortality.

On 24 September 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced at the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly that over CAD200 million in funding would be allocated to international projects aimed at advancing the comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls.<sup>2579</sup> These projects will focus on research and policy as well as encouraging advocacy and youth involvement in SRHR.

On 28 September 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau made a statement on International Safe Abortion Day reaffirming the rights of women to make decisions about their bodies.<sup>2580</sup> The Prime Minister also restated the government's commitment to the Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund which aims to remove barriers to access to abortion and family planning services and increase access to safe abortion services for women, youth and Indigenous, racialized and 2SLGBTQI+ communities.

On 29 October 2024, the Government of Canada announced legislation that would require charities providing reproductive health services to state whether they offer abortion services or abortion referrals.<sup>2581</sup> The legislation aims to improve the information people have access to when seeking reproductive health services.

On 16 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau announced CAD9 million in funding over seven years to the United Nations Population Fund to protect and advance the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls in Peru.<sup>2582</sup> The initiative aims to improve access to health, education and justice and is projected to reach over 40,000 women and girls.

On 19 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau announced significant funding initiatives at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro to protect the health and rights of women and girls in Latin America.<sup>2583</sup> Over four years, CAD 9.5 million will be provided to a Canadian non-governmental organization to support health programs for women and girls in Bolivia, Guatemala and Peru.

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<sup>2578</sup> DRC: Canada responds to the humanitarian needs of women in terms of health and sexual and reproductive rights, UNFPA (New York) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://drc.unfpa.org/en/news/drc-canada-responds-humanitarian-needs-women-terms-health-and-sexual-and-reproductive-rights>

<sup>2579</sup> Canada announces over \$200 million in initiatives at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister of Canada (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2024/09/24/canada-announces-over-200-million-initiatives-79th-session-united>

<sup>2580</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on International Safe Abortion Day, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 28 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2024/09/28/statement-prime-minister-international-safe-abortion-day>

<sup>2581</sup> Government of Canada protecting reproductive freedom and covering essential health care costs, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/10/government-of-canada-protecting-reproductive-freedom-and-covering-essential-health-care-costs.html>

<sup>2582</sup> Prime Minister announces significant supports to strengthen partnerships across APEC economies, Prime Minister of Canada (Lima) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2024/11/16/prime-minister-announces-significant-supports-strengthen-partnerships>

<sup>2583</sup> Prime Minister announces key investments to strengthen G20 partnerships and support shared priorities, Prime Minister of Canada (Rio de Janeiro) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2024/11/19/prime-minister-announces-key-investments-strengthen-g20-partnerships>

On 25 November 2024, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth Marci Ien issued a statement addressing the high prevalence of gender-based violence and outlining initiatives to prevent further harm.<sup>2584</sup> These initiatives include advancing the implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, collaborating with Indigenous Peoples to fund emergency shelters for victims of violence and prioritizing women's health and safety as a key focus.

On 15 January 2025, Minister Ien announced CAD40 million in funding for 170 women's and Indigenous women's organizations through the Women's Capacity Fund.<sup>2585</sup> Organizations receiving funding include The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Brain Injury through Research, Dragonfly Centre Sexual Violence Services and others that provide health services for women including sexual and reproductive health services.<sup>2586</sup>

On 7 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD248.2 million to fund 14 projects aimed at developing and strengthening health systems, particularly for women and girls, in Africa, Asia and the Americas.<sup>2587</sup> These initiatives aim to improve sexual and reproductive health and human rights for women and girls in countries such as Malawi, South Sudan, Kenya, Mozambique and Guatemala.

On 11 February 2025, Minister Joly convened a Women Foreign Ministers meeting to condemn the Taliban's oppression of women and girls in Afghanistan, particularly restrictions on education, healthcare and public participation.<sup>2588</sup> The meeting called for international action to hold the Taliban accountable, urged the reversal of restrictive policies and reaffirmed support for Afghan women's health and rights.

On 13 February 2025, Minister of Health Mark Holland announced an investment of CAD1.7 million through the Sexual and Reproductive Health Fund to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services for women in underserved communities.<sup>2589</sup> This funding will support projects by the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and the Sex Information and Education Council of Canada, focusing on training, awareness campaigns, menopause care and combating misinformation in sexual health education.

On 26 February 2025, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) hosted the "Closing the Gap: Action for Equity in Breast Cancer Screening" event to spread awareness about the accessibility and inclusivity in breast

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<sup>2584</sup> The Government of Canada issues statement to urge everyone to "Come Together, Act Now" to end gender-based violence in Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/11/the-government-of-canada-issues-statement-to-urge-everyone-to-come-together-act-now-to-end-gender-based-violence-in-canada.html>

<sup>2585</sup> Government of Canada strengthens women's sector capacity to reduce barriers and advance gender equality, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-strengthens-womens-sector-capacity-to-reduce-barriers-and-advance-gender-equality.html>

<sup>2586</sup> List of organizations for Women's Capacity Fund, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/funding/women-capacity-fund/list-organizations.html>

<sup>2587</sup> Background: Canada announces projects to strengthen health systems in Africa, Asia, and the Americas, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 February 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-announces-projects-to-strengthen-health-systems-in-africa-asia-and-the-americas.html>

<sup>2588</sup> Women foreign ministers' statement on the ongoing and systematic violations of human rights in Afghanistan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/women-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-ongoing-and-systematic-violations-of-human-rights-in-afghanistan.html>

<sup>2589</sup> Government of Canada Provides \$1.7 million to Improve Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-provides-17-million-to-improve-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-services.html>

cancer screenings, especially for marginalized populations.<sup>2590</sup> PHAC is working to analyze national cancer trends in order to make breast cancer screenings more equitable and accessible across Canada.

On 27 February 2025, Minister Holland announced Canada's first national pharmacare agreement with Manitoba.<sup>2591</sup> Per this agreement, the federal government will provide over CAD219 million in funding over four years to promote universal access to free contraceptives, hormone replacement therapy and diabetes medication for Manitoba residents. This action supports women's health and sexual and reproductive health for approximately 350,000 people.

On 5 March 2025, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Ya'ara Saks announced CAD17.5 million in funding for thirteen projects to address familial and gender-based violence in Canada.<sup>2592</sup> Over the next five years, these projects will present avenues to address these forms of violence, particularly as they are linked to health issues including substance abuse, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.

On 6 March 2025, Minister Holland and British Columbia's Minister of Health Josie Osborne signed a bilateral pharmacare agreement for British Columbia.<sup>2593</sup> Per this agreement, more than CAD670 million in funding will enable universal access to free contraceptives, hormone replacement therapy and diabetes medication for the province over the next four years.

On 6 March 2025, Minister Joly, Minister Hussen and Minister of Export Promotion Mary Ng launched the federal government's Africa Strategy aimed at addressing socioeconomic needs, sustainable development and improving cooperation and diplomacy.<sup>2594</sup> As part of this strategy, Minister Joly announced over CAD25.7 million to support survivors of sexual violence and other safety and security needs in Sudan, whilst Minister Hussen announced CAD869.5 million in funding for over 50 projects to advance priorities including global health.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Holland and Prince Edward Island's (PEI) Minister of Health and Wellness Mark McLane signed a pharmacare agreement whereby the federal government will provide CAD30 million over the next four years to enable universal access to free contraceptives, hormone replacement therapy and diabetes medication for PEI residents.<sup>2595</sup>

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<sup>2590</sup> The Government of Canada highlights progress on breast cancer screening research and implementation in Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2025/02/the-government-of-canada-highlights-progress-on-breast-cancer-screening-research-and-implementation-in-canada.html>

<sup>2591</sup> Government of Canada signs pharmacare agreement with Manitoba to improve affordable access to medications, Health Canada (Winnipeg) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-signs-pharmacare-agreement-with-manitoba-to-improve-affordable-access-to-medications.html>

<sup>2592</sup> Government of Canada funds new initiatives to prevent family and gender-based violence, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-funds-new-initiatives-to-prevent-family-and-gender-based-violence.html>

<sup>2593</sup> Government of Canada signs pharmacare agreement with British Columbia to improve universal access to free medications, Health Canada (Vancouver) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-signs-pharmacare-agreement-with-british-columbia-to-improve-universal-access-to-free-medications.html>

<sup>2594</sup> Canada launches its first global Africa Strategy: A partnership for shared prosperity and security, Global Affairs Canada (Toronto) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-launches-its-first-global-africa-strategy-a-partnership-for-shared-prosperity-and-security.html>

<sup>2595</sup> Government of Canada signs pharmacare agreement with Prince Edward Island to improve universal access to free medications, Health Canada (Charlottetown) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-signs-pharmacare-agreement-with-prince-edward-island-to-improve-universal-access-to-free-medications.html>



On 7 March 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD675 million in funding between 2026 and 2030 for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization.<sup>2596</sup> In part, this will enable 120 million girls to be vaccinated for human papillomavirus which is a leading cause of cervical cancer. This funding will also increase the supply of mpox vaccines. Overall, this funding will help to reduce vulnerabilities for marginalized groups including women and girls.

On 9 March 2025, Minister Hussen and Member of Parliament Parm Bains announced CAD272.1 million for Bangladeshi and Indo-Pacific development projects.<sup>2597</sup> These projects will focus on women's empowerment through education and training, increasing gender equality and supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights.

On 20 March 2025, Minister of Health Kamal Khera's representative Member of Parliament Brendan Hanley and Yukon's Minister of Health and Social Services Tracy-Anne McPhee announced a pharmacare agreement whereby the federal government will provide CAD9.5 million over four years to enable universal access to free contraceptives and diabetes medicines.<sup>2598</sup> This will support the sexual and reproductive health and rights of over 12,000 residents in the territory.

On 8 April 2025, Global Affairs Canada joined a partnership with Opportunity International Canada to launch the WE CARE South Asia initiative, a five-year CAD9.4 million initiative aimed at improving the health of marginalized groups, particularly women and girls, in India, Bangladesh and Nepal.<sup>2599</sup> This collaboration will help create long-term change in targeted communities, making health services and information more accessible.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Canada has made several strong investments in health service provision for women in addition to taking action to protect sexual and reproductive health and rights internationally. In doing so, Canada has addressed the commitment pillars of quality and adequate healthcare.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Rhea Uppal*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 28 June 2024, Santé publique France, the national public health agency, strongly recommended the vaccination of pregnant women against whooping cough to protect infants under six months of age as part of

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<sup>2596</sup> Minister Hussen renews Canada's pledge for global health and lifesaving vaccines, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-hussen-renews-canadas-pledge-for-global-health-and-lifesaving-vaccines.html>

<sup>2597</sup> Minister Hussen announces support for development projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-hussen-announces-support-for-development-projects-in-bangladesh-and-the-indo-pacific-region.html>

<sup>2598</sup> Government of Canada signs pharmacare agreement with Yukon to improve universal access to free medications, Health Canada (Whitehorse) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-signs-pharmacare-agreement-with-yukon-to-improve-universal-access-to-free-medications.html>

<sup>2599</sup> Opportunity International Canada Launches WE CARE South Asia, a 5-year CAD \$9.4M Project in Collaboration with Global Affairs Canada, Canada Newswire (Toronto) 8 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/opportunity-international-canada-launches-we-care-south-asia-a-5-year-cad-9-4m-project-in-collaboration-with-global-affairs-canada-881936486.html>

France's commitment to ensuring universal access to health services for women and improving the quality of healthcare.<sup>2600</sup>

On 7 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs granted EUR300,000 to fund the project "Provision of Integrated Comprehensive Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Interventions for Refugee and Vulnerable Populations Affected by the Syria Crisis in Jordan."<sup>2601</sup> The project is aimed at providing high-quality and integrated GBV services for around 380 people and SRH services for around 1,000 individuals in camps and outside camps. The project aims to provide these services primarily for Syrian refugees and vulnerable populations in Jordan.

On 1 September 2024, the French health service removed the need for a prescription to get screened for common sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including chlamydia, syphilis, gonorrhoea and hepatitis B.<sup>2602</sup> The tests are now offered by medical clinics on a walk-in basis, increasing the accessibility of STI testing and promoting sexual health by preventing the transmission of STIs through early testing. STI testing will be free for individuals aged 25 and under and 40 per cent of the cost of testing for those over the age of 25 will be covered by France's national health insurance.

On 11 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs reaffirmed its intention to enact a gender equality action plan for 2024-2026.<sup>2603</sup> The new plan will include a dedicated segment on women's health and a zero-tolerance policy for sexual and gender-based violence.

On 25 September 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot made an address to the United Nations announcing that France will adopt a feminist foreign policy strategy that will prioritise the rights of women, including SRHR, and gender equality.<sup>2604</sup> He also reaffirmed France's commitment to combat gender-based violence online.

On 10 October 2024, the Deputy Secretary General for the mission to the United Nations General Assembly Tudor Alexis made a statement reaffirming France's condemnation of child exploitation and sexual violence, including sexual exploitation, forced marriage and genital mutilation.<sup>2605</sup> These actions support sexual and reproductive rights for women and girls.

On 26 November 2024, the French government announced new measures allowing women to file sexual assault complaints with emergency or gynecology departments at hospitals.<sup>2606</sup> This initiative, set to expand to 377 hospitals by 2025, aims to enhance accessibility for victims of sexual assault by integrating legal and medical support in one location.

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<sup>2600</sup> Coqueluche en France. Point au 28 juin 2024, Santé publique France (Paris) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/maladies-et-traumatismes/maladies-a-prevention-vaccinale/coqueluche/documents/bulletin-national/coqueluche-en-france.-point-au-28-juin-2024>

<sup>2601</sup> UNFPA Jordan Receives Crucial Funding from the French Embassy to Support GBV and SRH Services, UNFPA (Amman) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://jordantimes.com/news/local/france-grants-300000-euros-unfpa-refugee-health-protection-project-jordan>

<sup>2602</sup> Why France wants to make it easier than ever to get tested for STIs, RFI (Paris) 7 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20240907-why-france-wants-to-make-it-easier-than-ever-to-get-tested-for-stis>

<sup>2603</sup> Feminist Diplomacy – Gender equality action plan (11 September 2024), France Diplomacy (Paris) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/feminist-diplomacy-gender-equality-action-plan-11-sept-2024>

<sup>2604</sup> Women's rights are a priority of French foreign policy, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/women-s-rights-are-a-priority-of-french-foreign-policy>

<sup>2605</sup> France calls for the protection of children's rights, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-calls-for-the-protection-of-children-s-rights>

<sup>2606</sup> France unveils new measures to protect women in wake of Pélicot affair, France 24 (Paris) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024 [www.france24.com/en/france/20241126-france-unveils-new-measures-to-protect-women-in-wake-of-pelicot-affair](http://www.france24.com/en/france/20241126-france-unveils-new-measures-to-protect-women-in-wake-of-pelicot-affair)

On 28 January 2025, the Government of France partnered with Aga Khan Health Services to launch the East Africa Comprehensive Cancer Project focused on women's cancers in Tanzania and Kenya.<sup>2607</sup> Through the French Development Agency, France is providing the majority of the EUR10.2 million grant for this four-year initiative that will reach approximately 7.4 million people through cancer awareness campaigns, provide breast and cervical cancer screening for 400,000 women and target 800,000 girls in Tanzania and 2.4 million girls in Kenya with Human Papillomavirus vaccination campaigns.

On 12 February 2025, the French National Assembly passed legislation ensuring comprehensive coverage of breast cancer treatment under the national health insurance system.<sup>2608</sup> This law provides 100 per cent reimbursement for essential treatments, free psychological care, wigs, adapted undergarments and coverage for breast reconstruction. It also establishes a new fund for additional non-reimbursable care. This initiative aligns with efforts to ensure universal access to cancer treatment for women across Europe.

On 7 March 2025, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs announced that France has launched its first international feminist foreign policy strategy (2025-2030), which was developed with over 200 partners.<sup>2609</sup> The strategy focuses on reproductive rights, supporting feminist organizations, girls' education, combating gender violence, women's economic empowerment and increasing female participation in decision-making processes.

On 7 March 2025, Minister of Labor, Health, Solidarity and Families Catherine Vautrin and Minister for Health and Access to Care Yannick Neuder announced new measures to strengthen access to abortion and guarantee the right to abortion within France.<sup>2610</sup> Measures include expanding the ability of midwives and healthcare centres to perform instrumental abortions, simplifying agreements between private professionals and hospitals, launching a national awareness campaign to combat misinformation and conducting a national survey to identify barriers to access.

On 25 March 2025, Minister Vautrin and Minister Neuder announced that government funding for hospitals will increase by an average of 0.5 per cent in 2025 to support access to effective healthcare.<sup>2611</sup> Key sectors that will see increased funding include medical, surgical, and obstetric care; rehabilitation services; pediatric care and surgery.

On 31 March 2025, Minister Vautrin, Minister of State Élisabeth Borne, Minister Baptiste, Minister Neuder and Minister for Equality between Women and Men and the Fight against Discrimination Aurore Bergé announced new measures to improve the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of endometriosis.<sup>2612</sup> As part of

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<sup>2607</sup> France partners with Aga Khan Health Services to combat women's cancers in East Africa, Aga Khan Health Services (Dar es Salaam) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/france-partners-aga-khan-health-services-combat-womens-cancers-east-africa>

<sup>2608</sup> Prise en charge intégrale du cancer du sein par l'assurance maladie, Assemblée Nationale (Paris) 16 April 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 February 2025. [https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/16/dossiers/prise\\_en\\_charge\\_integrale\\_cancer\\_du\\_sein](https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/16/dossiers/prise_en_charge_integrale_cancer_du_sein)

<sup>2609</sup> International Women's Day – France launches its international strategy for a feminist foreign policy, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/international-women-s-day-france-launches-its-international-strategy-for-a>

<sup>2610</sup> Renforcement de l'accès à l'IVG : de nouvelles mesures pour garantir un droit effectif pour toutes les femmes, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 7 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/renforcement-de-l-acces-a-l-ivg-de-nouvelles-mesures-pour-garantir-un-droit>

<sup>2611</sup> Le Gouvernement annonce une augmentation du financement des établissements de santé en 2025, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 25 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/le-gouvernement-annonce-une-augmentation-du-financement-des-etablissements-de>

<sup>2612</sup> Endométriose : des avancées concrètes et de nouvelles mesures fortes annoncées par le Gouvernement, Ministère du Travail, de la Santé, des Solidarités et des Familles (Paris) 31 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiques-de-presse/article/endometriose-des-avancees-concretes-et-de-nouvelles-mesures-fortes-annoncees>

the national strategy, measures include expanding a saliva-based diagnostic programme by opening 20 additional centres and national school-based prevention initiatives to raise awareness among young girls.

France has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. France has taken strong action for health services for women and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all through funding for Syrian refugees and vulnerable populations in Jordan and making STI testing available without a prescription. In doing so, France has addressed the commitment pillars of quality and affordability.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Shonita Srinivasan*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 1 November 2024, the German government's Self-Determination Act came into effect.<sup>2613</sup> The legislation aims to improve the rights of transgender, intersex and nonbinary people by allowing them to change official record to alter their name and gender or have gender markers on official record removed after a three-month period between application and official record changes.

On 4 November 2024, Germany donated USD27 million to the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents' Deliver the Future campaign.<sup>2614</sup> This funding will be used to expand health services for women, children and adolescents, including maternal and reproductive health.

On 13 November 2024, Minister for Women Lisa Paus announced that the Pregnancy Conflict Act which aims to prevent the harassment of pregnant women accessing "pregnancy counseling centers and facilities that perform abortions" has come into effect.<sup>2615</sup> This law will ensure that women can access necessary medical care and counseling without barriers.

On 14 November 2024, the Government Commission for Modern and Needs-Based Hospital Care presented its recommendations to improve quality obstetric care.<sup>2616</sup> The recommendations call for the "establishment of a comprehensive network of perinatal medicine competence networks," increased accessibility of maternal clinics and efforts to ensure "immediate neonatal emergency care" in the medium-term. The Commission also announced that the annual EUR120 million funding for obstetric care in 2023 and 2024 will be made permanent to support quality obstetric care.

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<sup>2613</sup> Germany's transgender rights law takes effect, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-new-trans-law-gender-debate-lgbtq-intersex-nonbinary-v3/a-70604185>

<sup>2614</sup> Further Investment in the Health of Women, Children and Adolescents, as the GFF Receives More Than US\$115 Million in New Financing from Partners, Global Financing Facility (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/news/press-release/further-investment-health-women-children-and-adolescents-gff-receives-more-us115>

<sup>2615</sup> Schwangerschaftskonfliktgesetz: Belästigung von Schwangeren zukünftig Ordnungswidrigkeit, Bundesfrauenministerin für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 13 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/schwangerschaftskonfliktgesetz-belaestigung-von-schwangeren-zukuenftig-ordnungswidrigkeit-248964>

<sup>2616</sup> Regierungskommission legt Empfehlung für zukunftsfähige Geburtshilfe vor, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 14 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/regierungskommission-legt-empfehlung-fuer-zukunftsfaehige-geburtshilfe-vor-pm-14-11-2024.html>

On 13 January 2025, the Government of Germany committed EUR12 million to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)'s Maternal and Newborn Health Fund until 2027.<sup>2617</sup> This funding will support UNFPA's efforts to provide maternal and newborn health services to women and girls as well as comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights.

On 31 January 2025, the Government of Germany passed a law extending maternity leave protection to women who suffer a miscarriage after 13 weeks of pregnancy.<sup>2618</sup> Under the new regulation, which will go into effect on 1 June 2025, women who miscarry after the 13th week will be entitled to the same maternity leave benefits as those who give birth. This supports women's physical and mental health rehabilitation following miscarriage.

On 14 February 2025, the Federal Council passed the Health Care Strengthening Act which aims to increase ease when accessing healthcare by introducing flat fees for primary healthcare providers.<sup>2619</sup> In addition, the Act will support sexual and reproductive health and rights by waiving the age requirements to access emergency contraception, in cases of sexual abuse or assault.

On 18 February 2025, the WomenX Collective established its first Global Hub in Berlin, partnering with Charité – Universitätsmedizin and the Berlin Institute of Health to transform women's health through innovation.<sup>2620</sup> Under the new initiative, WomenX will implement a three-stage approach focused on adapting, assessing and scaling to develop women-centered healthcare solutions. The hub aims to support millions of women worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, through catalytic funding, collaboration and modern technology.

On 2 April 2025, Minister of Health Karl Lauterbach announced a EUR2 million contribution from the Government of Germany to the World Health Organization (WHO), amidst the United States' withdrawal from the WHO and cuts to international assistance.<sup>2621</sup> This contribution will help strengthen the WHO which supports "global health surveillance, pandemic prevention, disease control and equitable access to healthcare."

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Germany has taken strong action to support comprehensive and adequate reproductive and sexual health and rights. It has also taken strong action towards universal access to quality health services for women through its funding for the Global Financing Facility and funding for obstetric care.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Shonita Srinivasan*

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<sup>2617</sup> Germany leading the way in supporting maternal health in the most vulnerable countries, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/germany-leading-way-supporting-maternal-health-most-vulnerable-countries>

<sup>2618</sup> Germany offers maternity leave for women after miscarriage, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://p.dw.com/p/4prGT>

<sup>2619</sup> Bundesrat beschließt Gesundheitsversorgungsstärkungsgesetz, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 14 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/bundesrat-beschliesst-gesundheitsversorgungsstaerkungsgesetz-pm-14-02-25.html>

<sup>2620</sup> WomenX Collective takes off: Transforming women's health through innovation, Global Health Hub Germany (Berlin) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.globalhealthhub.de/en/news/detail/womenx-collective-takes-off-transforming-womens-health-through-innovation>

<sup>2621</sup> Deutschland unterstützt Weltgesundheitsorganisation, Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Berlin) 2 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/deutschland-unterstuetzt-who-pm-02-04-2025.html>

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 25 June 2024, Italian ambassador to Ethiopia Agostino Palese and Ethiopia's State Minister of Finance Semereta Sewasew signed an agreement regarding services for gender-based violence and mental health in Ethiopia.<sup>2622</sup> As part of the agreement, Italy will provide EUR4.2 million in bilateral aid and EUR2.5 million for Civil Society Organisations. The funds will support health interventions in Tigre, Amhara, Afar and Addis Ababa, advancing Italy's commitment to health services and gender equality.

On 23 July 2024, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) published information reviewing its recent actions in Senegal, where it has been promoting women's rights regarding health.<sup>2623</sup> AICS has supported support centres to aid the mental health of women affected by gender-based violence and has ensured that the same rights apply to women with disabilities in Senegal. AICS actions both take into account victims' lived experiences and ensure equitable access for women with disabilities, denoting support for quality health services.

On 9 September 2024, AICS organized the "Synergies for Health" event in Rome, promoting various health initiatives in Africa.<sup>2624</sup> Highlighted projects included the WeMen! project, which is supported by AICS and aims to augment the treatment of women for HIV/AIDS in Malawi.

On 1 November 2024, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) announced that Italy allocated EUR2.5 million in funding to UNFPA's core resources and EUR4 million to the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.<sup>2625</sup> This contribution aims to prevent female genital mutilation and support adequate reproductive health and rights of women and girls worldwide.

On 25 November 2024, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani issued a statement emphasizing Italy's responsibility to lead and promote gender equality while preventing discrimination and violence against women.<sup>2626</sup> Minister Tajani announced the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' participation in this year's "Orange the World: End Violence Against Women Now!" campaign, promoted by UN Women, to demonstrate support for eliminating violence against women and advancing women's empowerment.

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<sup>2622</sup> 7.2 million euro from Italy to Ethiopia for mental health services, ANSA Brasil (Rome) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://ansabrazil.com.br/english/news/news\\_from\\_embassies/2024/06/25/7.2-million-euro-from-italy-to-ethiopia-for-mental-health-services\\_1e098610-c0cd-471d-9738-7b0c5865f8bf.html](https://ansabrazil.com.br/english/news/news_from_embassies/2024/06/25/7.2-million-euro-from-italy-to-ethiopia-for-mental-health-services_1e098610-c0cd-471d-9738-7b0c5865f8bf.html)

<sup>2623</sup> The Italian and Senegalese Governments Together for the Promotion of Women's Rights in Senegal: AICS Deputy Technical Directorate Mission from July 3 to 11, 2024, Agenzia Italiana Per La Cooperazione Allo Sviluppo (Rome) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.aics.gov.it/news/il-governo-italiano-e-senegalese-insieme-per-la-promozione-dei-diritti-delle-donne-in-senegal-missione-della-vice-direzione-tecnica-dellaics-dal-3-al-11-luglio-2024/>

<sup>2624</sup> Synergies for Health: Experiences and Challenges of the 5% Global Fund Call in Italy-Africa Health Cooperation, Agenzia Italiana Per La Cooperazione Allo Sviluppo (Rome) 9 September 2024. Translation provided by: Google Translate. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.aics.gov.it/news/sinergie-per-la-salute-esperienze-e-sfide-del-bando-5-fondo-globale-nella-cooperazione-sanitaria-italia-africa/>

<sup>2625</sup> Italy's commitment to ending female genital mutilation and supporting UNFPA's core resources, UNFPA (New York) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/italy%E2%80%99s-commitment-ending-female-genital-mutilation-and-supporting-unfpa%E2%80%99s-core-resources>

<sup>2626</sup> The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassies join the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Consolato Generale d'Italia Toronto (Toronto) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. [https://constoronto.esteri.it/en/news/dal\\_consolato/2024/11/la-farnesina-e-le-ambasciate-aderiscono-alla-giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/](https://constoronto.esteri.it/en/news/dal_consolato/2024/11/la-farnesina-e-le-ambasciate-aderiscono-alla-giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/)

On 5 December 2024, the Ministry of Health released a report, using data from 2022, on maternal health issues including abortion.<sup>2627</sup> The findings of this report will help Italy better address women's health issues going forward, notably using data found regarding regionally concentrated conscientious objection amongst gynecologists to performing certain services.

On 30 January 2025, the Government of Italy collaborated with UNFPA to invest EUR1.5 million for gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health services for Syrian refugees and vulnerable populations in Jordan's Azraq Refugee Camp and Azraq City.<sup>2628</sup> This initiative aims to deliver essential healthcare and protection for women and girls while promoting gender equality and sustainable development in Jordan.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Italy has taken strong action to support the comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls through funding for UNFPA and has supported adequacy through taking action to correct both regional and international disparities in women's health services. Moreover, Italy has supported equitable and experience-conscious care for victims of gender-based violence in Senegal, denoting support for quality health services.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Rhea Uppal*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 26 July 2024, Japan contributed USD2.4 million to the United Nations Population Fund to support its humanitarian response in Yemen.<sup>2629</sup> The new funding aims to provide over 120,000 vulnerable women and girls with access to life-saving reproductive health and protection services amid Yemen's ongoing conflict.

On 13 August 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Kyrgyz Republic signed an agreement whereby Japan will provide JPY1.5 billion over 56 months to supply and install diagnosis and treatment equipment and provide consultation services.<sup>2630</sup> This equipment will be used to improve quality health services for breast cancer and cardiovascular disease.

On 7 October 2024, Ambassador to Japan to Afghanistan Takayoshi Kuromiya and the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific of UN-Habitat Representative Ishigaki Kazuko signed an agreement to grant Afghanistan approximately JPY1.17 billion to build healthcare infrastructure in urban areas.<sup>2631</sup> The project aims to improve

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<sup>2627</sup> RELAZIONE DEL MINISTRO DELLA SALUTE SULLA ATTUAZIONE DELLA LEGGE CONTENENTE NORME PER LA TUTELA SOCIALE DELLA MATERNITÀ E PER L'INTERRUZIONE VOLONTARIA DI GRAVIDANZA (LEGGE 194/78), Ministero Della Salute (Rome) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. [https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C\\_17\\_pubblicazioni\\_3493\\_allegato.pdf](https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_3493_allegato.pdf)

<sup>2628</sup> UNFPA and Government of Italy Partner to Enhance Health and Protection Services for Refugees and Vulnerable Communities in Jordan, UNFPA Jordan (Amman) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://jordan.unfpa.org/en/news/unfpa-and-government-italy-partner-enhance-health-and-protection-services-refugees-and>

<sup>2629</sup> Japan contributes US\$2.4 million to strengthen lifesaving services for Yemeni women and girls, UNFPA (Sana'a) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/japan-contributes-us24-million-strengthen-lifesaving-services-yemeni-women-and-girls>

<sup>2630</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with the Kyrgyz Republic: Contributing to improving the quality of public medical services through the provision of medical equipment and to enhance regional connectivity and economic development through the improvement of international airports, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 22 November 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808_31.html)

<sup>2631</sup> アフガニスタンに対する無償資金協力「都市脆弱層のための生活環境改善計画(UN連携/UN-Habitat実施)」に関する書簡の署名・交換, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01242.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01242.html)

the living conditions of women, the disabled and the financially unstable, who constitute Afghanistan's most vulnerable urban population.

On 29 October 2024, Japan and the Philippines signed an agreement in Manila to provide up to JPY724 million for a new project called "The Project for the Protection and Empowerment of Women for Addressing Women's Health Needs and Responding to Gender-based Violence in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao."<sup>2632</sup> This project aims to create obstetrics and gynaecology clinics that will improve women's access to medical facilities, support and protect them against gender-based violence and provide vocational training opportunities for women.

On 4 November 2024, Japan donated USD10 million to the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents' Deliver the Future campaign.<sup>2633</sup> This funding will be used to expand health services for women, children and adolescents, including maternal and reproductive health. A focus will be placed on Nigeria, Mali and hard-to-reach communities.

On 4 December 2024, JICA signed a memorandum of cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to promote the Menstrual Hygiene Management Project to aid women and girls in Tigray, Ethiopia.<sup>2634</sup> The project, financed with JPY10 million, aims to provide women with access to menstrual supplies and education on menstrual hygiene in the wake of severe socio-economic challenges and conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia.

On 17 December 2024, JICA and Pakistan signed a grant agreement whereby Japan will provide approximately JPY1.5 million over 57 months to procure and install diagnostic and treatment systems and provide consulting services for Pakistan's health services.<sup>2635</sup> This initiative intends to improve quality maternal and child healthcare services in the Kyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On 18 February 2025, JICA and the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah signed a grant agreement whereby Japan will provide approximately JPY1.8 million over 24 months to develop infrastructure and public services for the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.<sup>2636</sup> This initiative aims to provide materials and services to ensure the recovery of the population, including emergency health services and sanitation for women.

On 12 March 2025, Japan provided USD400,000 to support a new project in Afghanistan titled "Meeting the Urgent Needs of Marginalized Populations in Crisis-Affected Provinces through Provision of Quality Reproductive and Maternal Child Health Services."<sup>2637</sup> Implemented by the Afghan Family Guidance

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<sup>2632</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes Concerning Grant Aid "The Project for the Protection and Empowerment of Women for Addressing Women's Health Needs and Responding to Gender-based Violence in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao" to the Republic of the Philippines, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00682.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00682.html)

<sup>2633</sup> Further Investment in the Health of Women, Children and Adolescents, as the GFF Receives More Than US\$115 Million in New Financing from Partners, Global Financing Facility (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/news/press-release/further-investment-health-women-children-and-adolescents-gff-receives-more-us115>

<sup>2634</sup> UNFPA signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to empower women and girls, UNFPA Ethiopia (Addis Ababa) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://ethiopia.unfpa.org/en/news/unfpa-signed-memorandum-cooperation-moc-japan-international-cooperation-agency-jica-empower>

<sup>2635</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Pakistan: Contributing to the improvement of the maternal and child health through provision of medical equipment to flood-affected areas, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241211\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241211_31.html)

<sup>2636</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Palestine: Providing equipment to promote emergency recovery, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250212\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250212_41.html)

<sup>2637</sup> Japan Funds New \$400,000 Project to Support Maternal and Reproductive Health in Afghanistan, ReliefWeb (New York City) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/japan-funds-new-400000-project-support-maternal-and-reproductive-health-afghanistan>



Association, this project aims to improve access to affordable and vital reproductive and maternal healthcare for vulnerable sectors of Afghanistan's population. Strategies include providing high-quality clinic services aiding in delivery care, pre-and-postnatal services and psychosocial support for women. Key activities include breast and cervical cancer screening and referrals for over 30,000 women, training local healthcare providers and supporting comprehensive reproductive and maternal health services.

On 14 March 2025, JICA and Tanzania signed a grant agreement whereby Japan will provide JPY1.527 million over 61 months to support healthcare services in Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma, Pwani, Ruvuma, Kigoma and Zanzibar.<sup>2638</sup> The funding will focus on improving diagnostic and treatment capabilities in one hospital per region, supporting maternal and newborn healthcare in the country.

On 3 April 2025, Japan and UNFPA announced an agreement to implement the "Project for Improvement of Maternal and Child Health Care Services and Adaptive Capacity in Nepal," an initiative aimed at strengthening healthcare systems to withstand the effects of rapid climate change and natural disasters.<sup>2639</sup> Japan has pledged USD1.1 million to support this project, which began in March 2025 and focuses on Nepal's two most vulnerable climate districts, Jajarkot and Rautahat. This project will focus on reconstructing 10 maternal health facilities and training healthcare workers with specialised knowledge on obstetric and newborn care. This project is expected to benefit 47,898 women and newborns per year.

On 9 April 2025, Japan provided approximately USD4 million to UNFPA to expand access to vital reproductive health and services to respond to gender-based violence in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>2640</sup> This initiative aims to provide access to life-saving medical services to women and girls in the form of reproductive health care, prevent and respond to gender-based violence and provide psychosocial support to women.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Japan has taken strong action to support health services for women and sexual and reproductive health and rights through financial support for Yemen, Pakistan, the Philippines, Palestine and Afghanistan. Japan has also addressed quality health services for women by promoting projects dedicated to providing accessible and affordable menstrual products and services in Ethiopia, whilst combatting breast cancer through funding for the Kyrgyz Republic and the Global Financing Facility. Japan has met the three pillars of adequacy, affordability and quality.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isabella Chan-Combrink*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

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<sup>2638</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Tanzania : Contributing to the improvement of the quality of maternal and new-born care through the provision of medical equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250312\\_12.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250312_12.html)

<sup>2639</sup> Japan and UNFPA partner to strengthen maternal and child health services in Nepal, Embassy of Japan in Nepal (Kathmandu) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_ja/11\\_000001\\_01104.html](https://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/11_000001_01104.html)

<sup>2640</sup> Japan Grants USD 4,000,000 to Support Women's Health and Protection Amid Crisis in Gaza and West Bank, UNFPA Palestine (East Jerusalem) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://palestine.unfpa.org/en/news/japan-grants-usd-4000000-support-womens-health-and-protection-amid-crisis-gaza-and-west-bank>

On 11 July 2024, the UK Health Security Agency urged timely vaccination against whooping cough, especially for pregnant women, as vaccination helps to protect infants from the illness.<sup>2641</sup>

On 18 July 2024, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities announced the Family Nurse Partnership programme.<sup>2642</sup> This initiative provides consistent support from experts throughout pregnancy and the first two years of a child's life, enhancing quality maternal health and delivery outcomes.

On 4 October 2024, Health and Social Care Secretary Wes Streeting announced a new trial for the National Health Service app, "111 online" which will enable women with breast cancer symptoms to be directly referred to a diagnostic clinic instead of going through General Practitioners.<sup>2643</sup> This development facilitates quicker diagnoses, leading to more efficient service coverage and potentially improving treatment outcomes for women.

On 7 October 2024, Minister for Women's Health Gillian Merron announced that the National Health Service launched the Avoiding Brain Injury in Childbirth programme to reduce brain injuries during childbirth.<sup>2644</sup> The programme will receive EUR7.8 million in funding to enhance staff capabilities in identifying and responding quickly to distress in babies during labor and addressing obstetric emergencies more effectively.

On 4 November 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the Government of the Netherlands, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation and other donors jointly contributed USD40 million to the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents' Deliver the Future campaign.<sup>2645</sup> This funding will be used to expand quality health services for women, children and adolescents, including maternal and reproductive health. A focus will be placed on Nigeria and Mali.

On 29 November 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer pledged financial support to end all new transmissions of HIV in the United Kingdom by 2030.<sup>2646</sup> To this end, the Prime Minister announced GBP27 million in funding for an expanded version of the highly successful National Health Service (NHS) opt-out HIV testing program in emergency departments as well as GBP37 million in funding for access to essential sexual and reproductive health services and support for vulnerable populations globally. NHS testing addresses health outcomes for women, who benefit from sexual health services less often.

On 6 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer reached an agreement with the independent sector to expand gynecology appointment capacity.<sup>2647</sup> Independent companies can now provide additional appointments

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<sup>2641</sup> UKHSA encourages timely vaccination as whooping cough cases rise, UK Health Security Agency (London) 11 July 2024.

Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-encourages-timely-vaccination-as-whooping-cough-cases-rise>

<sup>2642</sup> Family Nurse Partnership programme, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (London) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/family-nurse-partnership-programme>

<sup>2643</sup> Trial to let women use breast diagnostic clinics through NHS App, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/trial-to-let-women-use-breast-diagnostic-clinics-through-nhs-app>

<sup>2644</sup> New NHS programme to reduce brain injury in childbirth trialled, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-nhs-programme-to-reduce-brain-injury-in-childbirth-trialled>

<sup>2645</sup> Further Investment in the Health of Women, Children and Adolescents, as the GFF Receives More Than US\$115 Million in New Financing from Partners, Global Financing Facility (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/news/press-release/further-investment-health-women-children-and-adolescents-gff-receives-more-us115>

<sup>2646</sup> "I am determined this generation will be the one that ends new cases of HIV within England by 2030", Prime Minister said ahead of World AIDS Day, Prime Minister's Office (London) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/i-am-determined-this-generation-will-be-the-one-that-ends-new-cases-of-hiv-within-england-by-2030-prime-minister-said-ahead-of-world-aids-day>

<sup>2647</sup> Deal between NHS and independent sector to cut NHS waiting lists, Prime Minister's Office (London) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/deal-between-nhs-and-independent-sector-to-cut-nhs-waiting-lists>

alongside the National Health Service, which will significantly reduce waiting lists and increase access to healthcare for women.

On 15 January 2025, Minister Merron and Minister for Development Anneliese Dodds announced GBP5.5 million in funding for research and development related to the Mpox virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo and neighbouring countries.<sup>2648</sup> This research will focus on vulnerable groups including mothers and newborns.

On 4 February 2025, the Department of Health and Social Care committed GBP11 million to the Early Detection using Information Technology in Health trial, which uses Artificial Intelligence to detect breast cancer.<sup>2649</sup> If successful, the technology will free up doctors' availability for other patients, accelerate diagnoses, reduce waiting times and prevent an estimated 1,300 deaths.

On 7 February 2025, the Department of Health and Social Care announced approximately GBP200 million in funding for public health services including sexual health clinics and school facilities.<sup>2650</sup> The government also announced that funding for public health grants will be increased by 5.4 per cent or 3 per cent "in real terms" to GBP3.858 billion for 2025-2026.

On 11 February 2025, the United Kingdom announced GBP1.5 million in funding to support a public health campaign against HIV in England.<sup>2651</sup> Over the next five years, the campaign will provide 20,000 self-sampling and testing kits, address stigma and health disparities and raise awareness about HIV transmission to work towards the goal of eliminating HIV in the UK by 2030. In addition, the government announced the one-year extension of its HIV Prevention England programme.

On 5 April 2025, the Department of Business and Trade announced a new legal right granting eligible parents up to 12 weeks of Neonatal Care Leave and Pay if their newborn requires neonatal care, going into effect on 6 April 2025.<sup>2652</sup> Part of the Employment Rights Bill, this day-one entitlement aims to support around 60,000 parents annually, allowing them to be with their newborns without financial strain.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. The United Kingdom has taken strong action for health services for women and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all through the Family Nurse Partnership programme, mpox vaccines, Avoiding Brain Injury in Childbirth programme and funding for HIV services. In doing so, it has addressed the commitment pillars of quality and adequacy.

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

*Analyst: Tessa Little*

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<sup>2648</sup> UK invests £5.5 million to tackle mpox in sub-Saharan Africa, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-invests-55-million-to-tackle-mpox-in-sub-saharan-africa>

<sup>2649</sup> World-leading AI trial to tackle breast cancer launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-ai-trial-to-tackle-breast-cancer-launched#full-publication-update-history>

<sup>2650</sup> Local public health services given £200 million boost, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-public-health-services-given-200-million-boost>

<sup>2651</sup> Government ramps up efforts to end HIV transmissions in England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ramps-up-efforts-to-end-hiv-transmissions-in-england>

<sup>2652</sup> Neonatal care leave and pay right for thousands of new parents, Department for Business and Trade (London) 5 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/neonatal-care-leave-and-pay-right-for-thousands-of-new-parents>

**United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 8 July 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced USD27.5 million in funding to improve women's behavioural health through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.<sup>2653</sup> Funding will be used to increase access to healthcare services and capabilities to address mental health, substance abuse and gender-based violence affecting women. Of this, USD15 million will go towards the Community-Based Maternal Behavioral Health Services Program which provides access to maternal mental health and substance abuse treatment for pregnant and postpartum women while USD12.5 million will go towards the Women's Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center which supports all women with mental health or substance abuse issues.

On 31 July 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced over USD68 million in funding to support HIV care for "women, infants, children and youth."<sup>2654</sup> This funding will support low-income women, who face more barriers to care, through culturally responsive programs that are tailored to the socioeconomic realities of patients.

On 27 August 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services announced over USD558 million in funding to improve maternal health.<sup>2655</sup> Of this, USD440 million will be allocated to expand maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting services, enabling trained health workers to provide prenatal and postpartum care. An additional USD118.5 million is being invested in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention over five years to strengthen public health infrastructure in 46 states, aimed at identifying and preventing pregnancy-related deaths.

On 11 September 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced nearly USD290 million in additional humanitarian assistance to Ukraine.<sup>2656</sup> The aid will go through the United Nations, including the UN Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund which will help provide protection assistance to women and girls, disease prevention, psychosocial assistance and assistance for survivors of gender-based violence.

On 20 September 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services launched a program called "Expanding Access to Women's Health" program, allocating USD9 million to enhance health coverage and access to critical health benefits for women in 14 U.S. states.<sup>2657</sup> The funding supports initiatives and educational campaigns

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<sup>2653</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$27.5 Million in Funding Opportunities Enhancing Women's Behavioral Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 6 October 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/08/biden-harris-administration-announces-funding-opportunities-enhancing-women-behavioral-health.html>

<sup>2654</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$68 Million to Improve Access to HIV Care for Women, Infants, Children and Youth, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/07/31/biden-harris-administration-announces-more-68-million-improve-access-hiv-care-women-infants-children-youth.html>

<sup>2655</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards Over \$558 Million to Improve Maternal Health, including \$440 Million to Support Pregnant and New Moms, Infants, and Children through Voluntary Home Visiting Programs Proven to Improve Maternal and Child Health, Child Development, and School Readiness, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/08/27/biden-harris-administration-awards-over-558-million-to-improve-maternal-health.html>

<sup>2656</sup> United States Announces Additional Funding for Conflict-Affected Populations in Ukraine and the Region, USAID (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-11-2024-united-states-announces-additional-funding-conflict-affected-populations-ukraine-and-region>

<sup>2657</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Advances Women's Health Through Affordable Care Act Grants in 14 States, D.C., U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/09/20/biden-harris-administration-advances-womens-health-through-affordable-care-act-grants-14-states-dc.html>

aimed at reducing disparities in reproductive health care and maternal health outcomes, empowering women with information on available benefits, including contraception and family planning services.

On 23 September 2024, the Department of Defense committed USD500 million to women's health research through the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, going into effect on 1 October.<sup>2658</sup> This will support research into issues that disproportionately affect women in military service including rheumatoid arthritis, eating disorders and gynecological cancers.

On 2 October 2024, Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Samantha Power announced that the US would provide an additional USD237 million in additional humanitarian funding to support the war-affected citizens of Ukraine.<sup>2659</sup> The aid will go towards helping Ukrainians access critical protection assistance, including psychosocial support for gender-based violence survivors.

On 21 October 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labour and the Treasury Department proposed new rules towards the Affordable Care Act to expand coverage of recommended preventive health services.<sup>2660</sup> The proposal would group health plans and health insurers to cover over-the-counter contraceptives without cost sharing and offer customers a broader range of contraceptives options and birth control methods.

On 23 October 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced USD110 million in awards from the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health to fund research and development for women's health.<sup>2661</sup> The funding has been granted to various teams involved in the research to prevent and detect endometriosis, ovarian cancer, cardiovascular conditions and neurological diseases that disproportionately affect women.

On 1 November 2024, USAID provided USD26.7 million to the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents.<sup>2662</sup> The funding aims to increase access to health workers and improve quality primary and maternity healthcare in 36 low- and middle-income countries across Africa, Asia and South America, which have the highest rates of maternal, newborn and child mortality.

On 1 November 2024, the Department for Health and Human Services, through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, announced new maternal health and safety guidelines for hospitals and Critical Access

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<sup>2658</sup> DoD Commits \$500 Million for Women's Health Research, Supports Better Care for All Women, U.S. Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3913913/dod-commits-500-million-for-womens-health-research-supports-better-care-for-all/>

<sup>2659</sup> Administrator Power Announces Additional Humanitarian Assistance for Ukraine, USAID (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-02-2024-administrator-power-announces-additional-humanitarian-assistance-ukraine>

<sup>2660</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Proposes Expanding Coverage of Birth Control and Other Preventive Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/10/21/biden-harris-administration-proposes-expanding-coverage-birth-control-other-preventive-services.html>

<sup>2661</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$110 Million in Awards from ARPA-H's Sprint for Women's Health to Accelerate New Discoveries and Innovation, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/23/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-110-million-in-awards-from-arpa-hs-sprint-for-womens-health-to-accelerate-new-discoveries-and-innovation/>

<sup>2662</sup> USAID Provides More Than \$26 Million to Global Financing Facility to Support Health Workers and Strengthen Primary Health Care, USAID (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-01-2024-usaid-provides-more-26-million-global-financing-facility-support-health-workers-and-strengthen-primary-health-care>

Hospitals to ensure safe and quality obstetric care.<sup>2663</sup> This action supports best-quality practices and preparedness for women's health.

On 12 December 2024, USAID provided USD29 million to Somalia to fund humanitarian assistance to mitigate the consequences of severe weather events, disease outbreaks and poverty.<sup>2664</sup> This assistance will support marginalized women's access to health, sanitation and hygiene services.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump announced the pausing of all foreign development assistance for 90-days, pending review to ensure alignment with the Trump Administration's foreign policy.<sup>2665</sup> Based on review, foreign development assistance may be continued, modified or stopped. Consistent with this Executive Order, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the pause of all foreign development assistance provided by the Department of State or USAID on 26 February 2025.<sup>2666</sup> The majority of the United States' commitments towards health services for women and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights are carried out by the Department of State and USAID. The cessation of funding for the Department and Agency thus constitute an action that is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

On 20 January 2025, President Trump announced the United States' withdrawal from the World Health Organization (WHO) via Executive Order.<sup>2667</sup> This action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment on health services for women as the WHO is the United Nations agency that supports universal health coverage globally, including health services and sexual and reproductive health and rights for women.<sup>2668</sup>

On 31 January 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began removing gender identity-related information from their main and secondary websites, instead only recognizing male and female as biological sexes.<sup>2669</sup> The CDC's HIV website was also modified to remove information about disproportionate impacts of the virus on marginalized groups like people of colour and the LGBTQ+ community. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Resources website that provides information on reproductive health (reproductiverights.gov) was also taken offline. These advancements are part of the federal government's plan to remove mentions of diversity, equity and inclusion. These actions are directly and explicitly antithetical to women's health and sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 27 February 2025, the United States informed the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) that it is terminating 48 USAID and Department of State grants to UNFPA which supports sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls around the world.<sup>2670</sup> This decision resulted in USD377 million in funding

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<sup>2663</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Policies to Reduce Maternal Mortality, Increase Access to Care, and Advance Health Equity, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2024/11/01/biden-harris-administration-announces-new-policies-to-reduce-maternal-mortality-increase-access-to-care-and-advance-health-equity.html>

<sup>2664</sup> USAID Provides Additional \$29 Million to Support Resilience and Food Security in Somalia, ReliefWeb (New York City). 12 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/usa-id-provides-additional-29-million-support-resilience-and-food-security-somalia>

<sup>2665</sup> REEVALUATING AND REALIGNING UNITED STATES FOREIGN AID, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>2666</sup> Implementing the President's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.state.gov/implementing-the-presidents-executive-order-on-reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>2667</sup> WITHDRAWING THE UNITED STATES FROM THE WORLD, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/withdrawing-the-united-states-from-the-worldhealth-organization>

<sup>2668</sup> About WHO, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.who.int/about>

<sup>2669</sup> CDC site scrubs HIV content following Trump DEI policies, NBC News (New York) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/trump-dei-hiv-cdc-website-removed-lgbtq-rcna190068>

<sup>2670</sup> US funding cuts confirmed, ending lifesaving support for women and girls, United Nations (New York) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 29 April 2025. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/02/1160631>

cuts, targeting programs in Afghanistan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Mali, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine amongst others. This action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

On 10 March 2025, Secretary of State Rubio announced the cancellation of 5,200 foreign assistance contracts and grants, totalling 83 per cent of all foreign assistance.<sup>2671</sup> Cancelled projects include countless projects aimed at providing universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.<sup>2672</sup> Thus, this action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

On 1 April 2025, the Trump administration cut the Division of Reproductive Health at the CDC as part of a broader plan to reform the national public health infrastructure.<sup>2673</sup> The Division of Reproductive Health was vital to providing key support for maternal and child healthcare programs nationwide and its closing has led to the termination of the CDC subdivision working on in vitro fertilisation (IVF) which helped ensure the safety of women facing unique health challenges carrying IVF children during pregnancy and delivery. Therefore, this action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. The United States took strong actions to support access to health services for women and sexual and reproductive health between 8 July 2024 and 12 December 2024. However, since 20 January 2025, the United States has taken several actions that are directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment including pausing foreign assistance through the Department of State and USAID, subsequently cancelling 83 per cent of all foreign aid contracts and grants, including those for health services for women and sexual and reproductive health and rights, withdrawing from the WHO, removing its reproductive health website and cutting the CDC's Division of Reproductive Health. Simultaneously, some of the United States' domestic contracts are still active, including the APRA-H awards.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Isabella Chan-Combrink*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

On 20 June 2024, the European Commission's International Partnerships InfoPoint held a conference on the "Local Private Sector and Nutrition for Women and Children."<sup>2674</sup> The conference aimed to highlight the importance of increasing the provision of quality and adequate nutrition for families and children to prevent the health consequences of chronic malnutrition by encouraging innovation in business models that can market safe, nutritious and affordable products.

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<sup>2671</sup> Rubio announces that 83% of USAID contracts will be canceled, NPR (Washington D.C.) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://www.npr.org/sections/goats-and-soda/2025/03/10/g-s1-52964/rubio-announces-that-83-of-usaid-contracts-will-be-canceled>

<sup>2672</sup> From Albania to Zambia: List of Cancelled USAID Projects Provides Insight into US Influence, Health Policy Watch (Cape Town) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 14 March 2025. <https://healthpolicy-watch.news/from-albania-to-zambia-list-of-cancelled-usaid-projects-provides-insight-into-us-influence/>

<sup>2673</sup> CDC's IVF team gutted even as Trump calls himself the 'fertilization president,' NBC News (New York) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/cdcs-ivf-team-gutted-even-trump-calls-fertilization-president-rcna199261>

<sup>2674</sup> InfoPoint conference: Local Private Sector and Nutrition for Women and Children, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/events/infopoint-conference-local-private-sector-and-nutrition-women-and-children-2024-06-20\\_en](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/events/infopoint-conference-local-private-sector-and-nutrition-women-and-children-2024-06-20_en)

On 8 July 2024, the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels held a hearing that reaffirmed the need to ban the forced sterilization of individuals with disabilities and highlighted the need to address the gap in sexual and reproductive health rights for women with disabilities.<sup>2675</sup>

On 9 July 2024, the European Union allocated EUR500,000 in humanitarian funding to the World Health Organization.<sup>2676</sup> Funding will support primary healthcare for approximately 160,000 vulnerable individuals including women and children in Darfur where Sudanese people are arriving on their journey to Libya to escape escalating conflict. Local health workers will be given training, laboratories and necessary equipment to adequately meet healthcare demands.

On 16 September 2024, the European Investment Bank announced that it will finance the procurement of over 1.4 million Human Papillomavirus vaccines for Angola, helping to adequately protect girls aged nine to twelve from cervical cancer.<sup>2677</sup> Another shipment of approximately 800,000 doses was expected in the coming days.

On 24 September 2024, the European Union and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced that they will work together to develop financing for female health products in low- and middle-income countries, including safe, effective and affordable contraceptives and maternal health medicine.<sup>2678</sup>

On 8 October 2024, European Union delegate Hanne Carle addressed the United Nations General Assembly, affirming the EU's commitment to freedom of sexuality and sexual and reproductive health, emphasizing universal access to quality and affordable healthcare.<sup>2679</sup>

On 17 October 2024, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) advocated for the inclusion of abortion rights in the European Charter of Fundamental Rights.<sup>2680</sup> This is a response to the effect of Poland's strict abortion laws, which the UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women criticized for endangering women's health. MEPs urged Poland to ensure safe abortion access, aligning with the EU's commitment to uphold comprehensive reproductive rights and bodily autonomy for all women.

On 22 October 2024, Ambassador of the European Union to the United Nations Stravos Lambrinidis reaffirmed the EU's commitment to freedom of sexuality, inclusive sexual education and international efforts to eliminate sexual violence at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee on

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<sup>2675</sup> Sexual and reproductive health rights of women with disabilities: Discrimination running high, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/sexual-and-reproductive-health-rights-women-disabilities-discrimination-running-high>

<sup>2676</sup> The European Union supports urgent health services for Sudanese fleeing the conflict and their host communities in Libya, Delegation of the European Union to Libya (Tripoli) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/libya/european-union-supports-urgent-health-services-sudanese-fleeing-conflict-and-their-host-communities\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/libya/european-union-supports-urgent-health-services-sudanese-fleeing-conflict-and-their-host-communities_en)

<sup>2677</sup> Angola receives vaccines to fight cervical cancer, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 22 November 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/angola-receives-vaccines-to-fight-cervical-cancer>  
<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-352-european-union-and-bill-melinda-gates-foundation-partner-to-expand-contraceptive-and-health-access-for-women-in-low-and-middle-income-countries>

<sup>2678</sup> European Union and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation partner to expand contraceptive and health access for women in low- and middle-income countries, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-352-european-union-and-bill-melinda-gates-foundation-partner-to-expand-contraceptive-and-health-access-for-women-in-low-and-middle-income-countries>

<sup>2679</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 3rd Committee: Advancement of Women, European External Action Service (New York) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-advancement-women-1\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-advancement-women-1_en)

<sup>2680</sup> Impact of restrictive abortion law in Poland, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024 <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/agenda/briefing/2024-10-21/10/impact-of-restrictive-abortion-law-in-poland>



Agenda item 71: Human Rights.<sup>2681</sup> This announcement complies with the EU's commitment to adequate sexual and reproductive rights.

On 24 October 2024, the European Union committed EUR31 million along with the World Health Organization and the United Nations to improve the distribution of reproductive and maternal health services in Afghanistan.<sup>2682</sup> This aid will improve the condition of female cancer screening and maternity care by increasing the training of staff, complying with the commitment to quality universal health services and reproductive health.

On 29 October 2024, the EU funded a research study announced by Minister of Women and Social Affairs in Ethiopia Ergogie Tesfaye to address the quality of life for women in Ethiopia.<sup>2683</sup> The EU aimed to support gender equality through research on women's well-being, including health, aligning with its commitment to improve universal health services for women through targeted research.

On 20 December 2024, MEPs adopted a recommendation on women's rights, calling for the EU to promote gender equality externally, ensure access to healthcare including reproductive healthcare and abortion services and resist against the rollback of women's rights and gender-based violence worldwide.<sup>2684</sup>

On 29 January 2025, the European Parliament re-launched the 'MEPs for Women's Health' group.<sup>2685</sup> The initiative unites MEPs dedicated to enhancing women's health policies, ensuring equitable access to quality care and advocating for gender-responsive healthcare systems across the EU.

On 3 February 2025, the European Commission announced a quality assurance scheme for breast cancer services.<sup>2686</sup> The scheme outlines quality standards for breast cancer care, encompassing screening, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up. Breast cancer service providers, such as hospitals, cancer centers and clinics, can utilize the scheme to apply their standards and indicators for monitoring and enhance the quality of their services.

On 6 March 2025, the EIB and World Health Organization announced a EUR10 million grant to improve healthcare services in Lebanon.<sup>2687</sup> In part, this funding will support structural reforms to address communicable diseases, address gender-based violence, enable reproductive healthcare and tackle gender disparities in healthcare. This initiative will focus on vulnerable groups including those with chronic health conditions and Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

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<sup>2681</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 3rd Committee: Agenda item 71: Human Rights, European Union (New York) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-agenda-item-71-human-rights\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-agenda-item-71-human-rights_en)

<sup>2682</sup> Afghanistan: the EU, in partnership with WHO and UNFPA, supports access to reproductive, maternal and child health and non-communicable diseases services, European External Action Service (Kabul) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/afghanistan/afghanistan-eu-partnership-who-and-unfpa-supports-access-reproductive-maternal-and-child-health-and\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/afghanistan/afghanistan-eu-partnership-who-and-unfpa-supports-access-reproductive-maternal-and-child-health-and_en)

<sup>2683</sup> EU financed study report on "Determining the Ethiopian Women's Status & Priorities" unveiled, European External Action Service (Brussels) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ethiopia/eu-financed-study-report-%E2%80%9C-determining-ethiopian-women%E2%80%99s-status-priorities%E2%80%9D-unveiled-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ethiopia/eu-financed-study-report-%E2%80%9C-determining-ethiopian-women%E2%80%99s-status-priorities%E2%80%9D-unveiled-0_en)

<sup>2684</sup> MEPs call on the EU to champion women's rights against global backlash, European Parliament (Brussels) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241212IPR25965/meps-call-on-the-eu-to-champion-women-s-rights-against-global-backlash>

<sup>2685</sup> MEPs for Women's Health, EuroHealth (Copenhagen) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://eurohealth.ie/meps-for-womens-health/>

<sup>2686</sup> Improving breast cancer screening and care, European Commission (Brussels) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-news-and-updates/improving-breast-cancer-screening-and-care-2025-02-03\\_en](https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-news-and-updates/improving-breast-cancer-screening-and-care-2025-02-03_en)

<sup>2687</sup> €10 million EIB Global and WHO initiative to strengthen public health across Lebanon, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-126-eur10-million-eib-global-and-who-initiative-to-strengthen-public-health-across-lebanon>

On 7 March 2025, the European Commission published a roadmap to advance gender equality and strengthen women's rights across the EU.<sup>2688</sup> The roadmap emphasizes universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights alongside strategies to combat gender-based violence, close the gender pay gap and increase women's representation in leadership roles.

On 13 March 2025, the European Health and Digital Executive Agency launched a call for proposals to support increased access and innovation for Mpox vaccines.<sup>2689</sup> Selected parties will receive a collective budget of EUR4.9 million through the EU4Health programme to pursue clinical research and activities related to the Modified Vaccinia Ankara virus-Bavarian Nordic vaccine. Mpox is considered a sexually transmitted infection.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to universal access to adequate, affordable and quality health services for women, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. By allocating funding to enhance access to affordable healthcare for women globally, the EU has demonstrated a strong commitment to this cause. It has also increased the quality of healthcare through a quality assurance scheme. The EU has also supported sexual and reproductive health and rights through funding for Afghanistan and Angola and verbal reaffirmations. In doing so, the EU has addressed the commitment pillars of quality and adequacy.

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

*Analyst: Tessa Little*

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<sup>2688</sup> A Roadmap for women's rights—Commission Communication, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://commission.europa.eu/document/0c3fe55d-9e4f-4377-9d14-93d03398b434\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/document/0c3fe55d-9e4f-4377-9d14-93d03398b434_en)

<sup>2689</sup> EU4Health call for tenders to speed up the access to and uptake of an Mpox vaccine, European Health and Digital Executive Agency (Brussels) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. [https://hadea.ec.europa.eu/news/eu4health-call-tenders-speed-access-and-uptake-mpox-vaccine-2025-03-13\\_en](https://hadea.ec.europa.eu/news/eu4health-call-tenders-speed-access-and-uptake-mpox-vaccine-2025-03-13_en)

## 12. Labour and Employment: Gender and Other Forms of Equality

“[We will continue accelerating] ... gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

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

### Background

The G7 first addressed gender equality in 1981, and did so only sporadically until the 2000 Okinawa Summit in the context of education.<sup>2690</sup> Since then, gender equality has been addressed at most G7 summits, with G7 leaders first recognizing gender equality and women's empowerment as principles of development at the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit.<sup>2691</sup> Beginning with the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders have also committed to advancing equality for women in the workplace.<sup>2692</sup> G7 leaders began addressing other forms of equality at the 2021 Cornwall Summit, recognizing the need to combat racism and “violence and discrimination against LGBTQTI+ populations.”<sup>2693</sup> Despite this, efforts to improve gender and other forms of equality in the world of work have faced significant challenges in part due to the pay gap, unfair distribution of unpaid care and lack of job security, especially for women and vulnerable groups. The COVID-19 pandemic has also worsened inequalities in the world of work. As such, the G7's commitment to accelerate gender and other forms of equality is essential to address disparities in the world of work and strive towards equal opportunities and outcomes for women and other minorities. Examples of the G7's prior commitments in this regard are highlighted below:

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders affirmed the importance of equal rights and opportunities for women, especially in the context of economic development, political participation and democratic governance.<sup>2694</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders committed to promoting gender equality and the “full participation and empowerment of all women and girls.”<sup>2695</sup>

<sup>2690</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>2691</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>2692</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2693</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communicue.html>

<sup>2694</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

<sup>2695</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to enhancing women's entrepreneurship by addressing barriers to finance, markets, skills and leadership opportunities.<sup>2696</sup> Recognizing the importance of women's economic empowerment, G7 leaders also pledged to support women's participation in the workforce and access to quality jobs in part by increasing technical and vocational training for women and girls. G7 members also committed to "reduc[ing] the gender gap in workforce participation within [their] own countries by 25 [per cent] by 2025."

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to advancing gender equality for women and girls, in part by increasing labour market participation for women and improving job opportunities and quality.<sup>2697</sup> In support of this commitment, the G7 endorsed the Guiding Principles for Building Capacity in Women and Girls which aim to foster sustainable and equitable economic growth by addressing gender imbalances in education and careers including the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders adopted the G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, focusing on policies to promote gender equality by enhancing women's labor force participation, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.<sup>2698</sup> The roadmap focuses on investing in social infrastructure, recognizing the value of unpaid care work, promoting work-life balance and supporting women in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine fields.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders endorsed the Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth which aims to enhance economic prosperity by removing barriers to full participation and addressing gender inequality.<sup>2699</sup> Additionally, the G7 committed to the Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development which emphasizes leveraging private capital and innovative solutions to achieve sustainable development, gender equality and economic growth.<sup>2700</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders stressed the importance of addressing inequalities, including those that affect access to decent work and pay gaps.<sup>2701</sup> Additionally, the G7 endorsed the Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, highlighting the need for global cooperation and resource mobilization to support survivors of sexual violence and ensure access to quality training and education for women, including in STEM fields.<sup>2702</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to addressing inequalities intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on improved social protection and decent working conditions, equal pay, education and technology.<sup>2703</sup> G7 leaders also recognized the impact of unpaid care on gender inequality in the world of work and recognized the intersectionality of identities such as race, sexual orientation and gender identity.

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<sup>2696</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>2697</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>2698</sup> G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

<sup>2699</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>2700</sup> Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/financing-commitment.html>

<sup>2701</sup> Biarritz Chair's Summary on Fighting Inequalities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/chairs-summary-inequalities.html>

<sup>2702</sup> Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 13 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

<sup>2703</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

Furthermore, they reiterated their commitment to ensure plans for economic recovery post-Covid-19 support all individuals, irrespective of their gender, age or ethnicity.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to advancing gender equality, equal opportunities for all and inclusive economic recovery.<sup>2704</sup> G7 leaders also emphasized the need to address gender disparities exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic and highlighted the importance of increasing women's participation in the workforce, particularly through increased access to quality childcare and support for care workers.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to “build an inclusive labor market that ensures decent and good quality jobs for all and leaves no one behind, especially, women and under-represented groups, including persons with disabilities, older persons and youth.”<sup>2705</sup> In this regard, they committed to addressing the unequal distribution of care work and supporting women through improved access to job opportunities and fair compensation. G7 leaders also endorsed the Action Plan for Promoting Career Development and Greater Resilience to Structural Changes which includes measures to ensure decent work and support for women and under-represented groups in the labor market.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards gender equality and announced USD20 billion in funding over the next three years to advance women's empowerment.<sup>2706</sup> In this regard, they recognized the importance of affordable and quality childcare, work-life balance, equal division of care work and equal rights for women. G7 leaders also committed to enhancing equal opportunities for all in the world of work.

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2024 Apulia summit, G7 leaders committed to “[continue accelerating] ... gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.”<sup>2707</sup> This commitment is understood to have two dimensions: 1) gender equality and 2) other forms of equality.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Continue” is understood to mean that the commitment is “established and implemented” but will have new actions added to it and not rely on past allocations.<sup>2708</sup>

“Accelerating” means “to hasten the progress or development of [something].”<sup>2709</sup>

“Gender equality” is understood to mean “the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.”<sup>2710</sup> “Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups.”

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<sup>2704</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>2705</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>2706</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 13 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>2707</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 13 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>2708</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2709</sup> Accelerate, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/accelerate>

<sup>2710</sup> Concepts and Definitions, United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.htm>

“Other forms of equality” in this context refers to providing safe work environments and equal opportunities and outcomes in the world of work, regardless of a person’s status such as race, class, ethnicity, migration status, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, along with their multiple and intersecting identities.<sup>2711</sup>

“World of work” is understood to mean the activities and interactions that occur in the course of, or arise from, work in the workplace.<sup>2712</sup> This includes public and private spaces designated as places of work, locations where workers are paid, take breaks, have meals or use facilities such as restrooms and changing areas, as well as during work-related trips, travel, training, events, social activities and communications.

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that take several strong actions within the compliance period to accelerate gender equality and at least two other forms of equality within the world of work. These actions can be domestic or international in scope. Other forms of equality may concern race, urban-rural status, age, immigrant status, mother tongue, sexuality, or disability. Examples of strong actions include changing legislation to reduce wage gaps through pay equity and transparency measures, allocating resources to address labor mobility by promoting upskilling or reskilling opportunities especially in fields of STEM, launching new programs to support career advancement, increasing the availability of flexible working options and enforcing policies through judicial action against violence, harassment and discrimination in the world of work.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take a few strong actions to accelerate either gender equality or other forms of equality within the world of work, or to members that take several weak actions across both commitment dimensions (with dimension two addressing at least one other form of equality). Weak actions include verbal affirmations of support, proposals of initiatives that were not carried out, attendance of domestic or international meetings and verbal condemnations of countries that have backslid in progress towards equality in the world of work.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned to G7 members that take only weak action across only one commitment dimension, or do not take any action towards accelerating forms of equality in the world of work, or to members that take actions that are directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has taken weak action across only one commitment dimension or has taken no action to accelerate equality in the world of work, or has taken actions that are antithetical to the commitment.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action to accelerate either (but not both) gender equality or other forms of equality, or has taken weak action to continue accelerating gender equality and at least one other form of equality.
+1	The G7 member has taken several strong actions to continue accelerating gender equality and has taken strong action to continue accelerating at least two other forms of equality in the world of work.

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*Lead Analyst: Ritika Roy Chowdhury*

<sup>2711</sup> Leaving No One Behind: Equality and Non-Discrimination at the Heart of Sustainable Development, United Nations (New York) 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

[https://unscebor.org/sites/default/files/imported\\_files/CEB%20equality%20framework-A4-web-rev3.pdf](https://unscebor.org/sites/default/files/imported_files/CEB%20equality%20framework-A4-web-rev3.pdf)

<sup>2712</sup> The world of work definition, Law Insider (San Francisco) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.lawinsider.com/dictionary/the-world-of-work>

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages Randy Boissonnault reaffirmed Canada's commitment to strengthening the workforce and advancing gender diversity during the Forum of Labour Market Ministers.<sup>2713</sup> Minister Boissonnault also announced key investments from Budget 2024, such as CAD50 million over two years for the Foreign Credential Recognition Program in health care and construction and CAD90 million for apprenticeship placements with small and medium-sized enterprises. These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to address labour market challenges, promote gender diversity and build a skilled workforce for emerging industries.

On 21 June 2024, Minister of Labour Seamus O'Regan Jr. announced new legislative changes to the Canada Labour Code aimed at protecting federally regulated workers.<sup>2714</sup> These reforms include strengthening protections for gig workers, requiring employers to develop right to disconnect policies, introducing a three-day paid leave for pregnancy loss and establishing a 16-week unpaid leave for parents through adoption or surrogacy. These changes aim to enhance work-life balance and ensure employees receive the benefits and protections they are entitled to. Gig worker protections are effective immediately with other changes set to roll out next year.

On 28 June 2024, the Government of Canada published proposed changes to the Canada Student Financial Assistance Regulations and Canada Student Loans Regulations.<sup>2715</sup> These changes aim to allow more doctors and nurses working in underserved rural and remote communities to qualify for Canada Student Loan forgiveness. The government also proposed the amendment of the definition of "under-served rural and remote community" to include doctors and nurses in population centers of 30,000 or less. This expansion aims to attract over 900 healthcare professionals to these communities.

On 28 June 2024, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence Ginette Petitpas Taylor launched the "Service after Service: The National Veterans Employment Strategy."<sup>2716</sup> This initiative aims to enhance employment opportunities for veterans by leveraging their skills and addressing labour market barriers. By fostering partnerships with government, private employers, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations, the strategy promotes inclusive hiring practices. The government also committed to ongoing consultations with veterans and stakeholders to adapt to diverse needs and ensure equitable opportunities across all sectors.

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<sup>2713</sup> Minister Boissonnault engages in strategic discussions with provincial and territorial ministers to strengthen Canada's workforce, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/06/minister-boissonnault-engages-in-strategic-discussions-with-provincial-and-territorial-ministers-to-strengthen-canadas-workforce.html>

<sup>2714</sup> Government of Canada protects federally regulated workers, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-protects-federally-regulated-workers.html>

<sup>2715</sup> More health care professionals and more communities to benefit from Canada student loan forgiveness, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/06/more-health-care-professionals-and-more-communities-to-benefit-from-canada-student-loan-forgiveness.html>

<sup>2716</sup> Canada launches first strategy to support Veteran employment, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/veterans-affairs-canada/news/2024/06/canada-launches-first-strategy-to-support-veteran-employment.html>

On 3 July 2024, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth Marci Ien announced over 70,000 job opportunities for youth through the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program.<sup>2717</sup> This initiative aims to equip young Canadians with essential skills while promoting equitable access for marginalized groups including Indigenous and racialized youth. The CSJ program will be supported by a proposed investment of CAD200.5 million through the 2024 budget.

On 11 July 2024, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities Kamal Khera launched the Employment Strategy for Canadians with Disabilities “to close the employment gap for persons with disabilities and those without by 2040.”<sup>2718</sup> This strategy focuses on helping individuals secure jobs, assisting employers in creating inclusive workplaces and enhancing organizational capacity for disability inclusion. Coinciding with the fifth anniversary of the Accessible Canada Act, the announcement also included CAD6.5 million in funding through the Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities for seven organizations supporting Indigenous, Black and racialized Canadians with disabilities.

On 15 July 2024, Minister Ien announced approximately CAD370 million in funding for over 200 community-led youth employment projects through the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program.<sup>2719</sup> Over the next four years, this initiative will enhance job opportunities for 22,000 young Canadians facing employment barriers through projects focused on providing tailored support, including mentorship and paid work placements.

On 16 July 2024, Minister Ien announced that CAD770,000 would be allocated to the Mining Industry Human Resources Council over two and a half years to increase women’s participation in the mining industry.<sup>2720</sup> This funding will support mining companies in fostering more inclusive workplace environments for women.

On 26 July 2024, Minister Boissonnault participated in the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers’ Meeting, emphasizing the importance of investing in diversity, inclusion and equity and skills development in the workplace.<sup>2721</sup> Minister Boissonnault also reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to reducing gender inequalities in the labour force.

On 7 August 2024, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jenna Sudds, Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs Dominic LeBlanc and New Brunswick’s Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development Bill Hogan jointly announced a three-year plan to improve and expand child care services in New Brunswick through an investment of CAD426 million.<sup>2722</sup> This

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<sup>2717</sup> More than 70,000 Canada Summer Jobs opportunities for youth across Canada, Government of Canada (Toronto) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/07/more-than-70000-canada-summer-jobs-opportunities-for-youth-across-canada.html>

<sup>2718</sup> Government of Canada launches the Employment Strategy for Canadians with Disabilities, Government of Canada (Toronto) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-launches-the-employment-strategy-for-canadians-with-disabilities.html>

<sup>2719</sup> Minister Ien announces funding for over 200 youth employment projects, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/07/minister-ien-announces-funding-for-over-200-youth-employment-projects.html>

<sup>2720</sup> Government of Canada helps improve women’s participation in the mining sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-helps-improve-womens-participation-in-the-mining-sector.html>

<sup>2721</sup> Minister Boissonnault attends G20 Labour and Employment Ministers’ Meeting, Government of Canada (Fortaleza) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/07/minister-boissonnault-attends-g20-labour-and-employment-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>2722</sup> Governments of Canada and New Brunswick announce Early Learning and Child Care Action Plan, Government of Canada (Moncton) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/08/governments-of-canada-and-new-brunswick-announce-early-learning-and-child-care-action-plan.html>



funding was intended to increase equality in the workforce by ensuring that “women [and families] didn’t have to choose between having a career and having kids.”<sup>2723</sup>

On 9 August 2024, Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings and Newfoundland and Labrador’s Minister of Education Krista Lynn Howell announced a three-year plan and an investment of over CAD280 million to expand child care services under the Canada–Newfoundland and Labrador Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement and the Canada–Newfoundland and Labrador ELCC Agreement.<sup>2724</sup> This funding is intended to reduce childcare costs to an average of CAD10 a day, thereby providing more accessible childcare for families and fostering a more inclusive and strengthened workforce.

On 13 August 2024, Minister Ien announced that CAD530,000 would go towards Pitch Better Inc. to support Black women in entrepreneurship and business.<sup>2725</sup> Through this funding, Pitch Better Inc. aims to address the unique workforce needs of Black and equity-seeking women by fostering network engagement, conducting research, providing education and using other means to improve equality.

On 16 August 2024, Minister Boissonnault announced that over CAD74.6 million would be allocated for 124 projects, of which ten work to increase the participation of underserved groups in apprenticeships.<sup>2726</sup> The funding will enable unions to recruit and retain newcomers, Indigenous people, racialized individuals, individuals with disabilities and women who serve as apprentices in Red Seal trades.

On 12 September 2024, the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Social Services Forum held a meeting to discuss the federal government’s Canada Disability Benefit which seeks to bolster the financial security of Canadians with disabilities.<sup>2727</sup> The ministers shared insights on the working Canada Disability Benefit regulations, highlighted the importance of the economic inclusion of those with disabilities and committed to regularly meeting to discuss the Canada Disability Benefit. This reinforces Canada’s commitment to furthering equality of diverse individuals in the world of work.

On 27 September 2024, Member of Parliament for Sault Ste. Marie Terry Sheehan, on behalf of Minister Ien, announced that over CAD1.07 million for the Sault Community Career Centre’s Transition to Independence Program (TIP) which helps marginalized youth enter the labour force or return to education.<sup>2728</sup> This funding

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<sup>2723</sup> Governments of Canada and New Brunswick announce Early Learning and Child Care Action Plan, Government of Canada (Moncton) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/08/governments-of-canada-and-new-brunswick-announce-early-learning-and-child-care-action-plan.html>

<sup>2724</sup> Governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador announce Early Learning and Child Care Action Plan, Government of Canada (St. John’s) 9 August 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/08/governments-of-canada-and-newfoundland-and-labrador-announce-early-learning-and-child-care-action-plan.html>

<sup>2725</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to improve economic and leadership opportunities for Black and equality-seeking women entrepreneurs, Government of Canada (Toronto) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/08/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-improve-economic-and-leadership-opportunities-for-black-and-equality-seeking-women-entrepreneurs.html>

<sup>2726</sup> Government of Canada invests to recruit, retain and train more apprentices in skilled trades, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 16 August 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/08/government-of-canada-invests-to-recruit-retain-and-train-more-apprentices-in-skilled-trades0.html>

<sup>2727</sup> Federal, provincial, and territorial ministers responsible for social services meet to discuss implementation of the Canada Disability Benefit, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/09/federal-provincial-and-territorial-ministers-responsible-for-social-services-meet-to-discuss-implementation-of-the-canada-disability-benefit.html>

<sup>2728</sup> MP Sheehan announces funding for the Sault Community Career Centre to support skills training for young people, Government of Canada (Sault Ste Marie) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/09/mp-sheehan-announces-funding-for-the-sault-community-career-centre-to-support-skills-training-for-young-people.html>

will enable TIP to offer skills training, work experiences and other tools to underrepresented youth to help them overcome socioeconomic barriers.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Ien announced that CAD4 million would be allocated to NPower Canada's NPowering Underrepresented Youth to Overcome Barriers to Employment project.<sup>2729</sup> This funding supports the initiative's mission of helping youth overcome indiscriminate socioeconomic barriers within the labour force.

On 17 October 2024, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities Kamal Khera participated in the G7 Ministers' Meeting on Inclusion and Disability.<sup>2730</sup> During the meeting, Minister Khera emphasized the importance of equal access to employment through policy initiatives, referenced Canada's Employment Strategy for Canadians with Disabilities and noted the need to ensure that the use of artificial intelligence does not impair the human rights of those with disabilities.

On 21 October 2024, Minister Boissonnault announced that the starting hourly wage for foreign workers in the high-wage stream will be raised by 20 per cent.<sup>2731</sup> This change will encourage the hiring of domestic workers, including women, Indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities who are disproportionately affected by unemployment.

On 1 November 2024, Minister Ien announced an investment of CAD100 million for 163 projects throughout Canada that enhance women's access to economic and leadership opportunities.<sup>2732</sup> This funding will go towards tackling systemic barriers such as discriminatory norms, policies and decision-making processes to promote greater gender equality in the labour force.

On 12 November 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen and Minister Boissonnault announced CAD35 million in funding for gender equality and women's empowerment initiatives in Africa.<sup>2733</sup> Of this, CAD1.8 million will go to the Titukule Azimai (Empower Women) project which provides "training in marketing, financial management, business development" to survivors of gender-based violence in Malawi. As well, CAD6 million will go towards Renewed Women's Voice and Leadership to support advocacy, skills development and core services for women, girls and non-binary individuals in South Africa.<sup>2734</sup>

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<sup>2729</sup> Government of Canada announces funding for NPower Canada to support skills training for young people, Government of Canada (Toronto) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/10/minister-ien-announces-funding-for-npower-canada-to-support-skills-training-for-young-people.html>

<sup>2730</sup> Minister Khera attends G7 Ministers' Meeting on Inclusion and Disability, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/10/minister-khera-attends-g7-ministers-meeting-on-inclusion-and-disability.html>

<sup>2731</sup> Minister Boissonnault announces further Temporary Foreign Worker Program reforms to better protect the Canadian labour market and workers, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/10/minister-boissonnault-announces-further-temporary-foreign-worker-program-reforms-to-better-protect-the-canadian-labour-market-and-workers.html>

<sup>2732</sup> Federal funding to help increase opportunities for women and build a more resilient economy for everyone in Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/11/federal-funding-to-help-increase-opportunities-for-women-and-build-a-more-resilient-economy-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>2733</sup> Minister Hussen announces more than \$35 million for international assistance projects in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Edmonton) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/minister-hussen-announces-more-than-35-million-for-international-assistance-projects-in-africa.html>

<sup>2734</sup> Background – Minister Hussen announces more than \$35 million for international assistance projects in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Edmonton) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/background--minister-hussen-announces-more-than-35-million-for-international-assistance-projects-in-africa.html>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Boissonnault announced a CAD20.5 million investment in the Enabling Fund for Official Language Minority Communities Program.<sup>2735</sup> This funding aims to support official language minority communities in the Canadian workforce.

On 22 November 2024, Minister Ien and Member of Parliament for Scarborough–Agincourt Jean Yip announced an investment of over CAD1.2 million for Canada’s Youth Matters program.<sup>2736</sup> This program aims to support individuals aged 15 to 30 to overcome employment barriers, focusing on helping those who are racialized, have disabilities, are part of the 2SLGBTQI+ community, are newcomers or are experiencing homelessness.

On 25 November 2024, Minister Khera took part in a Disability Inclusion Business Council event wherein a report was shared outlining policy recommendations to promote inclusion in the workplace.<sup>2737</sup> The advice provided relates to addressing inaccessible hiring practices and investing in skills development for those with disabilities, working towards labour equality.

On 28 November 2024, Minister Sudds piloted a taxonomy tool, the Pilot Social Equity Lens Investment Coding System.<sup>2738</sup> This system will help measure Canada’s progress in promoting social and gender equality in social finance markets, in hopes of unlocking greater economic opportunities for marginalized groups.

On 8 December 2024, Minister Ien announced up to CAD11.77 in funding for 16 projects to advance women’s participation and success through mentorship, training, networking and capacity building.<sup>2739</sup> This initiative will focus on communities in Northern Canada.

On 19 December 2024, Minister Hussen announced CAD3 million in funding for the Caribbean Future Skills Fund.<sup>2740</sup> This initiative aims to empower Caribbean youth by equipping them with vocational, technical and technological skills for future employment opportunities. This will also provide greater economic opportunities for women and vulnerable groups, such as at-risk youth, thereby building a more inclusive and resilient workforce in the Caribbean.

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<sup>2735</sup> Government of Canada continues to strengthen support for official language minority communities to enter the workforce, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-continues-to-strengthen-support-for-official-language-minority-communities-to-enter-the-workforce.html>

<sup>2736</sup> Minister Ien and MP Yip announce funding for Rehabilitation Network Canada to support skills training for young people, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/11/minister-ien-and-mp-yip-announce-funding-for-rehabilitation-network-canada-to-support-skills-training-for-young-people0.html>

<sup>2737</sup> Government of Canada strengthens social equity and gender equality in the financial sector with new tool and funding to support implementation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/11/government-of-canada-strengthens-social-equity-and-gender-equality-in-the-financial-sector-with-new-tool-and-funding-to-support-implementation.html>

<sup>2738</sup> Government of Canada strengthens social equity and gender equality in the financial sector with new tool and funding to support implementation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/11/disability-inclusion-business-council-successfully-completes-its-mandate-with-the-release-of-a-report-on-disability-inclusion-in-canadian-workplaces.html>

<sup>2739</sup> Government of Canada supports projects in northern communities to advance gender equality, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Whitehorse) 8 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-supports-projects-in-northern-communities-to-advance-gender-equality.html>

<sup>2740</sup> Canada to Establish Caribbean Future Skills Fund, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 4 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/12/canada-to-establish-caribbean-future-skills-fund.html>

On 15 January 2025, Minister Ien announced funding of up to CAD40 million for 170 organizations dedicated to supporting women and Indigenous women.<sup>2741</sup> This funding will help these organizations improve their capacities and technical skills, so they are better equipped to support women in overcoming systemic barriers that limit their full participation in the workforce.

On 29 January 2025, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Steven MacKinnon announced approximately CAD5 million in funding for the Trade Winds to Success Training Society to support the training of over 290 Indigenous Red Seal apprentices.<sup>2742</sup> This funding is intended to help the apprentices overcome systemic barriers, complete their training and secure employment in the trades, therefore contributing to a more inclusive workforce.

On 3 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD50 million in funding for Canadian institutions that promote education, economic opportunities and skills training for women and disadvantaged youth globally.<sup>2743</sup> This funding will help organizations to continue supporting women entrepreneurs, marginalized youth and women seeking skills training in sectors like the digital and green economies.

On 5 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD87 million in development assistance for marginalized populations worldwide whose livelihoods are threatened by climate change.<sup>2744</sup> This funding will advance equality by supporting organizations focused on promoting women and Indigenous peoples' economic participation, empowerment and resilience.

On 6 February 2025, Minister of National Revenue Élisabeth Brière, representing the Minister Ien, announced CAD287,639 in funding for the Fédération des communautés culturelles de l'Estrie to support women's economic success in the Eastern Townships region of Québec.<sup>2745</sup> This funding will help address systemic inequalities faced by newcomer and immigrant women while improving their access to resources, opportunities and career support.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD56.8 million in funding for development projects that support Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy and Feminist International Assistance Policy.<sup>2746</sup> This funding will enhance access to skills training and employment opportunities for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, including youth and those with disabilities, while also supporting women-led small- and medium-sized enterprises in Indonesia.

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<sup>2741</sup> Government of Canada strengthens women's sector capacity to reduce barriers and advance gender equality, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Ottawa) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 22 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-strengthens-womens-sector-capacity-to-reduce-barriers-and-advance-gender-equality.html>

<sup>2742</sup> Helping more Indigenous talent enter the skilled trades in Edmonton, Employment and Social Development (Edmonton) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/01/helping-more-indigenous-talent-enter-the-skilled-trades-in-edmonton.html>

<sup>2743</sup> Canada announces funding for global education during International Development Week, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-announces-funding-for-global-education-during-international-development-week.html>

<sup>2744</sup> Canada announces new funding during International Development Week to strengthen climate action and economies, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-announces-new-funding-during-international-development-week-to-strengthen-climate-action-and-economies.html>

<sup>2745</sup> Increasing opportunities for immigrant women in Quebec to build a more resilient economy for everyone in Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Sherbrooke) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/02/increasing-opportunities-for-immigrant-women-in-quebec-to-build-a-more-resilient-economy-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>2746</sup> Minister Hussen announces support to strengthen Canada's development partnerships in Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-hussen-announces-support-to-strengthen-canadas-development-partnerships-in-indo-pacific-region.html>

On 18 February 2025, Minister Sudds, Minister of Sport and Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada Terry Duguid and Manitoba's Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning Tracy Schmidt announced that the federal government will fund more than 700 new affordable childcare spaces throughout Manitoba, allowing parents to continue their work or studies.<sup>2747</sup> Government and provincial funding will also assist Indigenous students and Ukrainian newcomers who wish to pursue careers as early childhood educators, helping fill the new positions that will open in these childcare spaces.

On 18 February 2025, Minister Joly introduced the launch of the Women Foreign Ministers' Group.<sup>2748</sup> This project strives to promote women's participation and representation in global decision-making institutions and negotiations and to raise awareness about the necessity of gender equality in political domains.

On 27 February 2025, Minister Ien, Minister Duguid and Member of Parliament for Winnipeg North Kevin Lamoureux announced CAD23 million in funding for the Youth and Employment Skills Strategy.<sup>2749</sup> The funding will be directed towards organizations that provide mentorship, paid work placements and training to help young people overcome employment barriers. This will support 1,600 youth in securing and maintaining decent work opportunities.

On 5 March 2025, Minister MacKinnon outlined changes to agreements between the Enabling Fund for Official Language Minority Communities and its partner organizations, accompanied by a new investment of CAD20.5 million to support these amendments.<sup>2750</sup> This funding will enable participating organizations to continue helping linguistic minorities overcome language barriers through training and employment services, contributing to the creation of a more inclusive workforce.

On 5 March 2025, Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier Mona Fortier, representing Minister Sudds and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence Marie-France Lalonde, announced over CAD60 million in funding for projects supporting early learning and child care initiatives in Francophone communities.<sup>2751</sup> This funding, intended for French childcare centers, will ensure that bilingual Canadians can enter the workforce and safeguard their children's linguistic identities.

On 6 March 2025, Minister MacKinnon announced modifications to Canada's Student Loan forgiveness program, further increasing eligibility for health care professionals who work in underserved rural

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<sup>2747</sup> Meeting parents where they are: more affordable child care in Manitoba, Employment and Social Development Canada (Winnipeg) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/02/meeting-parents-where-they-are-more-affordable-child-care-in-manitoba.html>

<sup>2748</sup> Minister Joly announces launch of Women Foreign Ministers' Group, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/minister-joly-announces-launch-of-women-foreign-ministers-group.html>

<sup>2749</sup> Government of Canada boosts funding to help 1,600 youth across Canada overcome barriers to employment, Employment and Social Development Canada (Winnipeg) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-boosts-funding-to-help-1600-youth-across-canada-overcome-barriers-to-employment.html>

<sup>2750</sup> Government of Canada boosts investment in the protection of official language minority communities, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-boosts-investment-in-the-protection-of-official-language-minority-communities.html>

<sup>2751</sup> New funding for early learning and child care initiatives in Francophone minority communities, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/new-funding-for-early-learning-and-child-care-initiatives-in-francophone-minority-communities.html>

communities.<sup>2752</sup> This move will reduce financial obstacles to medical training and education for those in remote communities, thereby ensuring more equitable access to careers in the healthcare field.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Ien announced an approximately CAD1 million investment in the “Conscious Economics’ HeARTwork: Advancing Women in Business” initiative.<sup>2753</sup> This project aims to support women of diverse backgrounds, including Indigenous, racialized and Black women to achieve economic and personal success in professional settings by addressing pay gaps and supporting safe workplaces, affordable housing and family resources.

On 8 March 2025, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development Anita Vandenbeld announced on behalf of Minister Hussen CAD193.45 million in funding for 20 projects dedicated to the advancement of gender equality globally.<sup>2754</sup> This funding will go towards addressing systemic barriers inhibiting women’s participation in the workforce, thereby contributing to the creation of more inclusive economies among Canada’s trade partners.

On 8 March 2025, Parliamentary Secretary Lisa Hepfner, representing Minister Ien, announced CAD8.2 million in funding for initiatives focused on improving women’s economic participation and dismantling related systemic barriers that women face in Canada.<sup>2755</sup> These projects will provide training and leadership opportunities that enable women to seek careers in STEM and promote economic growth for youth and Indigenous women.

On 9 March 2025, Minister Hussen and Member of Parliament Parm Bains announced CAD272.1 million for development initiatives in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>2756</sup> This funding will primarily focus on advancing gender equality, with key projects including the promotion of inclusive education and skills training to enable women’s empowerment in the labour market.

On 19 March 2025, Minister MacKinnon announced the creation of a new Sectoral Table on the Care Economy to advise the federal government on how to improve work conditions for the care workforce.<sup>2757</sup> This Sectoral Table will aim to outline potential aids for unpaid and paid care workers, provide support for equity-seeking groups and address regional inequalities within the care workforce.

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<sup>2752</sup> Drawing more doctors and nurses to rural and remote communities through Canada Student Loan forgiveness, Employment and Social Development Canada (Hawkesbury) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/drawing-more-doctors-and-nurses-to-rural-and-remote-communities-through-canada-student-loan-forgiveness.html>

<sup>2753</sup> Federal funding to help increase opportunities for women in business and build a more resilient economy for everyone in Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (King City) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/03/federal-funding-to-help-increase-opportunities-for-women-in-business-and-build-a-more-resilient-economy-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>2754</sup> Canada announces international assistance to continue to advance gender equality globally, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-announces-international-assistance-to-continue-to-advance-gender-equality-globally.html>

<sup>2755</sup> Supporting economic opportunities for women and building a sustainable future for everyone in Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Mississauga) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/03/supporting-economic-opportunities-for-women-and-building-a-sustainable-future-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>2756</sup> Minister Hussen announces support for development projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-hussen-announces-support-for-development-projects-in-bangladesh-and-the-indo-pacific-region.html>

<sup>2757</sup> New Sectoral Table will advise how government can better support the care economy, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2025/03/new-sectoral-table-will-advise-how-government-can-better-support-the-care-economy.html>

On 21 March 2025, Minister of Canadian Culture and Identity Steven Guilbeault announced CAD718,000 in funding for three organizations in Quebec that support 2SLGBTQI+ communities.<sup>2758</sup> Of this amount, CAD247,221 was allocated for Queer Tech's "2SLGBTQI+ Tech Industry Census 2025-2026" project which will involve a comprehensive analysis of the representation and experiences of 2SLGBTQI+ individuals working in the tech sector. This initiative will highlight potential inequalities and expand knowledge about the community's status within Canada's workforce.

On 21 March 2025, Member of Parliament for Québec Jean-Yves Duclos, representing Minister Guilbeault, announced CAD533,029 in funding for the "Corporation de développement économique Communautaire de Québec."<sup>2759</sup> This investment will support the organization's efforts in the entrepreneurial sector to change or eliminate policies that hinder gender equality, develop tools to strengthen support systems and raise awareness about the systemic barriers that women entrepreneurs face.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. Canada has taken several strong actions to address barriers in the labour market and ensure equitable opportunities by funding initiatives that empower youth, Indigenous, Black and racialized Canadians, veterans and women in the world of work. Key initiatives include CAD370 million for youth employment projects, CAD530,000 to support Black women entrepreneurs and CAD5 million for the training of Indigenous apprentices. Furthermore, legislative reforms, such as gig worker protections and paid leave for pregnancy loss, reflect Canada's dedication to equity in the workplace. This commitment extends internationally, with Canada also allocating funding for initiatives abroad to help Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh find employment opportunities and equip youth in the Caribbean with vocational and technical skills. These measures collectively address systemic barriers, promote diversity and ensure equitable opportunities for underrepresented groups.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zainab Ibraheem*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, the Ministry of Labor and Employment released a guide for company social and economic committees (CSEs) to help prevent and combat racism, antisemitism and discrimination based on origin.<sup>2760</sup> As part of the 2023-2026 action plan, the guide equips CSE representatives with the necessary tools and knowledge to protect employees and promote better workplace conditions by addressing discrimination.

On 17 June 2024, the Fortnight of Sponsorship for Employment began to connect job seekers, regardless of age or qualification level, with professional mentors who offer guidance on resumes, job interviews and networking.<sup>2761</sup> Over 400 organizations support this initiative, aiming to facilitate employment opportunities

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<sup>2758</sup> Strengthening 2SLGBTQI+ communities to advance equality in Québec and across Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Gatineau) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/03/strengthening-2slgbtqi-communities-to-advance-equality-in-quebec-and-across-canada.html>

<sup>2759</sup> Federal funding to help increase opportunities for women in Quebec and build a more resilient economy for everyone in Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada (Quebec City) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 25 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2025/03/federal-funding-to-help-increase-opportunities-for-women-in-quebec-and-build-a-more-resilient-economy-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>2760</sup> Lutte contre le racisme, l'antisémitisme et les discriminations : un guide pour les CSE, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-le-racisme-lantisemitisme-et-les-discriminations-un-guide-pour-les-cse>

<sup>2761</sup> Quinzaine du parrainage vers l'emploi, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 17 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/quinzaine-du-parrainage-vers-lemploi>

through regional events and webinars including discussions on aiding priority neighborhoods and underrepresented groups such as young graduates, seniors and women in specific areas.

On 2 July 2024, the Ministry of Labor and Employment launched a new identification and remobilization offer to support groups far removed from employment.<sup>2762</sup> The program, part of the Full Employment Act, aims to provide personalized support pathways ranging from remobilization to sustainable employment, complemented by existing services provided by France Travail and local Employment Network organizations.

On 9 July 2024, the renewed support for Revenu de Solidarité Active (RSA) beneficiaries was officially published, building on ongoing initiatives such as the Fortnight of Sponsorship for Employment.<sup>2763</sup> This program focuses on enhancing job prospects by connecting job seekers with professional mentors for guidance in key areas such as resume building, interview preparation and networking. This initiative aims to provide comprehensive support, especially for individuals from priority neighborhoods and underrepresented groups such as young graduates, seniors and women. The renewed RSA support will integrate these kinds of mentorship and guidance programs, reinforcing pathways to employment and ensuring ongoing assistance for beneficiaries across the 18 pilot departments.

On 16 July 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the European Union Cyril Piquemal met with Hungarian counterparts for the first Employment and Social Affairs Council of the Hungarian Presidency, wherein the two parties discussed inclusivity and skills shortages in the workforce.<sup>2764</sup> France presented measures to remedy the skills gap and address employment disparities between disabled and non-disabled workers, demonstrating its progress and commitment to furthering equality in the world of work.

On 19 July 2024, the Chief Executive Officer of the French Development Agency (AFD) Rémy Rioux signed grant agreements with Turkish transport operators Şehir Hatları, EGO and ESHOT to enhance women's access to employment and address harassment against women in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir's transport sectors.<sup>2765</sup> Each operator will receive EUR100,000 for training and communication campaigns to advance gender equality.

On 2 August 2024, the Ministry of Labor and Employment announced that it launched a multilingual national digital information campaign to increase awareness about employees' fundamental rights and employers' obligations under labour and social security laws.<sup>2766</sup> This demonstrates France's commitment to advancing equality as the project ensures such information is accessible to all, regardless of language or status as a foreign worker.

On 13 September 2024, France's delegate to the International Labour Organization and G7-G20 Labour and Employment Anousheh Karvar represented Minister of Labor, Health, and Solidarity Catherine Vautrin at the

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<sup>2762</sup> Repérer et remobiliser les publics éloignés de l'emploi | Appel à manifestation d'intérêt, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 2 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/reperer-et-remobiliser-les-publics-eloignes-de-lemploi-appel-manifestation-dinteret>

<sup>2763</sup> L'accompagnement rénové des allocataires du RSA, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/laccompagnement-renove-des-allocataires-du-rsa>

<sup>2764</sup> Conseil EPSCO : Emploi et affaires sociales | Premier rendez-vous de la présidence hongroise, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/conseil-epsco-emploi-et-affaires-sociales-premier-rendez-vous-de-la-presidence-hongroise>

<sup>2765</sup> AFD supports the municipalities of Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir to promote women's access to employment and combat harassment in the public transport sector, Agence Française de Développement (Istanbul) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/afd-supports-municipalities-istanbul-ankara-and-izmir-promote-womens-access-employment-and-combat-harassment-public-transport-sector>

<sup>2766</sup> Campagne multilingue d'informations des travailleurs détachés et de leurs employeurs dans le secteur du BTP, Ministère du Travail et de L'Emploi (Paris) 2 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/campagne-multilingue-dinformations-des-travailleurs-detaches-et-de-leurs-employeurs-dans-le-secteur-du-btp>



G7 Labour and Employment Ministerial.<sup>2767</sup> The G7 Labour Ministers released a joint statement at the Ministerial, outlining priorities for creating more inclusive labour markets. The French delegation emphasized the importance of retraining seniors and tackling discrimination and violence in the workplace as part of its commitment to advancing labour equality.

On 18 September 2024, the Ministry of Labor and Employment, National Union of Local Missions and skills operator AKTO signed an agreement expanding their partnership, focusing on youth integration in the labour force.<sup>2768</sup> The agreement includes three new fields: wholesale trade, hotels and mechanical and agricultural woodworking. This underscores France's commitment to promoting greater opportunities for youth to become equally immersed in the workforce.

On October 10, 2024, the Interministerial Digital Directorate launched a barometer to address the gender divide in the digital sector by gathering insights into the experiences of women in the state's digital workforce and supporting their career advancement.<sup>2769</sup>

On 17 October 2024, Minister of Labor and Employment Astrid Panosyan-Bouvet piloted a campaign to promote apprenticeships among recruiters and organizations.<sup>2770</sup> The campaign aims to increase young people's participation in the workforce through supporting apprenticeship training centers and raising awareness about the advantages of apprenticeships. This showcases France's efforts to promote greater and varied access to the workforce for younger people.

On 24 October 2024, Minister Panosyan-Bouvet presented a new service, France Travail Pro, which supports companies throughout the recruitment process.<sup>2771</sup> This service includes considerations of inclusivity as it partners with organizations focused on marginalized groups to help employers connect with individuals that have trouble entering the labour force.

On 15 November 2024, Minister Panosyan-Bouvet announced successful negotiations between labour unions and employers on unemployment insurance and senior citizens' employment.<sup>2772</sup> The parties agreed to encourage seniors' participation in the workforce by lowering the retirement age for gradual retirement, promoting part-time work and introducing new employment contracts for those over 60.

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<sup>2767</sup> G7 Travail-Emploi | Réunion des ministres en Italie de septembre 2024, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/g7-travail-emploi-reunion-des-ministres-en-italie-de-septembre-2024>

<sup>2768</sup> Insertion des jeunes: élargissement du partenariat entre le ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi, l'UNML et AKTO, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 28 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/insertion-des-jeunes-elargissement-du-partenariat-entre-le-ministere-du-travail-et-de-lemploi-lunml-et-akto>

<sup>2769</sup> Féminisation de la filière numérique de l'État : répondez au baromètre pour agir en faveur de la parité, Le numérique au service de l'efficacité de l'action publique (Paris) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/feminisation-de-la-filiere-numerique-de-letat-repondez-au-barometre-pour-agir-en-faveur-de-la-parite/>

<sup>2770</sup> Campagne apprentissage 2024: faire de l'apprentissage un levier de réussite pour tous les jeunes et les entreprises, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/mobiliser-les-employeurs-en-faveur-de-lapprentissage>

<sup>2771</sup> France Travail Pro: un nouveau partenaire RH pour les entreprises, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 25 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/france-travail-pro-un-nouveau-partenaire-rh-pour-les-entreprises>

<sup>2772</sup> Réussite de la négociation sur l'assurance chômage et l'emploi des seniors, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 15 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/reussite-de-la-negociation-sur-lassurance-chomage-et-lemploi-des-seniors>

On 12 December 2024, the Institut Français in Cotonou concluded the first seminar of the Academia Partnerships Africa-France program, which is organized by the French Development Agency (AFD) and other partners.<sup>2775</sup> The program focuses on promoting higher education and research in African countries with the goal of building job-oriented training programs to improve youth employability in critical economic sectors. During the seminar, stakeholders emphasized the importance of gender equality in training and highlighted that equality and inclusion would be central to the project's future.

On 10 February 2025, the Sport for Education and Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa initiative, supported by the AFD, announced its selection of 14 projects across eight African countries for funding.<sup>2777</sup> These projects will receive funding and technical support for initiatives that use sports to address youth unemployment in Africa, providing personal development and professional training so that youth can be active participants in the workforce.

On 11 February 2025, France concluded the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit which gathered 1,000 global stakeholders to address the economic, political, scientific and social questions posed by recent technological advancements such as AI.<sup>2778</sup> The summit featured sessions focused on professional equality and AI, algorithmic discrimination in recruitment and potential solutions to promote more gender-inclusive and

<sup>2778</sup> Semaine pour l'action sur l'intelligence artificielle : une conférence internationale au ministère du Travail, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 7 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/semaine-pour-laction-sur-lintelligence-artificielle-une-conference-internationale-au-ministere-du-travail#anchor-navigation-63>

equitable AI usage. This advances equality in the world of work by ensuring that new AI tools do not perpetuate biases when used in workplaces.

On 18 February 2025, the Ministry of Labor and Employment announced that by 1 March 2025, all workplaces with 50 or more employees will be required to calculate and display their professional equality index on their website, which measures gender equality in a given workplace.<sup>2779</sup> Additionally, enterprises with over 1,000 employees must calculate and publish any gender representation gaps in their executive bodies. Companies with scores below specific thresholds will also be required to publish progress reports outlining the corrective measures implemented to address these gender disparities in the workplace.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Panosyan-Bouvet convened researchers, organization leaders and social partners to assess workplace inequalities and discuss strategies to advance gender equality in the workplace to mark International Women's Day.<sup>2780</sup> During the event, the minister also presented the results of this year's professional equality index scores.

On 10 March 2025, Minister Panosyan-Bouvet participated in the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council in Brussels, meeting with European ministers to address demographic aging and develop strategies to enhance workforce participation among senior individuals.<sup>2781</sup> Minister Panosyan-Bouvet announced France's upcoming national campaign aimed at encouraging the employment of senior workers by combating stereotypes, maintaining employment for those over 50 and promoting their recruitment. In the context of the EU's Union of Skills initiative, Minister Panosyan-Bouvet also emphasized the importance of supporting women's access to careers in scientific fields.

France has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. Through comprehensive strategies such as action plans to combat racism, gender discrimination and underrepresentation, as well as programs to improve job prospects for youth and seniors and participation in multilateral forums, France has taken significant steps to ensure that underrepresented groups are provided with the opportunities and support necessary to succeed equally in the workforce. France has also taken strong action to improve gender equality in the world of work through the AFD, supporting global projects that combine sports and professional development to encourage the participation of marginalized groups in the workforce.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zainab Ibraheem*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 21 June 2024, Minister for Women Lisa Paus launched the National Day of Action "Succession is female!" to promote more women as business leaders in the skilled trades. The initiative is supported by the Ministry for Women, in collaboration with other federal ministries, chambers of trades and the nationwide women

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<sup>2779</sup> Égalité professionnelle : les entreprises ont jusqu'au 1er mars pour calculer et publier leurs résultats, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 18 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/egalite-professionnelle-les-entreprises-ont-jusquau-1er-mars-pour-calculer-et-publier-leurs-resultats-1>

<sup>2780</sup> Toutes et tous mobilisés pour l'égalité femmes-hommes au travail, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 5 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/toutes-et-tous-mobilises-pour-egalite-femmes-hommes-au-travail>

<sup>2781</sup> Retour sur le Conseil emploi et politique sociale de l'Union européenne du 10 mars 2025, Ministère du Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 18 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/retour-sur-le-conseil-emploi-et-politique-sociale-de-lunion-europeenne-du-10-mars-2025>

entrepreneur agency.<sup>2782</sup> This action aims to address gender inequality by encouraging female business succession, particularly in rural areas and medium-sized businesses, fostering gender equality and creating more opportunities for women in leadership roles within the craft sector.

On 25 June 2024, Minister Paus presented the third German Equal Pay Award in Berlin to Barilla Deutschland GmbH, metafinanz Informationssysteme GmbH and the Leipzig Opera.<sup>2783</sup> These companies were recognized for promoting equal pay through innovative measures such as wage monitoring and fair salary reviews. The award is part of the “Promote Equal Pay” program funded by the Ministry for Women to support companies in closing the gender pay gap.

On 26 June 2024, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth presented a new guide on part-time management in the highest federal authorities.<sup>2784</sup> This guide promotes work-family balance and aims to increase women’s participation in management roles. It outlines strategies to modernize federal working conditions and achieve equal leadership by 2025.

On 15 July 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary Annette Kramme met with Uzbekistan’s Minister of Employment and Labour Relations Bekhzod Musaev to discuss skilled labour needs and employment reforms.<sup>2785</sup> Her visit underscored Germany’s support for Uzbekistan’s commitment to enhancing labour standards and social policies.

On 17 July 2024, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth published its Eighth Annual Information of the Federal Government on the Development of the Proportion of Women in Management Levels, showcasing the advances of women in leadership positions in the public and private sector.<sup>2786</sup> This study reports that the share of women in management positions rose steadily from 20.1 per cent in 2015 to 43 per cent in 2023 and encourages further efforts toward gender parity in public supervisory bodies. This report supports the FüPo 2025 plan which seeks to ensure equal representation of women and men in management positions by 2025.

On 17 July 2024, the Ministry of Finance published its Departmental Report Sustainability 2024 reaffirming its commitment to equal labour participation regardless of gender, ethnic origin or sexual orientation and to the compatibility of childcare and the workplace.<sup>2787</sup> This report supports fostering an environment of transparency and inclusiveness within public agencies and leadership positions.

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<sup>2782</sup> Frauen im Handwerk stärken, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 21 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/frauen-im-handwerk-staerken-241278>

<sup>2783</sup> Lisa Paus verleiht German Equal Pay Award, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 25 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-verleiht-german-equal-pay-award--241766>

<sup>2784</sup> Leitfaden zum Thema Führen in Teilzeit vorgestellt, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/leitfaden-zum-thema-fuehren-in-teilzeit-vorgestellt-241242>

<sup>2785</sup> Skilled labour and reforms of employment and social policy: Parliamentary State Secretary Kramme visits Uzbekistan, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2024/parliamentary-state-secretary-kramme-visits-uzbekistan.html>

<sup>2786</sup> Achte Jährliche Information der Bundesregierung über die Entwicklung des Frauenanteils in Führungsebenen, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/service/publikationen/-achte-jaehrliche-information-der-bundesregierung-ueber-die-entwicklung-des-frauenanteils-in-fuehrungsebenen-242442>

<sup>2787</sup> BMF-Ressortbericht Nachhaltigkeit 2024, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Downloads/Broschueren\\_Bestellservice/bmf-ressortbericht-nachhaltigkeit-2024.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Downloads/Broschueren_Bestellservice/bmf-ressortbericht-nachhaltigkeit-2024.html)

On 25 July 2024, Parliamentary State Secretary Kramme worked to advance gender equality and the creation of fair employment opportunities during the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting.<sup>2788</sup> Alongside the G20 meeting, she engaged in a series of bilateral talks to promote vocational training, reflecting Germany's commitment to workforce inclusion for women and upskilling disadvantaged groups.

On 23 August 2024, Minister Paus and Minister Stark-Watzinger announced EUR3 billion in funding for full-day education and care programs for primary school children.<sup>2789</sup> The funding aims to expand full-day education and care for primary school children and thus facilitates the full participation of mothers compelled to work part-time due to childcare responsibilities and other groups in the workforce.

On 5 September 2024, State Secretary Rolf Schmachtenberg discussed the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the workforce with the Swedish Committee on the Labour Market and Sweden's ambassador in Germany Veronika Wand-Danielsson to share insights on employment policies.<sup>2790</sup> This conversation reinforces Germany's ongoing relationship and commitment to improving labour conditions for people with disabilities, enriched by external perspectives on German labour market policy.

On 6 September 2024, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth published the Recommendation Paper of the Working Environment Working Group as part of the Federal Government's Action Plan "Queer Living."<sup>2791</sup> Written by non-governmental organizations, it proposed measures to promote inclusive diversity strategies and awareness of the LGBTQ community along the employee life cycle from recruitment to separation. These recommendations aim to promote a working and management framework that is respectful and inclusive of individuals regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

On 12 September 2024, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs awarded the second Saxony-Anhalt Equality Prize recognizing projects intended to promote women's rights.<sup>2792</sup> The winning initiatives will enhance women's participation in the social scene, provide migration and integration aid and break gender roles in the workplace.

On 20 September 2024, Minister Paus and German Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Peter Adrian attended the event "Family as a Success Factor."<sup>2793</sup> They emphasized the importance of a work culture

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<sup>2788</sup> In Brazil, the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting agreed on a final declaration that calls for more fairness in society and the world of work, Federal Ministry for Employment and Social Affairs (Berlin) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2024/parliamentary-state-secretary-ramme-g20-brasil.html>

<sup>2789</sup> Investitionsprogramm Ganztagsausbau jetzt bundesweit am Start, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 23 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/investitionsprogramm-ganztagsausbau-jetzt-bundesweit-am-start-243548>

<sup>2790</sup> Dialogue with Swedish Members of Parliament on Labour Market Policy, Federal Ministry for Employment and Social Affairs (Berlin) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2024/dialogue-with-swedish-parliament-on-labour-market-policy.html>

<sup>2791</sup> Empfehlungspapier der Verbände und Vertreterinnen der LSBTIQ\*-Community an die Bundesministerien Arbeitsgruppe Arbeitsumfeld, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 6 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/244204/ef4c270010df7146923b39a4fcc9112/empfehlungspapier-ag-arbeitsumfeld-data.pdf>

<sup>2792</sup> Zweiter Gleichstellungspreis Sachsen-Anhalts verliehen, Süddeutsche Zeitung (Munich) 12 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.sueddeutsche.de/wirtschaft/preisverleihung-zweiter-gleichstellungspreis-sachsen-anhalts-verliehen-dpa.urn-newsml-dpa-com-20090101-240912-930-230940>

<sup>2793</sup> Unternehmenstag „Erfolgsfaktor Familie“: Vereinbarkeit von Familie und Beruf wird für die Fachkräftesicherung immer wichtiger, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/unternehmenstag-erfolgsfaktor-familie-vereinbarkeit-von-familie-und-beruf-wird-fuer-die-fachkraeftesicherung-immer-wichtiger-245774>

that facilitates work-life balance and access to flexible childcare, especially for mothers and their active participation in the workforce.

On 4 October 2024, Minister Paus endorsed the joint final document at the G7 gender equality meeting which reaffirmed Germany's dedication to advancing equal participation in the labour market.<sup>2794</sup> Key conclusions of the meeting include the need for the empowerment of women to pursue STEM careers and the recognition of structural obstacles to women's labour integration, such as the unbalanced distribution of paid and care positions.

On 7 October 2024, the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development announced its membership in the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, committing to ensuring a fair minimum wage to protect employees.<sup>2795</sup> Its statement of commitment specifically recognizes the vulnerability of women and agricultural workers and endorses domestic policy changes for an equal and sustainable agriculture industry.

On 16 October 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze announced Germany's support of the Ouissal Program in 2025 and 2026 during the sixth German-Arab Women's Forum hosted in Berlin.<sup>2796</sup> This initiative aims to facilitate a learning and cultural exchange between women entrepreneurs and female leaders in Arab countries to promote women's empowerment and labour participation.

On 17 October 2024, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Equal Opportunities Anja Stahmann kicked off the Equal Pay Day campaign 2025, mandating that employers outline their standards to allocate wages.<sup>2797</sup> This initiative promotes transparency to ensure fair pay practices across genders.

On 7 November 2024, Minister Paus and the Scientific Advisory Board for Family Issues presented the report titled "Guiding Principles and Legal Framework for a Family-Friendly Working World."<sup>2798</sup> This report offers recommendations to ensure more accessible and fair inclusion of women with children in the workforce, including a proposed new Compatibility and Care Protection Act.

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<sup>2794</sup> Lisa Paus unterzeichnet gemeinsames Statement bei G7-Gleichstellungstreffen, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 7 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-unterzeichnet-gemeinsames-statement-bei-g7-gleichstellungstreffen-246182>

<sup>2795</sup> Germany to join the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-to-join-the-global-alliance-against-hunger-and-poverty-230704>

<sup>2796</sup> Speech by Federal Minister Svenja Schulze at the 6th German-Arab Women's Forum, Federal Ministry for Economic Participation and Development (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/speeches-and-contributions/minister-svenja-schulze/speech-6th-german-arab-womens-forum-232796>

<sup>2797</sup> Anja Stahmann startet Equal Pay Day Kampagne 2025, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 17 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/anja-stahmann-startet-equal-pay-day-kampagne-2025-246158>

<sup>2798</sup> Lisa Paus nimmt neues Gutachten für eine familiengerechte Arbeitswelt entgegen, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-nimmt-neues-gutachten-fuer-eine-familiengerechte-arbeitswelt-entgegen-248202>

On 7 November 2024, the Ministry of Education and Research announced the guidelines for funding for professional training courses targeting low-skilled workers.<sup>2799</sup> This initiative aims to enhance employability and labour integration for people with limited access to continuing education and professional training.

On 10 November 2024, the Ministry for Family Affairs published the “Working Aid for Equality-Oriented Regulatory Impact Assessment.”<sup>2800</sup> This booklet creates legal norms regarding the equality of women and men and their right to professional development, representation in leadership positions and access to social benefits.

On 12 November 2024, Minister Paus participated in a panel entitled “Mothers have no lobby?,” reaffirming Germany’s commitment to women’s economic independence.<sup>2801</sup> She highlighted the importance of economic stability for women and the opportunity to secure an appropriate work-life balance with access to daycare centers and parental allowance.

On 15 November 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection published the Ludwig Fröhler Institute’s study “Women in the Craft Organization” study.<sup>2802</sup> The report investigated the inclusion of women in leadership positions in craft organizations under current legislation and explored potential enhancements for their involvement.

On 21 November 2024, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture announced the result of its project “LandMobil” which supported mobility in rural areas, including a bus system for trainees and young people to reach the workplace and vocational training centres.<sup>2803</sup> The findings of the project will inform policy, companies and associations to develop an accessible mobility system that facilitates labour integration for people in rural areas.

On 28 November 2024, Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth organized the Economic Equality 2030 conference bringing together a variety of stakeholders to discuss economic equality and gender.<sup>2804</sup>

On 5 December 2025, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth published the results from the “Queer Living” action plan, including recommendations for inclusion and diversity management in

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<sup>2799</sup> Richtlinie zur Förderung von Projekten zur Steigerung und Stärkung der berufsbezogenen Weiterbildung durch Qualifizierung und Etablierung von Weiterbildungsmentorinnen und Weiterbildungsmentoren Bundesanzeiger vom 14.11.2024, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin) 14 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/11/2024-11-14-bekanntmachung-weiterbildungsmentoren.html>

<sup>2800</sup> Arbeitshilfe gleichstellungsorientierte Gesetzesfolgenabschätzung, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 10 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/service/publikationen/arbeitshilfe-gleichstellungsorientierte-gesetzesfolgenabschaetzung-186982>

<sup>2801</sup> Lisa Paus: Wir müssen die ökonomische Eigenständigkeit von Frauen stärken, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 13 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-wir-muessen-die-oekonomische-eigenstaendigkeit-von-frauen-staerken-248818>

<sup>2802</sup> LFI-Studie: Frauen in der Handwerksorganisation, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 15 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Downloads/Studien/20241115-studie-frauen-in-der-handwerksorganisation.html>

<sup>2803</sup> Ergebniskonferenz des BMEL-Projekts “LandMobil”, Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft (Bonn) 22 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024.

<https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/132-ergebniskonferenz-landmobil.html>

<sup>2804</sup> Wirtschaftliche Eigenständigkeit von Frauen als Ziel Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 28 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 March 2025.

the federal administration.<sup>2805</sup> This recommendation paper aims to eliminate discrimination and bias against LGBTQ+ individuals through administrative training and employee networking.

On 11 December 2024, Minister of State and Federal Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration Reem Alabali-Radovan presented the 2024 Integration Report, recognizing the importance of immigrant workers.<sup>2806</sup> The report highlights the German skilled labour market's high dependence on immigrant workers, emphasizing the need for awareness and policy recognition of their importance and noting the need to better integrate their access to public services.

On 11 December 2024, the Federal Cabinet approved a gender violence protection strategy based on the Istanbul Convention to protect and support women and LGBTQ+ victims of violence and promote gender equality in the economic and political realm.<sup>2807</sup> Alongside other goals, this strategy aims to inform policies of labour integration for women and other vulnerable groups.

On 17 December 2025, the German Social Accident Insurance in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs published a report about psychological and physical violence against workers.<sup>2808</sup> This report highlights systemic differences in work conditions according to gender and aims to raise awareness about policies that tackle the gendered abuses in the health and social services sector, public administration and transport, trade and education sectors.

On 18 December 2024, Minister Paus approved the creation of a new position in the Ministry for Women to promote gender equality in leadership positions of major German companies.<sup>2809</sup> This new office will monitor progress towards balanced gender representation in executive boards, thereby promoting equal opportunities for women in leadership positions.

On 1 January 2025, Germany increased the minimum wage to EUR12.82 per hour and increased the mini-job or marginal employment wage to EUR556 per month.<sup>2810</sup> These measures aim to reduce income inequality and address gender and racial pay gaps due to the overrepresentation of marginalized groups in low-wage sectors.

On 1 January 2025, the Ministry of Education began accepting applications to certify professional skills for those without official certifications, according to the Vocational Training Validation and Digitization Act.<sup>2811</sup>

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<sup>2805</sup> Beteiligungsprozess zum Aktionsplan „Queer leben“ der Bundesregierung Empfehlungspapier der Verbände und Vertreter\*innen der LSBTIQ\*-Community an die Bundesministerien Arbeitsgruppe Arbeitsumfeld, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Bonn) 5 December 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/244204/971c4968c0938689ae692fb92b96a7e8/empfehlungspapier-ag-arbeitsumfeld-data.pdf>

<sup>2806</sup> Teilhabe in der Einwanderungsgesellschaft, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/integrationsbericht-2024-2324524>

<sup>2807</sup> Gemeinsam gegen Gewalt, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/gewaltschutzstrategie-2324606>

<sup>2808</sup> "Der Kampf gegen Gewalt bei der Arbeit bleibt eine Herausforderung", Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 17 December 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

[https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2024/kampf-gegen-gewalt-bei-der-arbeit-bleibt-eine-herausforderung.html?cms\\_templateQueryString=Arbeit++&cms\\_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms\\_showNoStatus=true](https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2024/kampf-gegen-gewalt-bei-der-arbeit-bleibt-eine-herausforderung.html?cms_templateQueryString=Arbeit++&cms_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms_showNoStatus=true)

<sup>2809</sup> Mehr Gleichstellung in Führungspositionen schaffen, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/mehr-gleichstellung-in-fuehrungspositionen-schaffen-252442>

<sup>2810</sup> Mindestlohn zum Jahresbeginn gestiegen, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 6 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/mindestlohn-steigt-2223632>

<sup>2811</sup> Özdemir: Wir schaffen neue Chancen für berufserfahrene Menschen ohne formalen Abschluss, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Berlin) 30 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bmbf.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/12/041231-berufsvalidierung.html?templateQueryString=Bildung>



This will enable higher-level vocational training and the formal recognition of labour skills, especially in trade, for immigrants, those with limited educational experience and people with disabilities.

On 22 January 2025, Minister Paus and Minister of Agriculture Cem Özdemir opened the 18<sup>th</sup> Future Forum for Rural Development focused on the integration of women and young people into the labour force in rural areas.<sup>2812</sup> The organizations and local government participants of this forum proposed solutions for the labour and political integration of women and youth, creating a platform for women's empowerment by addressing gender imbalances in rural areas.

On 29 January 2025, the Federal Cabinet approved the German Sustainability Strategy titled "Shaping transformation together in a fair way," recognizing the social dimension of sustainability and importance of gender equality and participation of young and elderly people and people with disabilities in education and the world of work.<sup>2813</sup>

On 5 February 2025, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs announced funding over seven years to support the "Fair Integration" information and advice service aimed at preventing the exploitation of German residents from developing countries and protecting local workers from wage undercutting.<sup>2814</sup> This new service will improve the labour conditions of immigrant workers with comprehensive labour and social law guidance and contribute to a more equitable work environment.

On 11 February 2025, Minister of State for Culture Claudia Roth presented the Gabriele Münter Prize 2025 to Parastou Forouhar in recognition of her contributions to contemporary art and her activism.<sup>2815</sup> This award honours female artists over 40, enhancing the visibility of women's art and addressing age and gender disparities, thereby promoting women's empowerment in the professional creative sector.

On 12 February 2025, Germany passed the National Action Plan against Labor Exploitation and Forced Labor with 83 measures to protect workers against exploitative employment.<sup>2816</sup> This policy improves equality in the world of work due to its focus on foreign workers who are particularly affected by precarious treatment, especially in the meat, catering, beauty and agriculture industries.

On 14 February 2024, the Federal Council approved an amendment to the Maternity Protection Act giving working women who suffer a miscarriage the opportunity to participate in a protection period of 14 weeks.<sup>2817</sup> This amendment promotes fair treatment by reducing discrimination and providing support for women's economic participation in the event of miscarriage.

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<sup>2812</sup> Lisa Paus beim 18. Zukunftsforum Ländliche Entwicklung, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 22 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-beim-18-zukunftsforum-laendliche-entwicklung-254656>

<sup>2813</sup> Nachhaltige Entwicklung gerecht gestalten, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 17 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/deutsche-nachhaltigkeitsstrategie-2025-2332540>

<sup>2814</sup> Schutz vor Ausbeutung und unfairem Lohndumping, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 10 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/faire-integration.html?cms\\_templateQueryString=Arbeit++&cms\\_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms\\_showNoStatus=true](https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/faire-integration.html?cms_templateQueryString=Arbeit++&cms_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms_showNoStatus=true)

<sup>2815</sup> Kulturstaaatsministerin Roth gratuliert Parastou Forouhar zum Gabriele Münter Preis 2025, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 11 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/kulturstaaatsministerin-roth-gratuliert-parastou-forouhar-zum-gabriele-muenter-preis-2025-2334252>

<sup>2816</sup> Nationaler Aktionsplan gegen Arbeitsausbeutung und Zwangsarbeit im Bundeskabinett beschlossen, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 12 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

[https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/nationaler-aktionsplan-gegen-arbeitsausbeutung-und-zwangsarbeit-beschlossen.html?cms\\_templateQueryString=Arbeitskr%C3%A4fte&cms\\_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms\\_showNoStatus=true](https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/nationaler-aktionsplan-gegen-arbeitsausbeutung-und-zwangsarbeit-beschlossen.html?cms_templateQueryString=Arbeitskr%C3%A4fte&cms_showNoGesetzesstatus=true&cms_showNoStatus=true)

<sup>2817</sup> Änderung des Mutterschutzgesetzes hat Bundesrat passiert, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 14 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/bundesrat-stimmt-erweiterten-mutterschutzfristen-nach-einer-fehlgeburt-zu-255072>

On 18 February 2025, Minister Paus hosted a discussion event based on the publication of the study “Diversity in German Supervisory Boards and Management Boards” highlighting progress towards gender equality in the workplace.<sup>2818</sup> This document encourages institutional and corporate accountability by setting industry standards and precedents to ensure diverse leadership in the future.

On 25 February 2025, Minister Paus participated in the Ministry of Labor’s Skilled Workers Congress to advocate for increased work-life balance policies, including those focused on daycare centres and care facilities.<sup>2819</sup> This would help to alleviate the burden on women and promote their economic participation as women are overrepresented in caregiving roles that limit work-life balance.

On 26 February 2025, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs announced seven winners for the German Skilled Worker Award including REWE Markt GmbH which supports employees without a degree to gain qualifications while working and the Sana Remscheid Hospital which provides advice for skilled immigrant workers in the nursing industry.<sup>2820</sup>

On 3 March 2025, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth organized a “Girl’s Day and Boy’s Day” event to expose young children to careers and vocational training irrespective of their gender.<sup>2821</sup> This event enabled young girls to explore various professional fields and to meet role models, challenging gender norms in the world of work, fostering diversity and expanding career horizons for girls and boys alike.

On 6 March 2025, the Ministry of Finance and UN Women Germany organized an event to highlight women in leadership positions in the financial industry and draw attention to gender gaps and family-work balance.<sup>2822</sup> This event promoted financial independence for women whilst addressing structural barriers and inspiring change through role models.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Paus restated Germany’s commitment to achieve fair and equal pay for women, in recognition of Equal Pay Day.<sup>2823</sup> Her speech raised awareness about the wage disparity between men and women and advocated for policy changes and legislative measures to close the wage gap.

On 10 March 2025, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Women Ekin Deligöz advocated for women’s economic empowerment and rights protections at the 69<sup>th</sup> United Nations Commission on the

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<sup>2818</sup> Mehr Diversität in deutschen Aufsichtsräten und Vorständen fördern, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 18 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/mehr-diversitaet-in-deutschen-aufsichtsr-aeten-und-vorstaenden-foerdern-255598>

<sup>2819</sup> Erziehungs- und Pflegeberufe stärken Vereinbarkeit von Familie und Beruf, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 25 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/erziehungs-und-pflegeberufe-staerken-vereinbarkeit-von-familie-und-beruf-256262>

<sup>2820</sup> Verleihung des Deutschen Fachkräftepreises 2025, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 26 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2025/verleihung-des-deutschen-fachkraeftepreises-2025.html>

<sup>2821</sup> Neue Perspektiven schaffen mit dem Girls’ Day und Boys’ Day, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 3 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/neue-perspektiven-schaffen-mit-dem-girls-day-und-boys-day-258842>

<sup>2822</sup> Gleichstellung von Frauen beginnt bei den Finanzen, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 10 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Ministerium/Veranstaltungen/Rueckblick/gleichstellung-von-frauen-beginnt-bei-den-finanzen.html>

<sup>2823</sup> Lisa Paus: Lohnlücke zwischen Frauen und Männern schließen, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 7 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/lisa-paus-lohnluecke-zwischen-frauen-und-maennern-schliessen-257138>

Status of Women.<sup>2824</sup> Her speech reaffirmed Germany's commitment to promoting women's economic independence and leadership through gender equal labour policies.

On 19 March 2025, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs announced the extension of the "KOMPASS - Compact Help for Solo Self-Employed" project which reimburses up to 90 per cent of fees for training courses completed by self-employed individuals.<sup>2825</sup> This extension will improve self-employed workers' skills and competitiveness by reducing financial barriers and enhancing their economic participation.

On 27 March 2025, Germany, the EU and Sweden pledged EUR6 million to fund gender equality in Ukrainian civil societies organizations focused on women leadership in politics, business and peace processes.<sup>2826</sup> This funding will support the integration of women in sectors where they have been underrepresented while addressing gender-based challenges in the war context.

On 2 April 2025, Chancellor Olaf Scholz inaugurated the third World Disability Summit in Berlin, drawing attention to the political responsibility to ensure the proper integration of people living with disabilities in the labour market and in social communities.<sup>2827</sup> His speech reaffirmed Germany's commitment to promoting the social and economic inclusion of people with disabilities.

On 2 April 2025, the Federal Cabinet passed a reform for the German Sustainable Development Strategy, emphasizing commitments to reduce inequalities and discrimination in the world of work and increase education for women, young and elderly people and people with disabilities.<sup>2828</sup> This reform defines key transformation areas for a more equitable future based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

On 3 April 2025, State Secretary Leonie Geber hosted "The future belongs to you!" event to commemorate Girls' Day 2025, featuring female leaders to highlight opportunities for young girls in STEM careers.<sup>2829</sup> This event encouraged underrepresented young women to pursue careers in science and technology fields by increasing awareness and advocating for towards gender diversity in the workplace.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. Germany has taken strong actions to support gender equality in the world of work including amending the Maternity Protection Act, announcing EUR3 billion in funding for full-day education and care programs to alleviate the burden of care work on women and adopting a violence protection strategy. It has also taken strong actions to support immigrant workers by funding the "Fair Integration" information and advice service and passing the National Action Plan against Labor Exploitation and Forced Labor. In addition, Germany has taken several strong actions supporting various groups such as the LGTBQ community, low-

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<sup>2824</sup> Ekin Deligöz ruft zum Schulterschluss für mehr Gleichstellung auf, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin), 10 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/ekin-deligoez-ruft-zum-schulterschluss-fuer-mehr-gleichstellung-auf-257272>

<sup>2825</sup> KOMPASS für Solo-Selbständige wird verlängert, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 19 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/zukunftssichere-solo-selbststaendigkeit-durch-kompass.html>

<sup>2826</sup> EU, Sweden, and Germany announce €44 million funding for Civil Society, including €6 million on gender equality, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Kyiv) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-sweden-and-germany-announce-%E2%82%AC44-million-funding-civil-society-including-%E2%82%AC6-million-gender\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-sweden-and-germany-announce-%E2%82%AC44-million-funding-civil-society-including-%E2%82%AC6-million-gender_en)

<sup>2827</sup> Inklusion als grundlegendes Menschenrecht, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 2 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/kanzler-bei-global-disability-summit-2340248>

<sup>2828</sup> Nachhaltige Entwicklung gerecht gestalten, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 2 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/suche/deutsche-nachhaltigkeitsstrategie-2025-2332540>

<sup>2829</sup> "Die Zukunft gehört Dir!" – Girls' Day 2025 im BMAS, Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales (Berlin) 3 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Meldungen/2025/girls-day-2025-unter-dem-motto-zukunft-gehoert-dir-im-bmas.html>

skilled workers, young people in rural areas, people with disabilities and migrants. Relevant actions include upskilling programs, increasing rural accessibility and improving remuneration and working conditions.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrea Gil Cano*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 27 June 2024, the Ministry of Finance and Economy published a decree activating incentives for permanent employment under the Irpef reform.<sup>2830</sup> Businesses increasing their number of permanent employees can benefit from a 120 per cent deduction on labour costs for the 2024 tax year, rising to 130 per cent for hires from vulnerable groups, including disabled individuals and women victims of violence. This initiative aims to promote stable employment while supporting marginalized groups.

On 10 July 2024, National Equality Councillor Filomena D'Antini emphasized the significance of protecting the network of equal opportunity councillors who are tasked with implementing effective measures to achieve equality in the labour market.<sup>2831</sup> This action supports the defence of labour equality regardless of marginalized characteristics.

On 11 July 2024, Minister of Labour and Social Policies Marina Calderone expressed her satisfaction with Italy's National Institute for Social Security achieving a gender equality certification.<sup>2832</sup> This certification reflects the Ministry's commitment to promoting female employment and ensuring gender equality in the world of work.

On 12 July 2024, Ministers of Labor and Social Policies Marina Calderone and Minister for Family, Birth Rate and Equal Opportunities Eugenia Roccella raised concerns about the potential for AI to introduce new workplace discrimination, highlighting this as a key topic for the G7 Labour Ministerial in Cagliari.<sup>2833</sup>

On 2 September 2024, Minister for Disabilities Alessandra Locatelli announced that applications had opened for organizations seeking incentives for hiring people under the age of 35 with disabilities.<sup>2834</sup> The announcement reaffirmed Italy's commitment to investing in talent development for all.

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<sup>2830</sup>Fisco: al via le maxi deduzioni per assunzioni a tempo indeterminato, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 27 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Fisco-al-via-le-maxi-deduzioni-per-assunzioni-a-tempo-indeterminato/>

<sup>2831</sup> Rapporto biennale sulla situazione del personale maschile e femminile: rafforzate le funzioni di controllo delle Consigliere di Parità, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 10 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/rapporto-biennale-sulla-situazione-del-personale-maschile-e-femminile-rafforzate-le-funzioni-di-controllo-delle-consigliere-di-parita>

<sup>2832</sup> A Inps la certificazione della parità di genere, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 11 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/inps-certificazione-parita-di-genere>

<sup>2833</sup> The National Conference of the Equality Counsellors (consiglieri di parità) at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/g7-labour/news/national-conference-equality-counsellors-ministry-labour-and-social>

<sup>2834</sup> Al via le domande per gli incentivi per le assunzioni delle persone con disabilità, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 2 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/al-via-le-domande-per-gli-incentivi-per-le-assunzioni-delle-persone-con-disabilita/>

On 17 September 2024, Minister Calderone spoke at the “Inclusive work: opportunities and challenges for people with disabilities” event, reaffirming Italy’s commitment to an inclusive society.<sup>2835</sup> The event was also marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Council of the Order of Labour Consultants and the National Association of Families and People with Intellectual Disabilities and Neurodevelopmental Disorders to advance job opportunities for disabled people.

On 1 October 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli held the G7 High-Level Event “Investing in Lifelong Learning for Job Creation and Resilience: a Dialogue with Africa.”<sup>2836</sup> The G7 Italian Presidency aims to enhance education in the African Union to drive employment in the continent.

On 5 October 2024, Minister Roccella hosted the G7 ministerial meeting on gender equality and women’s empowerment.<sup>2837</sup> The ministers released a declaration outlining commitments to achieve gender equality for women in the workforce.

On 14 October 2024, Italy hosted the first G7 Inclusion and Disability conference.<sup>2838</sup> The three-day conference featured panels on various topics related to disability inclusion including “Independent Living and Work Inclusion” for people with disabilities.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Locatelli and other G7 ministers signed the Solfagnano Charter.<sup>2839</sup> The charter reaffirms the G7’s commitment to the inclusion of people with disabilities across all of society, including in the economy.

On 22 October 2024, G7 Ministers responsible for Development met in Pescara, Italy.<sup>2840</sup> In the Pescara G7 Development Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, the Ministers affirmed the need for “effective education and skills development policies” to enhance job opportunities for African youth and investment in low- and middle-income countries for skills development pertaining to agriculture and food systems.

On 24 October 2024, Minister Calderone participated in the 60th anniversary celebrations of the International Labour Organization (ILO) International Training Centre.<sup>2841</sup> She affirmed Italy’s commitment to creating and advancing fairer work in collaboration with the ILO.

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<sup>2835</sup> Costruire una società inclusiva con opportunità per le persone con disabilità, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 17 September 2024. Translation provided by google translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/costruire-una-societa-inclusiva-con-opportunita-le-persone-con-disabilita>

<sup>2836</sup> Caserta. Education and training as drivers of growth for Africa in the G7 High-Level Event chaired by Deputy Minister Cirielli, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/caserta-istruzione-e-formazione-volano-di-crescita-per-lafrica-nellevento-g7-di-alto-livello-presieduto-dal-vice-ministro-cirielli/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/caserta-istruzione-e-formazione-volano-di-crescita-per-lafrica-nellevento-g7-di-alto-livello-presieduto-dal-vice-ministro-cirielli/)

<sup>2837</sup> G7 ministerial meeting on gender equality and women’s empowerment, G7 Italia (Matera) 5 October 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2025. [https://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/media/gdxhqsyg/matera-ministerial-statement\\_final\\_c.pdf](https://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/media/gdxhqsyg/matera-ministerial-statement_final_c.pdf)

<sup>2838</sup> Al via il primo G7 Inclusione e Disabilità, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 14 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/al-via-il-primo-g7-inclusione-e-disabilita/>

<sup>2839</sup> G7, i Ministri firmano la Carta di Solfagnano, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 16 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/g7-i-ministri-firmano-la-carta-di-solfagnano/>

<sup>2840</sup> Communiqué of the G7 Development Ministers’ Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>2841</sup> Minister Calderone: “We will continue to invest in fairer work,” Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/g7-labour/news/minister-calderone-we-will-continue-invest-fairer-work>

On 24 November 2024, the Department of Equal Opportunities announced EUR4 million in funding for projects to train STEM teachers in lower and upper secondary schools.<sup>2842</sup> These projects aim to help teachers understand how to advise career paths to students based on qualities and skills, rather than gendered or cultural stereotypes.

On 25 November 2024, National Equality Advisor Filomena D'Antini marked the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, reaffirming her commitment to combating gender discrimination.<sup>2843</sup> She emphasized the need for women's economic autonomy to break the cycle of violence.

On 20 December 2024, the Chamber of Deputies passed the 2025 Budget Bill.<sup>2844</sup> The budget expands and extends parental leave and updates the tax relief scheme for female workers with children.<sup>2845</sup> As well, the budget allocates an additional EUR3 million annually for economic opportunity and independence for women victims of violence. In addition, the budget creates a fund to combat illegal recruitment of foreign labour.

On 27 November 2024, Minister Locatelli met with the president of the National Deaf Organization.<sup>2846</sup> Subsequently, Minister Locatelli announced a roundtable discussion regarding the inclusion of deaf and hard-of-hearing people, including in the economy.

On 7 January 2025, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies launched PUOI PLUS, a new initiative to support the socio-labour integration of vulnerable migrants.<sup>2847</sup> Funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and European Social Fund Plus, the EUR42 million program will provide 6,200 inclusion paths including internships and employment services. The initiative aims to assist refugees, trafficking victims and former unaccompanied minors to secure job opportunities and training.

On 23 January 2025, National Councillor D'Antini and the Global Thinking Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to address gender-based economic violence and the gender pay gap.<sup>2848</sup> They also stressed the importance of financial autonomy to advance gender equality.

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<sup>2842</sup> Pubblicato l'Avviso STEM 2024 per il finanziamento di progetti innovativi di formazione rivolti al personale docente per favorire le competenze STEM in classe, Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità (Rome) 24 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/it/news-e-media/news/2024/avviso-stem-2024-per-il-finanziamento-di-progetti-innovativi-di-formazione-rivolti-al-personale-docente/>

<sup>2843</sup> Dichiarazione Consiglieria Nazionale di Parità - Giornata internazionale per l'eliminazione della violenza contro le donne, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 25 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/dichiarazione-consiglieria-nazionale-di-parita-giornata-internazionale-eliminazione-violenza-contro-donne>

<sup>2844</sup> Budget Law: Green light from the Chamber, passes to the Senate, Nova News (Rome) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 11 March 2025. <https://www.agenzianova.com/en/news/legge-di-bilancio-via-libera-dalla-camera-passa-al-senato/>

<sup>2845</sup> Bilancio di previsione dello Stato per l'anno finanziario 2025 e bilancio pluriennale per il triennio 2025-2027, Camera dei Deputati (Rome) 23 October 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 March 2025. <https://documenti.camera.it/leg19/pdl/pdf/leg.19.pdl.camera.2112.19PDL0112500.pdf>

<sup>2846</sup> A breve istituzione tavolo accessibilità e inclusione delle persone sorde, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 27 November 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate, Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/a-breve-istituzione-tavolo-accessibilita-e-inclusione-delle-persone-sorde/>

<sup>2847</sup> Labor PUOI PLUS: da oggi le domande per promuovere percorsi di inclusione per migranti vulnerabili, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 7 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/puoi-plus-da-oggi-le-domande-per-promuovere-percorsi-di-inclusione-migranti-vulnerabili>

<sup>2848</sup> AbSiglato un protocollo d'interesse tra la Consiglieria Nazionale di Parità e la Global Thinking Foundation, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/siglato-un-protocollo-d-intesa-tra-la-Consiglieria-Nazionale-di-Parita-e-la-Global-Thinking-Foundation>

On 7 February 2025, Italy provided the city of Milan with a Certification for Gender Equality.<sup>2849</sup> This certificate recognizes the city's efforts to achieve gender equality in the workplace and in other settings.

On 10 February 2025, Minister Locatelli and Azimut hosted a conference focused on working with disabilities<sup>2850</sup> During the conference, the Minister emphasized the importance of legislation to advance the inclusion of disabled people in the workplace, commended Italy for its existing legislation and discussed challenges.

On 17 March 2025, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies announced the adoption of the non-binding guidelines "for the planning and design of training activities preparatory to obtaining gender equality certification."<sup>2851</sup> These guidelines were developed in collaboration with other stakeholders which seek to enhance and ensure the quality of these training activities.

On 21 March 2025, Minister Locatelli hosted the ComoLake Inclusion event, featuring panels discussing the inclusion of people with disabilities in the workforce.<sup>2852</sup> The Minister reaffirmed Italy's commitment to prioritize inclusion for people with disabilities.

On 4 April 2025, Minister Locatelli released a statement calling for the inclusion of autistic people across a wide range of sectors, committing EUR30 million to support people with autism.<sup>2853</sup> The Minister also noted that the government will announce a call for proposals to assist people with disabilities, allocating EUR300 million towards this initiative.

On 7 May 2025, the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic announced the coming into force of a bonus scheme for women and youth, focusing particularly on women in disadvantaged areas of Southern Italy.<sup>2854</sup> Under this scheme, employers are incentivized to hire women and youth by exempting these firms from social security contributions.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. Italy has taken strong action towards equality in the world of work for migrants, people with disabilities, youth and other regionally disadvantaged groups in the form of tangible investments towards education, workplace improvement, and hiring incentives. Italy has also taken strong action towards women's employment, namely through social security contribution exemptions.

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<sup>2849</sup> Labor Policies. The Municipality of Milan obtains the certification for Gender Equality, Comune di Milano, (Milan) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.comune.milano.it/en/politiche-del-lavoro-il-comune-di-milano-ottiene-la-certificazione-per-la-parita-di-genere>

<sup>2850</sup> "Disabilità e lavoro: la sfida possibile", il convegno organizzato da Azimut e dal Ministro per le disabilità, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 10 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/disabilita-e-lavoro-la-sfida-possibile-il-convegno-organizzato-da-azimut-e-dal-ministro-per-le-disabilita/>

<sup>2851</sup> Adozione delle Linee guida per la programmazione e progettazione delle attività di formazione propedeutiche all'ottenimento della certificazione della parità di genere, Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali (Rome) 17 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/pagine/adozione-delle-linee-guida-la-programmazione-e-progettazione-delle-attivita-di-formazione-propedeutiche-all-ottenimento-della-certificazione-della-parita-di-genere>

<sup>2852</sup> Locatelli: "Al Comolake Inclusion per costruire un futuro più inclusivo per tutti," Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 21 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/locatelli-al-comolake-inclusion-per-costruire-un-futuro-piu-inclusivo-per-tutti/>

<sup>2853</sup> Locatelli: Autismo, con 30 milioni a supporto dei progetti sociali, Ministro per le disabilità (Rome) 4 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://disabilita.governo.it/it/notizie/locatelli-autismo-con-30-milioni-a-supperto-dei-progetti-sociali/>

<sup>2854</sup> TESTO COORDINATO DEL DECRETO-LEGGE 7 maggio 2024, n. 60 , Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana (Rome) 7 May 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2024/07/06/24A03521/SG>

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Catherine Evelyn Moore Donkin*

## **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 21 June 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare convened the ninth “Study Group on Promoting Women’s Participation in the Employment Sector” to review policies on workplace harassment and promote gender equality.<sup>2855</sup> The session gathered public service officials, human resources managers and equal opportunity officers to discuss strategies aimed at improving women’s labour market participation. This initiative aligns with ongoing efforts to create equitable employment conditions and enhance women’s representation in leadership roles across various sectors.

On 28 June 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare released the results of consultations on the prohibition of discrimination against persons with disabilities and the obligation to provide reasonable accommodation in employment.<sup>2856</sup> The Labor Bureau accepted ten applications for conflict resolution assistance, while the Disability Employment Mediation Council processed nine mediation applications. These results emphasized ongoing efforts to promote equality in the labour market and strengthen support for individuals with disabilities.

On 28 June 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare published its FY2023 report on job placements for persons with disabilities through Hello Work.<sup>2857</sup> The report showed a 6.9 per cent increase in new job applications, reaching 249,490, while employment cases rose by 8.0 per cent to 110,756. These placements reflect the government’s ongoing commitment to enhance workforce inclusion for persons with disabilities across Japan.

On 8 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare launched a pilot vocational training program for non-regular workers, subsidized by the Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities and Job Seekers.<sup>2858</sup> The program aims to provide flexible training in fields such as digital skills and administration, enhancing employment opportunities for part-time and casual workers. The initiative supports up to 720 participants and emphasizes a variety of training formats, including e-learning, to accommodate different lifestyles.

On 9 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare launched a consultation service to support companies employing people with disabilities through teleworking.<sup>2859</sup> This initiative aimed to enhance remote work opportunities using information and communications technologies and provided tailored support to

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<sup>2855</sup> 第9回「雇用の分野における女性活躍推進に関する検討会」を開催します（開催案内, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 19 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_40815.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_40815.html)

<sup>2856</sup> 「雇用の分野における障害者の差別禁止・合理的配慮の提供義務に係る相談等実績（令和5年度）」を公表しました, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41002.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41002.html)

<sup>2857</sup> 令和5年度 ハローワークを通じた障害者の職業紹介状況などの取りまとめを公表します, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_40951.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_40951.html)

<sup>2858</sup> 令和5年度 ハローワークを通じた障害者の職業紹介状況などの取りまとめを公表します, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 8 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41218.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41218.html)

<sup>2859</sup> 障害者のテレワーク雇用を推進する企業向け相談窓口を開設しました, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41280.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41280.html)



address employer challenges. The Ministry also held seminars to guide companies on hiring disabled individuals via telework, fostering greater labor market inclusion and diversity.

On 10 July 2024, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) announced a technical cooperation project with Ukraine to promote “Small-Scale Horticultural Agriculture” by increasing the agricultural production and business skills of farmers through vocational training. This initiative will focus specifically on women farmers and work towards the Sustainable Development Goals of gender equality, decent work and economic growth and zero hunger.

On 29 July 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare convened the 11th Study Group on Promoting Women’s Participation in the Employment Sector both in-person and online.<sup>2860</sup> The agenda included a draft report and discussions to advance women’s active engagement in the workforce. This meeting was part of the Ministry’s ongoing efforts to promote policies that support women’s employment and ensure equitable participation across various industries, fostering inclusive opportunities and addressing structural barriers for women in the workforce.

On 10 September 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare convened the 71st Employment Environment and Equality Subcommittee of the Labor Policy Council.<sup>2861</sup> The agenda included discussions on the Fiscal Year 2025 budget request, annual evaluations, updates on the Act on Childcare Leave and Family Care Leave and measures to promote women’s workforce participation and anti-harassment initiatives.

On 1 October 2024, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare implemented revisions to the Special Job Seeker Employment Development Subsidy to enhance usability and promote fair job opportunities.<sup>2862</sup> Key updates include redefining the qualifying work experience criteria and allowing shorter training periods for public occupational qualifications. This initiative fosters inclusive hiring practices and expanded training opportunities for marginalized job seekers, promoting fair employment opportunities.

On 5 November 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement of up to USD30 million to finance Türkiye’s project to support micro, small and medium enterprises in its rural areas, including those operated by women.<sup>2863</sup> This initiative aims to expand employment opportunities and improve economic disparities between urban and rural areas.

On 26 December 2024, the Labour Policy Council published a recommendation to increase women’s workforce participation and address workplace harassment.<sup>2864</sup> The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare plans to draft a bill based on the recommendation and submit it to the Council for consultation.

On 29 January 2025, the Government of Japan announced that it will cease funding for the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women after the Committee’s concluding

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<sup>2860</sup> 第11回「雇用の分野における女性活躍推進に関する検討会」を開催します(開催案内), 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 29 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 Oct 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_41735.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_41735.html)

<sup>2861</sup> 第71回 労働政策審議会雇用環境・均等分科会(ペーパーレス)を開催します(開催案内), 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 10 Sept 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 Oct 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_43322.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_43322.html)

<sup>2862</sup> 特定求職者雇用開発助成金(成長分野等人材確保・育成コース)は、より利用しやすくなるよう制度の見直しを行います, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 1 Oct 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 Oct 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_43992.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_43992.html)

<sup>2863</sup> Signing of a Loan Agreement for the Project to Support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Rural Areas of Turkey (Private Sector Investment Finance): 100th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Turkey: Contributing to the Improvement of Economic Disparities, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241030\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241030_21.html)

<sup>2864</sup> 労働政策審議会建議「女性活躍の更なる推進及び職場におけるハラスメント防止対策の強化について」を公表します(Tokyo) 26 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000073981\\_00016.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000073981_00016.html)

observations implored Japan to revise its male-only royal succession laws.<sup>2865</sup> Press Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Toshihiro Kitamura also shared that the committee members' planned visit to Japan would also be cancelled. This action is antithetical to the commitment as it hinders actions to end discrimination against women, including in the workforce, thereby opposing the goal of accelerating gender equality in the world of work.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. Japan has advanced work equality for part-time workers and people with disabilities. For instance, Japan introduced vocational training programs for non-regular workers and implemented remote work support services for employees with disabilities. However, Japan has not taken strong actions towards advancing gender equality beyond organizing study groups, discussion panels and verbal affirmations. Furthermore, Japan has taken action directly antithetical to the commitment by withdrawing funding for the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: JunHan Wang*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 11 July 2024, the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Liz Kendall visited Leeds to reaffirm the government's commitment to its Back to Work Plan.<sup>2866</sup> She also confirmed that the pillars of the Back to Work Plan are to create "[a] new national jobs and career service," establish "work, health and skills plans" at the local level and guarantee jobs for young people aged 18 to 21. The plan will focus on training opportunities for youth and will support disabled individuals and those with health conditions to get suitable positions.

On 18 September 2024, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves stated her support for the Invest in Women Taskforce.<sup>2867</sup> The taskforce aims to "establish a funding pool of more than GBP250 million for female-founded businesses through private capital."

On 1 October 2024, the United Kingdom announced that "the Employment (Allocation of Tips) Act and the statutory Code of Practice on fair and transparent distribution of tips" had come into force.<sup>2868</sup> Going forward, employees will receive 100 per cent of the tips, gratuities and service charges that a business receives. The new law is estimated to help workers gain an additional GBP200 million in wages which would have previously gone to businesses, supporting labour equality for those working in the service sector.

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<sup>2865</sup> Japan to halt funding for a UN women's rights panel over call to end male-only imperial succession, The Associated Press (New York) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://apnews.com/article/japan-un-gender-equality-women-emperor-succession-d093b3e1774493548c7b1bd183d2c516>

<sup>2866</sup> Back to Work Plan will help drive economic growth in every region, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/back-to-work-plan-will-help-drive-economic-growth-in-every-region>

<sup>2867</sup> Chancellor: "Everyone can do something for women's equality," HM Treasury and Rachel Reeves MP (London) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-everyone-can-do-something-for-womens-equality>

<sup>2868</sup> Millions to take home more cash as Tipping laws come into force, Department of Business and Trade and Justin Madders MP (London) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/millions-to-take-home-more-cash-as-tipping-laws-come-into-force>

On 10 October 2024, the Employment Rights Bill was revealed in Parliament.<sup>2869</sup> The bill aims to balance the needs of workers and employers in the United Kingdom's job market. In part, the Employment Rights Bill strengthens the rights of women in the workplace by increasing protections for pregnant people, mothers and menopausal people, as well as requiring large employers to have specific plans to prevent gender pay gaps. In addition, the Employment Rights Bill expands requirements to allow flexible work where feasible.

On 15 October 2024, the Public Services Committee published its report titled "Think Work First: the transition from education to work for young disabled people," recommending several actions to support disabled people entering the workforce.<sup>2870</sup> The committee released the report in various formats to improve accessibility for the populations it addresses.

On 18 October 2024, Mariella Frostrup was appointed as the new Menopause Employment Ambassador.<sup>2871</sup> She will work to improve the workplaces for women experiencing menopause and help them continue to contribute to the economy and advance their careers.

On 23 October 2024, Development Minister Anneliese Dodds announced GBP7.5 million in funding over two years to the World Bank's Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality.<sup>2872</sup> The Umbrella Facility "supports the generation of high-quality data and evidence to address gender inequality and boost women's economic and social empowerment."

On 24 October 2024, Attorney General for England and Wales and Advocate General for Northern Ireland Richard Hermer addressed the United Nations Security Council on the topic of "women building peace in a changing environment."<sup>2873</sup> In his speech, Attorney General Hermer highlighted that addressing gender inequality in the workplace is essential to long-term solutions for gender-based violence.

On 26 October 2024, new sexual harassment protections came into force in the United Kingdom, requiring that employers take reasonable action to anticipate and prevent sexual harassment in the workplace.<sup>2874</sup> Charges against this duty will automatically be investigated if an instance of sexual harassment in the workplace has occurred.

On 28 October 2024, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves announced the Get Britain Working package, a GBP240 million investment to reduce economic inactivity in the United Kingdom.<sup>2875</sup> This package will

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<sup>2869</sup> Government unveils significant reforms to employment rights, Department for Business and Trade (London) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-most-significant-reforms-to-employment-rights>

<sup>2870</sup> Aspiration and specialist support are key to young disabled people thriving in the workplace, Public Services Committee (London) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/430/public-services-committee/news/203264/aspiration-and-specialist-support-are-key-to-young-disabled-people-thriving-in-the-workplace/>

<sup>2871</sup> Women's health campaigner Mariella Frostrup appointed as Government Menopause Employment Ambassador, Department of Work and Pensions (London) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/womens-health-campaigner-mariella-frostrup-appointed-as-government-menopause-employment-ambassador>

<sup>2872</sup> UK Development Minister to push for gender equality at World Bank Annuals, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and Anneliese Dodds MP (Washington DC) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-development-minister-to-push-for-gender-equality-at-world-bank-annuals>

<sup>95</sup> The full and safe participation of women is crucial to successful peacebuilding efforts: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign Commonwealth Office and Lord Richard Hermer (New York) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-full-and-safe-participation-of-women-is-crucial-to-successful-peacebuilding-efforts-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>2874</sup> New protections from sexual harassment come into force, Office for Equality and Opportunity and Anneliese Dodds MP (London) 26 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-protections-from-sexual-harassment-come-into-force>

<sup>2875</sup> Chancellor: "We will build a Britain where those who can work, will work," HM Treasury and Rachel Reeves MP (London) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-we-will-build-a-britain-where-those-who-can-work-will-work>

provide funding to local employment services to make it easier for people out of work to find employment. The investment will also focus on skills and supports for disabled people and those with long-term sickness.

On 12 November 2024, Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy and Minister for Youth Stephanie Peacock launched the National Youth Strategy, committing GBP85 million and GBP100 million to improve support services for youth.<sup>2876</sup> This strategy includes Expanding the Creative Careers Programme which will increase opportunities to access careers in the arts.

On 18 November 2024, the UK-ASEAN [Association of South East Asian Nations] Trade Mission in Phnom Penh connected UK companies with 75 women-led Cambodian businesses over two days.<sup>2877</sup> The event aimed to strengthen trade ties and empower women entrepreneurs, facilitating opportunities for Cambodian women-owned businesses to access the UK market.

On 21 November 2024, the UK-ASEAN Trade Mission in Jakarta connected UK companies with 25 women-led Indonesian businesses in textiles, apparel, handicrafts and footwear over two days.<sup>2878</sup> The event focused on fostering stronger trade relationships and supporting women entrepreneurs.

On 26 November 2024, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Liz Kendall presented the Get Britain Working White Paper, outlining reforms to address employment challenges.<sup>2879</sup> The plan introduces a new Jobs and Careers Service with GBP55 million in funding, GBP45 million funding to ensure all young people are earning or learning and GBP125 million funding to tackle economic inactivity in local areas. These reforms aim to reduce unemployment and improve job prospects, particularly for those affected by health issues.

On 28 November 2024, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Equalities) Seema Malhotra and Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Care Stephen Kinnock announced a crackdown on employers abusing the visa system.<sup>2880</sup> The new measures banned businesses with repeated visa violations or serious breaches from hiring overseas workers. These actions aim to protect migrant workers from exploitation and ensure compliance with immigration and labor laws.

On 3 December 2024, UK Export Finance announced its partnership with Female Founder Finance to support women owned businesses with export finance guidance.<sup>2881</sup> This partnership aims to mitigate missed opportunities for women in business and help them to expand their businesses.

On 18 December 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions announced GBP3.5 million in funding for 17 Integrated Care Boards across England to provide innovative treatments for musculoskeletal conditions.<sup>2882</sup>

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<sup>2876</sup> New National Youth Strategy to break down barriers to opportunity for young people, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (London) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-national-youth-strategy-to-break-down-barriers-to-opportunity-for-young-people>

<sup>2877</sup> UK Trade Mission bridges ASEAN women entrepreneurs and UK businesses in Cambodia, British Embassy to Phnom Penh (Phnom Penh) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-trade-mission-bridges-asean-women-entrepreneurs-and-uk-businesses-in-cambodia>

<sup>2878</sup> UK-ASEAN Trade Mission connects UK-Indonesia women entrepreneurs, UK Mission to ASEAN (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-asean-trade-mission-connects-uk-indonesia-women-entrepreneurs>

<sup>2879</sup> Get Britain Working White Paper, Department of Work and Pensions (London) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/get-britain-working-white-paper>

<sup>2880</sup> Rogue employers will be banned from hiring overseas workers, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rogue-employers-will-be-banned-from-hiring-overseas-workers>

<sup>2881</sup> UKEF partners with business group to support female entrepreneurs, UK Export Finance (London) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukef-partners-with-business-group-to-support-female-entrepreneurs>

<sup>2882</sup> Economic inactivity set to be tackled with funding boost, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/economic-inactivity-set-to-be-tackled-with-funding-boost>

This initiative aims to address economic inactivity by supporting the 646,000 people who are off from work due to musculoskeletal conditions with the services they need to go back to work.

On 24 January 2025, the Department for Work and Pensions announced the commission of a new report on the employment of disabled people in the United Kingdom and the challenges and barriers faced both by them and the businesses that hire them.<sup>2883</sup> The report will be released in April 2025 and will contain recommendations on how to better accommodate disabled and ill people in the workforce.

On 29 January 2025, the Department for Work and Pensions announced the commission of an independent panel to advise the government on how to improve the state of the job market for neurodiverse individuals.<sup>2884</sup> The panel will be composed of academics with knowledge of neurodiversity and is being chaired by Professor Amanda Kirby.

On 4 February 2025, the government enacted legislation to raise the national living wage to GBP12.21 per hour and the national minimum wage for individuals aged 18-20 to GBP10.00 per hour, effective 1 April 2025.<sup>2885</sup> The legislation also increased the minimum wage for apprentices to GBP7.55 per hour. Overall, this action addresses pay gaps for different age groups and those employed in different types of work.

On 11 February 2025, the UK–Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) programme for the advancement of girls' education began accepting applications for its Women in STEM Scholarships.<sup>2886</sup> The programme includes 11 full-ride scholarships to master's programs at the University of Manchester and the University of Warwick which are available only to women from ASEAN member states or Timor-Leste. This initiative aims to combat the global exclusion of women from STEM jobs.

On 4 March 2025, the UK Parliament tabled amendments to the Employment Rights Bill to promote “long-term sustainable, inclusive, and secure economic growth.”<sup>2887</sup> The proposed amendments include provisions to expand access to sick pay, ensure that workers' contracts reflect actual hours worked and strengthen the enforcement of employment rights for workers at “umbrella companies.”

On 4 March 2025, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced a GBP38 million Rural England Prosperity Fund for rural communities.<sup>2888</sup> The funding will be allocated to projects such as investments to diversify rural economies away from agriculture and proposals to create “rural business hubs.”

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<sup>2883</sup> Ex-high street chief to keep Britain working with review into business support for disabled and long-term sick, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ex-high-street-chief-to-keep-britain-working-with-review-into-business-support-for-disabled-and-long-term-sick>

<sup>2884</sup> Employment prospects for neurodiverse people set to be boosted with launch of new expert panel, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/employment-prospects-for-neurodiverse-people-set-to-be-boosted-with-launch-of-new-expert-panel>

<sup>2885</sup> April pay rise set to boost pockets of over 3 million workers, Department for Business and Trade (London) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/april-pay-rise-set-to-boost-pockets-of-over-3-million-workers>

<sup>2886</sup> ASEAN-UK SAGE Women in STEM Scholarships 2025 Open to Empower Women to Lead in STEM, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (UK Mission to ASEAN) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/asean-uk-sage-women-in-stem-scholarships-2025-open-to-empower-women-to-lead-in-stem>

<sup>2887</sup> Employment Rights Bill to boost productivity for British workers and grow the economy, Department for Business and Trade (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/employment-rights-bill-to-boost-productivity-for-british-workers-and-grow-the-economy>

<sup>2888</sup> Government funding for rural communities set out, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-funding-for-rural-communities-set-out>

On 8 March 2025, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced the appointment of Harriet Harman as the United Kingdom's first Special Envoy for Women and Girls.<sup>2889</sup> She is tasked with coordinating the United Kingdom's global gender equality efforts, including promoting equal access to education.

On 8 March 2025, the Office for Equality and Opportunity issued a press release reaffirming the government's commitment to closing the gender pay gap.<sup>2890</sup> The press release also highlighted the economic value of women's inclusion in the workforce.

On 8 March 2025, the British High Commission in Dhaka hosted an event with female Bangladeshi leaders to advocate for the advancement of women's rights in Bangladesh.<sup>2891</sup> Discussions centred around women's enfranchisement in decisions across a wide variety of sectors.

On 10 March 2025, the Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador James Kariuki delivered a speech at the UN Security Council meeting on Afghanistan.<sup>2892</sup> This speech expressed concern over the ongoing government ban on secondary education for girls in Afghanistan and stressed the importance of lifting the ban alongside more comprehensive accountability efforts.

On 10 March 2025, the United Kingdom Mission to ASEAN announced a joint study with the Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services to explore policy reforms that could better support female entrepreneurs of small and medium-sized enterprises in ASEAN countries.<sup>2893</sup> The research focused on micro-enterprises, which are disproportionately led by women and often face regulatory barriers.

On 13 March 2025, Minister for Africa and the United Nations Ray Collins delivered a speech during the General Discussion at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, reaffirming the United Kingdom's commitment to advancing the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups.<sup>2894</sup> The minister also voiced concern over the global rollback of progress in gender equality.

On 18 March 2025, the Department for Work and Pensions announced a GBP1 billion investment for support services for disabled individuals and those living with long-term conditions to seek employment.<sup>2895</sup> The announcement included the introduction of a "Right to Try Guarantee" intended to prevent disabled

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<sup>2889</sup> Women's rights to be championed by appointment of new UK Special Envoy, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/womens-rights-to-be-championed-by-appointment-of-new-uk-special-envoy>

<sup>2890</sup> Women key to unlocking growth says Minister for Women and Equalities, Office for Equality and Opportunity (London) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-key-to-unlocking-growth-says-minister-for-women-and-equalities>

<sup>2891</sup> British High Commission Dhaka celebrates International Women's Day, reaffirming commitment to gender equality, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-high-commission-dhaka-celebrates-international-womens-day-reaffirming-commitment-to-gender-equality>

<sup>2892</sup> The UK unequivocally condemns the Taliban's ban on girls' education in Afghanistan: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-unequivocally-condemns-the-talibans-ban-on-girls-education-in-afghanistan-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>2893</sup> UK launches study on regulatory reform to enhance gender equality and support MSMEs in ASEAN, UK Mission to ASEAN (London) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-study-on-regulatory-reform-to-enhance-gender-equality-and-support-msmes-in-asean>

<sup>2894</sup> When women and girls are empowered in all their diversity, their leadership transforms societies: UK National statement at the UN Commission on the Status of Women General Discussion, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/when-women-and-girls-are-empowered-in-all-their-diversity-their-leadership-transforms-societies-uk-national-statement-at-the-un-commission-on-the-st>

<sup>2895</sup> Biggest shake up to welfare system in a generation to get Britain working, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-shake-up-to-welfare-system-in-a-generation-to-get-britain-working>

individuals from being discouraged from job-seeking out of fear of losing benefits too quickly. This investment was accompanied by various changes to the Personal Independence Payments system in the United Kingdom.

On 18 March 2025, the Office for Equality and Opportunity announced the establishment of a new Race Equality Engagement Group chaired by Member of the House of Lords Doreen Lawrence.<sup>2896</sup> The group was created to improve the representation of ethnic minorities in government decision-making and to ensure that their interests are reflected in the government's Plan for Change.

On 18 March 2025, the Ministry of Defence introduced a new independent support unit for women serving in the Armed Forces and a Violence Against Women and Girls Taskforce.<sup>2897</sup> The support unit, independent of the military chain of command, is designed to manage serious complaints related to bullying, discrimination and harassment. The taskforce aims to reduce violence against women within the Armed Forces.

On 2 April 2025, the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills released a report commissioned by the Department for Education on career guidance for students from low socioeconomic backgrounds.<sup>2898</sup> The report found that students at further education institutions generally had a positive view of the guidance they received. However, it also identified ongoing gaps and recommended further research into how best to support these students in planning their careers.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. It has taken several strong actions to improve the workplace rights of both women and disabled people, including tangible investments to benefit those groups in the workplace and broad improvements to workplace rights, including specific provisions for the inclusion of women. In addition, the United Kingdom has invested in opportunities in the workplace for people living in rural communities. Finally, the United Kingdom has acted to support gender equality in the world of work in a global context.

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

*Analyst: Catherine Evelyn Moore Donkin*

## **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 18 June 2024, the Department of Labor hosted a Women's Bureau summit on eliminating gender-based violence and harassment at work.<sup>2899</sup> Panelists discussed the Biden-Harris Administration's National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and International Labour Organization Convention 190 as frameworks to address workplace violence, followed by breakout sessions on strategies to advance these efforts. Women's Bureau Director Wendy Chun-Hoon called for systemic change to ensure safe workplaces.

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<sup>2896</sup> Government announces Race Equality Engagement Group to break down barriers to racial equality, Office for Equality and Opportunity (London) 18 March 2025. Access date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-race-equality-engagement-group-to-break-down-barriers-to-racial-equality>

<sup>2897</sup> Fundamental changes to Armed Forces processes to better support Women in UK Defence, Ministry of (London) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fundamental-changes-to-armed-forces-processes-to-better-support-women-in-uk-defence>

<sup>2898</sup> Careers guidance for students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds 'variable' – new report, Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (London) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/careers-guidance-for-students-from-lower-socioeconomic-backgrounds-variable-new-report>

<sup>2899</sup> READOUT: Department of Labor welcomes labor, business, stakeholders to discuss elimination of gender-based violence, harassment at work, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20240620>

On 21 June 2024, Deputy Undersecretary for International Labor Affairs Thea Lee and the Department of Labor concluded its participation at the 2024 International Labor Conference held in Geneva.<sup>2900</sup> Key outcomes of the conference include progress on developing a new international standard to protect against biological hazards at work and plans to address gender inequality in the care economy by promoting comprehensive leave policies and tackling discrimination.

On 26 June 2024, the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service announced eight new partners for its Employment Navigator and Partnership Program.<sup>2901</sup> Organizations in California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia will offer services such as career mentoring, apprenticeships and skill matching. This initiative, part of the Transition Assistance Program, aims to promote workforce inclusion and equal employment opportunities for veterans and their families.

On 27 June 2024, the Department of Labor announced a USD12.7 million funding opportunity through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Susan Harwood Training Grant Program.<sup>2902</sup> Grants aim to enhance workplace safety and promote job quality by providing instructor-led training in high-risk industries, focusing on underserved workers, including those with limited English proficiency and in temporary jobs.

On 27 June 2024, the Department of Labor announced over USD57 million in grants through the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program to help homeless and at-risk veterans secure meaningful employment.<sup>2903</sup> Managed by the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, this initiative provides access to job training, apprenticeships and placement services, collaborating with nonprofits and educational institutions to address veteran homelessness and promote workforce equality.

On 1 July 2024, the Department of Labor implemented a new rule extending overtime protections for salaried workers.<sup>2904</sup> This rule aims to promote labour equity and economic fairness, prioritizing lower-paid workers to give them greater financial security and work-life balance.

On 2 July 2024, the Department of Labor awarded nearly USD47 million in grants to 14 organizations through the Growth Opportunities program.<sup>2905</sup> These grants aim to address structural barriers to employment by providing jobs, skills training and supportive services to youth aged 15 to 24, particularly those affected by violence, crime and poverty. As part of the Reentry Employment Opportunities program, this initiative also focuses on leadership development, mentoring and conflict resolution skills, helping underserved communities access resources for labour market success.

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<sup>2900</sup> READOUT: Department of Labor leads US delegation to promote worker rights at 2024 International Labor Conference, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20240621>

<sup>2901</sup> US Department of Labor announces 8 additions to program to deliver employment assistance to transitioning service members, spouses, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20240626>

<sup>2902</sup> Department of Labor announces \$12.7M funding opportunity to support delivery of employee safety, health training, education, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osh/osh20240627-0>

<sup>2903</sup> US Department of Labor awards more than \$57M in grants to help homeless, at-risk veterans re-enter workforce, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20240627>

<sup>2904</sup> Statement from Acting Secretary of Labor Su on extending overtime protections for millions of workers, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20240701>

<sup>2905</sup> US Department of Labor awards nearly \$47M in grants to provide jobs, training, supportive services in communities affected by violence, poverty, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240702-0>



On 2 July 2024, the Department of Labor awarded over USD56 million in Pathway Home Five grants to help individuals receive job training and re-enter their communities post-incarceration.<sup>2906</sup> These grants are authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and aim to reduce recidivism by providing participants with skills valued by local employers. The program enables individuals to begin training before release and builds on partnerships between correctional facilities and workforce systems.

On 11 July 2024, Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su and White House Domestic Policy Advisor Neera Tanden announced a USD244 million investment by the Biden-Harris administration to modernize, diversify and expand the US Registered Apprenticeship system as part of the Investing in America agenda.<sup>2907</sup> This initiative includes nearly USD195 million allocated under the Apprenticeship Building America initiative and USD49 million through State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula grants. The funds will support public-private partnerships and provide underrepresented communities access to in-demand careers, aligning with broader legislative priorities such as the Inflation Reduction Act and the CHIPS and Science Act.

On 15 July 2024, the Department of Labor awarded up to USD13.9 million in funding to Management and Training Corp. and Net America Corp. to pilot information technology training and job services for Job Corps students in the Atlanta and San Francisco regions.<sup>2908</sup> This funding is supported by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and aims to expand career technical training and counseling for young people, particularly those from marginalized communities. These projects focus on providing industry-recognized credentials and career pathways in high-growth sectors, emphasizing labor force inclusion and gender equity in access to in-demand careers in information technology (IT).

On 18 July 2024, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced USD99 million in funding through the YouthBuild Program to support pre-apprenticeships in high-demand sectors such as construction, clean energy, healthcare and IT for young people aged 16 to 24 facing barriers to education and career development.<sup>2909</sup> This program provides academic support, skills training and employment services to empower youth in underserved communities. This initiative supports equitable access to career-building opportunities and helps marginalized youth gain essential skills for economic advancement.

On 31 July 2024, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced USD45 million in funding through the Reentry Employment Opportunities program to enhance employment opportunities for young adults aged 15 to 24 in communities impacted by violence, crime and poverty.<sup>2910</sup> This funding will support education, skills training, mentorship and paid work experience to address structural barriers and promote equitable access to employment.

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<sup>2906</sup> Department of Labor awards over \$56M in grants to help justice-involved people get needed job training, prepare them for return to communities, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240702>

<sup>2907</sup> Biden-Harris administration awards over \$244M to modernize, diversify, expand Registered Apprenticeships in growing industries, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240711-0>

<sup>2908</sup> US Department of Labor awards up to \$13.9M to fund pilot programs to deliver info-technology skills, training, job services to Job Corps students, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 30 September 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240715>

<sup>2909</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$99M in available funding to deliver education, occupational skills training, job services to young people, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240718-0>

<sup>2910</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$45M in funds available to improve employment opportunities for young people affected by violence, poverty, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240731>

On 5 August 2024, the Department of Labor implemented the Equal Employment Opportunity Program under DLMS 6 - Employee Relations.<sup>2911</sup> This program establishes a fair and impartial complaint process to handle allegations of discrimination, harassment and retaliation based on characteristics protected under federal law, including race, colour, religion and sex. The policy aims to promote a respectful workplace and safeguard employees' rights through transparency, oversight and compliance with federal statutes.

On 3 September 2024, Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su issued an Equal Employment Opportunity policy to foster a workplace centred on diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility within the Department of Labor.<sup>2912</sup> The policy aims to eliminate discrimination and advance equitable treatment, particularly for employees from historically underserved communities, by establishing Equal Employment Opportunity protections across all employment processes, including recruitment, promotions and training.

On 11 September 2024, the Department of Labor's Women's Bureau and Employment and Training Administration awarded USD1.4 million in Fostering Access, Rights and Equity grants to support four community organizations in preventing and responding to gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace.<sup>2913</sup> This funding aims to assist underserved and marginalized women workers, focusing on those from historically marginalized communities, including women of color, LGBTQI+ individuals and women affected by poverty and inequality.

On 20 September 2024, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration awarded USD203 million in grants through the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) to support training and career services for low-income older adults in 14 states and the District of Columbia.<sup>2914</sup> The SCSEP grants aim to assist participants in moving into unsubsidized employment, fostering self-sufficiency and promoting part-time community service roles for unemployed individuals aged 55 and older.

On 25 September 2024, the Biden-Harris administration, through the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, awarded USD71 million in grants to support 27 organizations across 14 states and the District of Columbia.<sup>2915</sup> This funding is aimed at improving job quality, expanding access to good jobs and preparing workers for high-paying jobs aligned with the administration's Investing in America agenda.

On 27 September 2024, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration awarded USD18.4 million in demonstration grants to nine national grantees involved in the SCSEP.<sup>2916</sup> This funding aims to evaluate the impact of sector-based training for low-income, older workers, focusing on aiding their transition to unsubsidized employment. These grants support partnerships with employers, training providers and public workforce systems, allowing grantees to enhance services with career navigation, occupational training and on-the-job training.

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<sup>2911</sup> DOL Equal Employment Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasam/centers-offices/civil-rights-center/dlms6-0100>

<sup>2912</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Policy Statement on Equal Employment Opportunity, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/oasam/centers-offices/civil-rights-center/internal/policies/equal-employment-opportunity-policy>

<sup>2913</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$1.4M in grants to prevent, respond to workplace gender-based violence, harassment, Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20240911>

<sup>2914</sup> US Department of Labor awards \$203M in grants to provide training, services to low-income older adults in 14 states, District of Columbia, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240920>

<sup>2915</sup> Biden-Harris administration awards \$71M in grants to improve job quality, prepare workers, expand access to good jobs in critical sectors, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240925>

<sup>2916</sup> US Department of Labor awards additional \$18.4M in grants, will measure effectiveness of sector-based training for low-income older adult workers, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20240927>

On 30 September 2024, the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy launched the "Situations and Solutions Finder," a new tool offering over 700 ideas for workplace accommodations tailored for workers with disabilities.<sup>2917</sup> Released during National Disability Employment Awareness Month, this tool drew from the Job Accommodation Network and allows users to filter accommodations by disability, limitation or occupation, helping employers and employees identify suitable modifications to the workplace. This initiative improves productivity and equal employment opportunities for disabled workers, while reinforcing the Office of Disability Employment Policy's commitment to supporting inclusive workplaces through accessible resources.

On 30 September 2024, the Department of Labor obtained a permanent injunction against Cargomatic Inc., a California transportation company, prohibiting it from retaliating against drivers and from unlawfully transferring liability for labour law violations onto them.<sup>2918</sup> This legal action reinforces the department's commitment to protecting workers' rights and ensuring compliance with labor laws, particularly against coercive contract provisions that undermine workers' legal protections.

On 1 October 2024, the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, launched a strategic enforcement initiative to combat illegal child labor practices.<sup>2919</sup> This initiative targets industries with a history of non-compliance, focusing on preventing child labor violations in hazardous occupations. Through joint investigations, outreach and education efforts, the agencies aim to protect vulnerable young workers and promote safe employment practices in New Jersey.

On 1 October 2024, the Department of Labor announced the availability of up to USD20 million in grants to support national out-of-school time organizations in expanding job training and career pathways for underserved youth.<sup>2920</sup> Through the Workforce Pathways for Youth demonstration grants, these organizations will collaborate with state and local affiliates to provide work-based learning, paid employment opportunities and foundational skills training to youth aged 14 to 21.

On 2 October 2024, the Department of Labor's Women's Bureau and Employment and Training Administration awarded USD6 million in Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations grants to expand job opportunities for women in pre-apprenticeship, Registered Apprenticeship programs and nontraditional occupations.<sup>2921</sup> This funding will enable organizations in eight states and the District of Columbia to train women in fields such as construction, advanced manufacturing and IT.

On 18 October 2024, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration awarded USD800,000 to the Kansas Local Area I Workforce Investment Board to support employment and training

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<sup>2917</sup> Department of Labor launches tool to provide workers with disabilities, employers ideas for workplace accommodations, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20240930>

<sup>2918</sup> Department of Labor obtains order forbidding California transportation provider from retaliating against drivers, interfering with their rights, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/sol/sol20240930>

<sup>2919</sup> US Department of Labor, New Jersey Department of Labor strategic enforcement initiative combats illegal child labour, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/whd/whd20241001>

<sup>2920</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$20M in grants available for out-of-school time organizations to increase access to good jobs for underserved youth, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20241001>

<sup>2921</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$6M in grants to expand job opportunities for women in apprenticeships, nontraditional occupations, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/wb/wb20241002>

services for workers affected by multiple layoffs and business closures between January and June 2024.<sup>2922</sup> This initial funding is part of a National Dislocated Worker Grant totaling up to USD2 million to provide retraining and skills development for dislocated workers across 62 Kansas counties, ensuring that impacted workers receive the assistance they need to re-enter the workforce.

On 13 November 2024, the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce released the Skills-First Hiring Starter Kit to help employers hire and promote workers based on their skills and knowledge, rather than formal degree qualifications.<sup>2923</sup> The initiative aims to offer economic opportunities to workers who possess relevant skills but may face barriers due to the lack of traditional credentials.

On 21 November 2024, the Department of Labor awarded USD4.3 million in funding to Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development to support employment and training services in communities affected by the opioid crisis.<sup>2924</sup> The grant will create disaster-relief positions to address humanitarian needs and offer training opportunities in fields such as addiction treatment and mental health. This initiative aims to help individuals reintegrate into the workforce while addressing the economic and public health impacts of opioid addiction.

On 21 November 2024, the Department of Labor announced the expansion of the Transition Assistance Program, enhancing employment resources for veterans, transitioning service members and their spouses.<sup>2925</sup> The program connects participants to apprenticeship opportunities, mentorship and training services to support their transition into civilian careers.

On 3 December 2024, the Department of Labor announced a USD3 million award to Humanity and Inclusion, a humanitarian organization that supports individuals with disabilities living in vulnerable situations such as poverty and conflict.<sup>2926</sup> This award will enable the organization to support access to decent work for people with disabilities in Cambodia while addressing labor exploitation. A secondary focus will be placed on those with multiple disabilities or those facing multiple forms of exclusion such as women, children and those with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.

On 12 December 2024, the Department of Labor announced USD99.3 million in grants in 31 US states to support young people to access the world of work.<sup>2927</sup> Seventy-one selected organizations will provide youth with training and employment services while employing a pre-apprenticeship model that supports disadvantaged youth to gain education and occupational skills training for careers in "healthcare, information technology, manufacturing and logistics, culinary arts and hospitality."

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<sup>2922</sup> US Department of Labor awards \$800K to provide employment, training services for workers displaced by multiple layoffs, closures, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20241018-0>

<sup>2923</sup> US Departments of Labor, Commerce release skills-first hiring guide to help employers hire, promote workers based on skill, knowledge, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20241113>

<sup>2924</sup> US Department of Labor awards Wisconsin \$4.3M in funding to support employment, training services in communities affected by opioid crisis, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20241121-0>

<sup>2925</sup> US Department of Labor expands employment assistance for transitioning service members, veterans, spouses with new training, partners, service areas, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/vets/vets20241121>

<sup>2926</sup> US Department of Labor awards \$3M to empower Cambodian organizations of persons with disabilities address labor exploitation, barriers to decent work, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20241203>

<sup>2927</sup> US Department of Labor awards \$99.3M in grants to support training, job services to prepare young people to succeed in high-demand careers, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20241212-0>

On 20 December 2024, the Department of Labor announced USD1.5 million in funding for Florida's Department of Commerce.<sup>2928</sup> This funding will be used to support individuals impacted by opioid use, addiction and overdose in 21 Florida counties to access employment and training services as well as disaster-relief jobs that address health and counseling shortages.

On January 13, 2025, the Department of Labor announced the availability of at least USD25 million in grants to provide training and employment services for incarcerated individuals pre- and post-release.<sup>2929</sup> This program supports Pathway Home 6 Grants, aimed at reducing recidivism by closing the gap between release and entry into workforce development programs and offering participants legal assistance, job search guidance and skills-based employment pathways.

On January 17, 2025, the Department of Labor awarded USD46.5 million in grants to help young people in communities affected by violence and poverty find pathways to success.<sup>2930</sup> This initiative supports 14 organizations across 12 states and the District of Columbia with job training, mentoring, leadership development and conflict resolution, fulfilling the department's commitments under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and expanding opportunities for justice-involved youth.

On 24 January 2025, the Department of Labor announced that it will no longer take action in relation to Executive Order 11246, noting that Acting Secretary of Labor Vince Micone has instructed employees "to cease and desist all investigative and enforcement activity under the rescinded Executive Order 11246 and the regulations promulgated under it."<sup>2931</sup> The Executive Order was rescinded by President Donald Trump on 21 January 2025, ending prohibitions to discrimination in government employment and by government contractors and sub-contractors as well as ending affirmative action requirements.<sup>2932</sup> Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 will continue to prohibit some forms of employment discrimination on the basis of race, colour, religion, sex and national origin, but protections have been weakened by rescinding Executive Order 11246. Furthermore, this action means that there are no longer any federal policies preventing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. As such, this action is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment on gender and other forms of equality in the world of work, which includes government employment.

On March 5, 2025, Acting Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Andrea Lucas announced that universities and colleges would be held accountable for creating hostile work environments for Jewish employees, underscoring that academic institutions are also major employers subject to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.<sup>2933</sup> This action represents the government's efforts to address antisemitism in the workplace.

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<sup>2928</sup> US Department of Labor awards Florida \$1.5M in funding to support jobs, training services in 21 counties affected by opioid crisis, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20241220>

<sup>2929</sup> US Department of Labor announces \$25M in available funding to support pre-release training, employment services to incarcerated people, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20250113>

<sup>2930</sup> US Department of Labor awards \$46.5M in grants to help young people in communities affected by violence, poverty find opportunities to succeed, U.S Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20250117>

<sup>2931</sup> US Department of Labor to cease and desist all investigative and enforcement activity under rescinded Executive Order 11246, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20250124>

<sup>2932</sup> Rescission of Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity": Legal Implications, U.S. Congress (Washington D.C.) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 30 April 2025. <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB11268>

<sup>2933</sup> EEOC Acting Chair Promises to Hold Accountable Universities and Colleges for Antisemitism on Campus Workplaces, U.S Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Washington D.C.) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.eeoc.gov/newsroom/eeoc-acting-chair-promises-hold-accountable-universities-and-colleges-antisemitism-campus>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work. The United States has taken strong action to accelerate gender equality and equal opportunities for veterans, young people, formerly incarcerated individuals and other marginalized groups in the world of work. However, by rescinding Executive Order 11246 and directing employees at the Department of Labor to stop all activities pertaining to the order which preventing discrimination against government employees, the United States has also acted directly against the commitment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: JunHan Wang*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, the European Commission released the Gender Overview Document, which highlights the progress made under the 2020-2025 Gender Equality Strategy.<sup>2934</sup> This document underscores the Commission's commitment to embedding gender equality across all policy areas, ensuring that women and men have equal opportunities in every sector. The report outlines key achievements, including increased gender representation in leadership positions, enhanced policies on gender pay transparency and strengthened legal frameworks to combat gender-based violence.

On 30 July 2024, the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality announced key features of its Empowering Women in Construction: FEMCON Project designed to enhance the professional growth of women in the construction field.<sup>2935</sup> Tools such as the Inclusion Reach Toolkit, practice showcases and an online course provide a platform to foster skill enhancement and gender equality within the industry.

On 1 August 2024, the European External Action Service funded a market event in Timor-Leste to showcase local female producers and incentivize their craft and businesses.<sup>2936</sup> This initiative aimed to highlight women's empowerment through their economic activities and raise awareness of the inclusion of rural women in national and local markets.

On 5 August 2024, the European External Action Service held the "Women's Councils: models, skills and voice for a just society in Eritrea" which offered training for at-risk women to create small businesses.<sup>2937</sup> This programme provided up to 300 vulnerable women with the skills and knowledge to generate income and strengthen their well-being.

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<sup>2934</sup> Gender equality mainstreaming, European Commission (Brussels) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/horizontal-priorities/gender-equality-mainstreaming\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/horizontal-priorities/gender-equality-mainstreaming_en)

<sup>2935</sup> Empowering Women in Construction: FEMCON Project Launches Key Resources to Foster Gender Equality in the Industry, European Commission (Brussels) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024 <https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/content/empowering-women-construction-femcon-project-launches-key-resources-foster-gender-equality>

<sup>2936</sup> Market Event and Gender Equality Competition: Empowering Communities and Promoting Gender Equality, European External Action Service (Brussels) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/market-event-and-gender-equality-competition-empowering-communities-and-promoting-gender-equality\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/market-event-and-gender-equality-competition-empowering-communities-and-promoting-gender-equality_en)

<sup>2937</sup> Women's Councils: models, skills and voice for a just society in Eritrea, European External Action Service (Brussels) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/eritrea/%E2%80%98women%E2%80%99s-councils-models-skills-and-voice-just-society-eritrea%E2%80%99\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/eritrea/%E2%80%98women%E2%80%99s-councils-models-skills-and-voice-just-society-eritrea%E2%80%99_en)

On 6 August 2024, the European External Action Service announced support of up to EUR33.12 million to the Government of Tanzania to be distributed amongst five areas, including gender.<sup>2938</sup> This funding intends to advance economic independence and enhance women's roles in leadership.

On 12 August 2024, the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments granted EUR2 million to fund an all-female Ukrainian technical survey dog handlers to ensure the removal of landmines from areas in Ukraine.<sup>2939</sup> This initiative highlights the participation of women in professional and military settings and provides skill training to advance their expertise.

On 30 August 2024, the European Institute for Gender Equality published its study on workforce re-entry following parental leave under gendered perspectives, highlighting the unequal policies and obstacles often faced by women.<sup>2940</sup> This report includes recommendations for member states to conduct gender impact evaluations and encourage employers to facilitate more equal work-life policies.

On 6 September 2024, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology reopened a recruitment call for the STRADA Project for women to join the manufacturing sector.<sup>2941</sup> This ongoing project provides women with tools, masterclasses and networking events to obtain leadership positions in a usually male-dominated industry.

On 9 September 2024, the European External Action Service distributed 16 grants as part of the EU4Employment project to vulnerable groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina including women from rural areas and people with disabilities.<sup>2942</sup> This financial support contributes to providing opportunities in the labour market for women and people living with disabilities and aims to deliver guidance to bolster employment policy initiatives.

On 10 September 2024, the European External Action Service revealed the 20 recipients of USD280,494 from the Culture Fund of Zimbabwe Trust funded by the European Union.<sup>2943</sup> Projects such as "TraFashion" and "Re-Imagining [and] Re-directing Intwasa 2024" offer training for women and marginalized communities to create a means of livelihood and delve into sustainable business ventures.

On 19 September 2024, the European Economic and Social Committee adopted an opinion information report put forward earlier in the year under the title "Promoting the social integration of persons with disabilities and

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<sup>2938</sup> European Union pays almost TZS 100 billion to Tanzanian coffers for Sectoral Reforms, European External Action Service (Dar es Salaam) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/european-union-pays-almost-tzs-100-billion-tanzanian-coffers-sectoral-reforms\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/european-union-pays-almost-tzs-100-billion-tanzanian-coffers-sectoral-reforms_en)

<sup>2939</sup> Local all-female team equipped with technical survey dogs to clear Ukraine's minefields, European External Action Service (Brussels) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/local-all-female-team-equipped-technical-survey-dogs-clear-ukraine%E2%80%99s-minefields\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/local-all-female-team-equipped-technical-survey-dogs-clear-ukraine%E2%80%99s-minefields_en)

<sup>2940</sup> Return to the labour market after parental leave: A gender analysis, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://eige.europa.eu/publications-resources/publications/return-labour-market-after-parental-leave-gender-analysis>

<sup>2941</sup> STRADA launches new call for women in manufacturing, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/opportunities/strada-launches-new-call-women-manufacturing>

<sup>2942</sup> The European Union and Sweden support employment in BiH, European External Action Service (Sarajevo) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-and-sweden-support-employment-bih\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-and-sweden-support-employment-bih_en)

<sup>2943</sup> USD280,494 awarded to 20 new project as creative actions 2 continues to make a positive impact in Zimbabwe's arts and culture sector, European External Action Service (Harare) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe/usd-280494-awarded-20-new-projects-creativeactions-2-continues-make-positive-impact-zimbabwe%E2%80%99s-arts\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe/usd-280494-awarded-20-new-projects-creativeactions-2-continues-make-positive-impact-zimbabwe%E2%80%99s-arts_en)

persons with changed working capacity.”<sup>2944</sup> This report aims to incentivize member states to advance policies for the integration of people with disabilities in the workforce.

On 23 September 2024, the European Investment Bank awarded 41 African leading venture capital fund managers, the majority of whom were women, through the EU-funded “Africa Venture Finance Program.”<sup>2945</sup> These recognitions encourage women’s participation in the financial industry and support technology firms in their initial phases to create quality employment opportunities.

On 24 September 2024, the European Investment Bank published its guidelines for “Financing for gender equality with the European Investment Bank,” offering a credit line for investment to companies with either 51 per cent of the company’s ownership being held by women, 30 to 40 per cent share of women in top leadership positions or product offering that benefit girls and women.<sup>2946</sup> These financing opportunities create pathways to foster women’s advancement in leadership and create secure positions in business.

On 24 September 2024, the European External Action Service announced that the EU, Poland and Estonia will join Germany’s Joint Action Skills4Recovery program. This joint action will train 4,700 Ukrainian workers in industries such as construction, logistics and IT with a budget of EUR25.5 million.<sup>2947</sup> This program aims to reduce the skill gap by offering training to vulnerable populations and fostering economic development and the creation of quality employment.

On 25 September 2024, the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) published the second edition of its “Quality Considerations for EIGE’s Gender Statistics Database” publication, introducing considerations about gender identity and ethnicity.<sup>2948</sup> These renewed guidelines for data collection allow for economic inequalities between women and men and between women of different backgrounds to be distinguished and more effectively addressed.

On 3 October 2024, the European External Action Service announced funding for a series of “Women’s Municipal Conferences” in Timor-Leste to promote female participation in several industries including agriculture, entrepreneurship and politics.<sup>2949</sup> This support will facilitate 13 conferences and the National Women’s Congress to provide a platform for networking and knowledge sharing to promote gender economic equality.

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<sup>2944</sup> Promoting the social integration of persons with disabilities and persons with changed working capacity, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/promoting-social-integration-persons-disabilities-and-persons-changed-working-capacity>

<sup>2945</sup> Leading African fund managers receive awards for supporting promising entrepreneurs and start-ups across the continent, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg City) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/leading-african-fund-managers-receive-awards-for-supporting-promising-entrepreneurs-and-start-ups-across-the-continent>

<sup>2946</sup> Financing for gender equality with the European Investment Bank, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg City) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/publications/20240031-financing-for-gender-equality-with-the-eib>

<sup>2947</sup> Joint Action Skills4Recovery Launched: EU, Poland, Estonia join Germany to Train 4,700 Skilled Workers for Ukraine’s Economy, European External Action Service (Brussels) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/joint-action-skills4recovery-launched-eu-poland-estonia-join-germany-train-4700-skilled-workers\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/joint-action-skills4recovery-launched-eu-poland-estonia-join-germany-train-4700-skilled-workers_en)

<sup>2948</sup> EIGE launches updated guidance on how to collect gender equality data, European Institute for Gender Equality (Vilnius) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://eige.europa.eu/newsroom/news/eige-launches-updated-guidance-how-collect-gender-equality-data>

<sup>2949</sup> EU supports municipal women's conferences, European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/eu-supports-municipal-women%E2%80%99s-conferences\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/eu-supports-municipal-women%E2%80%99s-conferences_en)



On 7 October 2024, the European Parliament approved amendments to its “Guidelines for the Employment Policies of the Member States” to foster a more inclusive labour market including protection of workers’ rights, career guidance and training.<sup>2950</sup> The amendments explicitly mention the gender equality commitment from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, demanding fair wages.

On 15 October 2024, the European Parliament mobilized EUR2.66 million from the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund to aid 513 displaced Belgian workers after Belgium’s proposal met all standards and committed to equality.<sup>2951</sup> This allowance supports the reintegration of workers who lost their jobs due to industry modernization with retraining or information technology and language skills training.

On 28 October 2024, the EU-ASEAN [Association of South East Asian Nations] Sustainable Connectivity Package-Higher Education Programme organized the “Closing the Gap Workshop 2024” workshop in Bangkok, Thailand.<sup>2952</sup> This event brought together major stakeholders across Southeast Asia to address skill disparities in the agri-food sector, encouraging youth and low-skilled workers to participate in the sector.

On 29 October 2024, the European External Action Service launched the EU-supported project “EU-Tabassum: Media Skills for Promoting Gender Equality and Empowering Young Women in Uzbekistan” to provide avenues for women to enhance their media expertise.<sup>2953</sup> This project also offers grants of up to EUR4,000 from a budget of EUR500,000 to allow women to create their own media outlets.

On 30 October 2024, the European External Action Service agreed to advocate for women’s equality and participation with a budget of EUR7 million in Zimbabwe.<sup>2954</sup> This funding aims to promote gender empowerment initiatives to enhance women’s socio-economic status.

On 31 October 2024, the European Commission began the project “Stronger Together: Strengthening Youth Workers and Organisations for Displaced Youth Integration and Resilience” in Ukraine, Türkiye, Poland, Georgia and Moldova with a contribution of EUR300,000.<sup>2955</sup> This project promotes labour integration by enhancing the professional skills of youth and displaced workers and contributing to building state capacity to support this vulnerable group.

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<sup>2950</sup> REPORT on the proposal for a Council decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2024-0004\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2024-0004_EN.html)

<sup>2951</sup> REPORT on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (application from Belgium – EGF/2024/001 BE/Match-Smatch), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2024-0009\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-10-2024-0009_EN.html)

<sup>2952</sup> Closing the Gap Workshop 2024 commences to address Employability Gaps in ASEAN’s Agri-food Sector, European External Action Service (Bangkok) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/association-southeast-asian-nations-asean/closing-gap-workshop-2024-commences-address-employability-gaps-asean%E2%80%99s-agri-food-sector\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/association-southeast-asian-nations-asean/closing-gap-workshop-2024-commences-address-employability-gaps-asean%E2%80%99s-agri-food-sector_en)

<sup>2953</sup> European Union launched a new initiative on gender equality on media skills in Uzbekistan, European External Action Service (Tashkent) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/uzbekistan/european-union-launched-new-initiative-gender-equality-media-skills-uzbekistan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/uzbekistan/european-union-launched-new-initiative-gender-equality-media-skills-uzbekistan_en)

<sup>2954</sup> Zimbabwe and European Union sign Financing Agreements worth 75 Million Euros, European External Action Service (Harare) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe/zimbabwe-and-european-union-sign-financing-agreements-worth-75-million-euros\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe/zimbabwe-and-european-union-sign-financing-agreements-worth-75-million-euros_en)

<sup>2955</sup> Stronger Together: Strengthening Youth Workers and Organisations for Displaced Youth Integration and Resilience, European Commission (Brussels) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43353764/101185795/ERASMUS2027>

On 4 November 2024, the Eurogroup adopted the statement “Competitiveness of the European economy.”<sup>2956</sup> In part, the statement highlights the need to support an improvement of human capital with upskilling strategies and the need to promote labour market integration for under-represented groups.

On 5 November 2024, EU Ambassador to Timor-Leste Marc Fiedrich and Secretary of State for Equality Elvina Sousa Carvalho opened the “Women’s Empowerment Shop” in Timor-Leste, showcasing the craft and agricultural products of local women’s groups.<sup>2957</sup> This shop facilitates business opportunities for women and presents the results of previous training and grants.

On 6 November 2024, the European External Action Service released its statement following the International Labor Organization’s resolution of quality employment in the care sector.<sup>2958</sup> The Delegation to the United Nations recognized the undercompensated labour of women and the effects of Covid-19 on the care economy while reaffirming the EU’s commitment to promoting decent jobs and protecting vulnerable groups, including women and migrant workers.

On 23 November 2024, the European External Action Service presented 18 high-potential start-ups in Tanzania, as part of its FUNGUO program, with funding of 1.45 billion. Tanzanian Shillings (approximately EUR573,000).<sup>2959</sup> This initiative stimulates job growth and enhances youth empowerment while reserving at least 40 per cent of the funds for women-led enterprises, promoting gender inclusion in the labour market.

On 25 November 2024, the European Council approved new conclusions to increase support for young people in rural areas by enhancing access to global education and employment opportunities.<sup>2960</sup> The Council is calling on EU members to improve access to diverse and quality labour and training opportunities in remote areas, particularly in agriculture and climate adaptation sectors.

On 26 November 2024, the European External Action Service and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees organized a Women’s Forum in Zakarpattia highlighting the role of women in business and civil society organizations in Ukraine.<sup>2961</sup> This conference provided an opportunity for knowledge and experience sharing from women in leadership positions to promote the visibility of women’s successful participation in labour and political frameworks.

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<sup>2956</sup> Competitiveness of the European economy - statement of the Eurogroup in inclusive format, European Council (Brussels) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/04/competitiveness-of-the-european-economy-statement-of-the-eurogroup-in-inclusive-format/>

<sup>2957</sup> Women’s Empowerment Shop Opened by RFTL and ADRA, SEI and EU, European External Action Service (Dili) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-shop-opened-rftl-and-adra-sei-and-eu\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-shop-opened-rftl-and-adra-sei-and-eu_en)

<sup>2958</sup> ILO Governing Body 352nd Session - Follow-up to the resolution concerning decent work and the care economy, European External Action Service (Geneva) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/ilo-governing-body-352nd-session-follow-resolution-concerning-decent-work-and-care-economy\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/ilo-governing-body-352nd-session-follow-resolution-concerning-decent-work-and-care-economy_en)

<sup>2959</sup> More Financing for Startups as FUNGUO pushes its commitments to over TZS 5 billion and partners for the first time with iMBEJU, European External Action Service (Dar es Salaam) 23 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/more-financing-startups-funguo-pushes-its-commitments-over-tzs-5-billion-and-partners-first-time\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/more-financing-startups-funguo-pushes-its-commitments-over-tzs-5-billion-and-partners-first-time_en)

<sup>2960</sup> ‘Glocal’ opportunities for young people in rural and remote areas: Council approves conclusions, European Council (Brussels) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/25/glocal-opportunities-for-young-people-in-rural-and-remote-areas-council-approves-conclusions/>

<sup>2961</sup> Women’s Forum in Zakarpattia brings together women leaders to draw attention to their role in Ukraine’s recovery, European External Action Service (Uzhhorod) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/women%E2%80%99s-forum-zakarpattia-brings-together-women-leaders-draw-attention-their-role-ukraine%E2%80%99s-recovery\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/women%E2%80%99s-forum-zakarpattia-brings-together-women-leaders-draw-attention-their-role-ukraine%E2%80%99s-recovery_en)

On 27 November 2024, the European External Action Service and its Delegation to the United Arab Emirates organized a “Career Talk” panel discussion on “Women in Engineering” at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.<sup>2962</sup> This conference enabled women in careers and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to share experiences and advocate for women and girls’ place in STEM.

On 29 November 2024, the European External Action Service and UN Women launched the project “Women Empower India” with a collective budget of USD2.78 million.<sup>2963</sup> This program will focus on increasing labour participation and economic independence for women, providing access to job opportunities and skills training and addressing counterproductive societal norms.

On 30 November 2024, the European Commission began the project “DoYou(th)” in the Netherlands, Germany, Kosovo, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina with a budget of approximately EUR300,000.<sup>2964</sup> This project facilitates diverse training and networking opportunities for young workers throughout the two-year duration of the program.

On 30 November 2024, the European Commission began the project “Digital Platform of Knowledge and Skills Development for Youth Working with Child Migrants and Refugees at the European Level” in Ukraine, Moldova and Portugal with a budget of approximately EUR250,000.<sup>2965</sup> This project aims to train young workers to work specifically with displaced and refugee children, increasing their labour participation and supporting vulnerable groups.

On 10 December 2024, the European Union Capacity Building Mission Somalia and Somalia’s Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy concluded a two-day workshop to empower women in the fisheries sector, enabling their participation in leadership positions in the sector.<sup>2966</sup>

On 16 December 2024, the European Union allocated EUR19.8 million to the Aga Khan Foundation and Aga Khan Cultural Services for the “Economic Resilience, Women’s Economic Empowerment and Job Creation in Afghanistan” initiative.<sup>2967</sup> This initiative aims to support women, youth, internally displaced persons, returnees, farmers and other vulnerable groups to access employment and vocational, professional, and digital skills training while supporting micro, small and medium enterprises. This project is estimated to support 26,793 women and 34,200 households directly.

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<sup>2962</sup> EU Delegation to the UAE Hosts Second “Career Talk” on Women in Engineering, European External Action Service (Abu Dhabi) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-arab-emirates/eu-delegation-uae-hosts-second-%E2%80%9Ccareer-talk%E2%80%9D-women-engineering\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-arab-emirates/eu-delegation-uae-hosts-second-%E2%80%9Ccareer-talk%E2%80%9D-women-engineering_en)

<sup>2963</sup> UN Women Recognizes Corporate Leaders Driving Gender Equality at the 2024 WEPs India Awards & Launches the Transformative “Women Empower India” Initiative with the European Union, European External Action Service (Brussels) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india/un-women-recognizes-corporate-leaders-driving-gender-equality-2024-weps-india-awards-launches\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india/un-women-recognizes-corporate-leaders-driving-gender-equality-2024-weps-india-awards-launches_en)

<sup>2964</sup> DoYou(th), European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43353764/101184108/ERASMUS2027>

<sup>2965</sup> Digital Platform of Knowledge and Skills Development for Youth Working with Child Migrants and Refugees at European Level, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43353764/101183623/ERASMUS2027>

<sup>2966</sup> EUCAP Somalia Enhances Women’s Role in Fisheries through Capacity-Building Workshop, European External Action Service (Mogadishu) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eucap-som/eucap-somalia-enhances-women%E2%80%99s-role-fisheries-through-capacity-building-workshop\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eucap-som/eucap-somalia-enhances-women%E2%80%99s-role-fisheries-through-capacity-building-workshop_en)

<sup>2967</sup> Afghanistan: EU Allocates €19.8 Million to Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth, Reducing Dependence on Humanitarian Aid, Delegation of the European Union to Afghanistan (Kabul) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/afghanistan/afghanistan-eu-allocates-%E2%82%AC198-million-promote-inclusive-and-sustainable-economic-growth-reducing\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/afghanistan/afghanistan-eu-allocates-%E2%82%AC198-million-promote-inclusive-and-sustainable-economic-growth-reducing_en)

On 17 December 2024, the European Investment Bank and Crédit Agricole announced a partnership with EUR400 million in joint funding to increase the number of women working in the healthcare sector.<sup>2968</sup> In part, funding will help healthcare practitioners to set up their practices and will support women's entrepreneurship in healthcare.

On 20 December 2024, members of the European Parliament adopted a recommendation on women's rights, calling for the EU to promote gender equality externally, ensure women have equal pay and pensions in the EU and support women's entrepreneurship, political leadership and economic autonomy.<sup>2969</sup>

On 17 January 2025, the European Union's Albanian Delegation provided EUR2 million to support economic participation in the labour market for young entrepreneurs in the "Youth in Business" programme.<sup>2970</sup> This programme will facilitate the integration of young workers into the labour market with initiatives directed at the creation and management of small and medium-sized enterprises, giving them the opportunity for professional growth.

On 17 January 2025, the European Investment Bank and the Banque Nationale d'Investissement announced EUR100 million for a Global Gateway project in Côte d'Ivoire to fight against child labour exploitation and increase women and young people's economic opportunities in the cocoa sector.<sup>2971</sup> This initiative will target women-led enterprises with opportunities to achieve economic independence, develop skills and grow professionally in inclusive workplaces.

On 23 January 2025, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Anna Zhamakochyan announced 3 socio-economic programs to aid refugees in Armenia with a total of EUR8.8 million in funding across the different projects.<sup>2972</sup> The projects include "Three4ResilientArmenia" which aims to encourage businesses and support employment for displaced and local vulnerable groups.

On 29 January 2025, the European Investment Bank released the "Multiple Beneficiary Intermediated Loan" with EUR20 million to provide investment opportunities to small and medium-sized firms, 30 per cent of which must be led or founded by young people and another 30 per cent being firms that meet the gender equality criteria.<sup>2973</sup> This funding represents accessible opportunities for young people and women to develop their entrepreneurship skills and promote gender equality by encouraging gender-responsive investments.

On 30 January 2025, the European Union's Bosnian and Herzegovinian Delegation announced a EU4Employment progress focused on green and digital transitions, allocating EUR5.5 million to promote

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<sup>2968</sup> France: Healthcare and energy transition - EIB and the Credit Agricole strengthen their support for French regions with €700 million of financing, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-513-sante-et-transition-energetique-le-credit-agricole-et-la-bei-renforcent-leurs-soutiens-aux-territoires-et-debloquent-une-enveloppe-de-700-millions-d-euros>

<sup>2969</sup> MEPs call on the EU to champion women's rights against global backlash, European Parliament (Brussels) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241212IPR25965/meps-call-on-the-eu-to-champion-women-s-rights-against-global-backlash>

<sup>2970</sup> EBRD and EU provide funding to support Albanian small businesses, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Albania (Tirana) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/albania/ebrd-and-eu-provide-funding-support-albanian-small-businesses\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/albania/ebrd-and-eu-provide-funding-support-albanian-small-businesses_en)

<sup>2971</sup> Côte d'Ivoire: Global Gateway - BNI and EIB join forces to promote sustainable cocoa and youth employment, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-014-global-gateway-bni-and-eib-join-forces-to-promote-sustainable-cocoa-and-youth-employment-in-cote-d-ivoire>

<sup>2972</sup> The European Union Launches New Civil Society Actions to Support Refugees in Armenia, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Armenia (Yerevan) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/armenia/european-union-launches-new-civil-society-actions-support-refugees-armenia\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/armenia/european-union-launches-new-civil-society-actions-support-refugees-armenia_en)

<sup>2973</sup> BEA YOUTH & GENDER INCLUSION & BLUE ECONOMY MBIL, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20230121>

economic participation for women and youth groups in eco-friendly and digital businesses.<sup>2974</sup> This initiative supports employment creation for marginalized groups in sustainable ventures.

On 4 February 2025, the European Union's Delegation to Sierra Leone announced EUR30 million to fund the "Sustainable Food and Agricultural Value Chains Development" project aimed at creating sustainable jobs in several food chains and promoting women's participation in the labour market.<sup>2975</sup> This project contributes to the integration of women in the world of work and to building a more resilient and inclusive green economy.

On 12 February 2025, the European Union's Pakistani Delegation, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the United Nations Development Programme announced the "Pakistan Women Leaders Project."<sup>2976</sup> This project aims to increase the participation of women in political leadership positions, encourage women's empowerment and address socio-cultural and economic barriers hindering their complete integration into the labour market and politics.

On 13 February 2025, the European Investment Bank, the European Investment Fund and Santander Bank announced a EUR5 million grant to support women-led and gender equal companies in Poland to support female entrepreneurship.<sup>2977</sup> This investment will help incentivize and enhance women's roles in leadership and promote an inclusive workplace where women are fairly represented and compensated.

On 13 February 2025, Deputy Ambassador to Egypt Wael Badawi inaugurated the THAMM+ Programme which expects to provide 1,500 workers from Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia with training, internship or employment opportunities in Europe.<sup>2978</sup> This program provides training and official skills assessment while improving the governance infrastructure for labour mobility to support economic opportunities for migrant workers.

On 15 February 2025, the European Union's Delegation to India and Bhutan launched seven projects with EUR9.5 million in funding to develop the textile industry in India with a focus on inclusivity and sustainability.<sup>2979</sup> This funding will contribute to women's economic empowerment, supporting approximately 200,000 women and promoting fair pay and practices.

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<sup>2974</sup> European Union Launches €5.5 Million Project to Create New Jobs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-launches-%E2%82%AC55-million-project-create-new-jobs-bosnia-and-herzegovina\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-launches-%E2%82%AC55-million-project-create-new-jobs-bosnia-and-herzegovina_en)

<sup>2975</sup> Government of Sierra Leone and European Union sign € 35M Financing Agreement for "Sustainable Food and Agricultural Value Chains Development" Programme, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Sierra Leone (Freetown) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sierra-leone/government-sierra-leone-and-european-union-sign-%E2%82%AC-35m-financing-agreement-sustainable-food-and\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sierra-leone/government-sierra-leone-and-european-union-sign-%E2%82%AC-35m-financing-agreement-sustainable-food-and_en)

<sup>2976</sup> European Union-Funded Women Leaders Project launched by UN Women and UNDP, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Pakistan (Islamabad) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/european-union-funded-women-leaders-project-launched-un-women-and-undp\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/european-union-funded-women-leaders-project-launched-un-women-and-undp_en)

<sup>2977</sup> Poland: New cooperation between EIB Group and Santander Bank Polska to boost SMEs and female entrepreneurship, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-090-new-cooperation-between-eib-group-and-santander-bank-polska-to-boost-polish-smes-and-female-entrepreneurship>

<sup>2978</sup> EU Deputy Ambassador's Speech at the THAMM+ Programme Launch, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Egypt (Cairo) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/eu-deputy-ambassadors-speech-thamm-programme-launch\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/eu-deputy-ambassadors-speech-thamm-programme-launch_en)

<sup>2979</sup> The European Union and the Ministry of Textiles launched 7 projects to boost the textile and handicraft sector in India, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to India and Bhutan (New Delhi) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india/european-union-and-ministry-textiles-launch-7-projects-boost-textile-and-handicraft-sector-india\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/india/european-union-and-ministry-textiles-launch-7-projects-boost-textile-and-handicraft-sector-india_en)

On 19 February 2025, the European Union's Delegation to Pakistan announced EUR8.33 million to promote women and youth empowerment in the criminal justice sector and civil society organizations by promoting women and youth leadership and addressing barriers to full participation for women and girls.<sup>2980</sup> This funding will support civil society organizations' capacity development by dismantling barriers to women and youth participation in the workplace and bridging gaps in economic participation.

On 4 March 2025, the European Union's Somali Delegation held a workshop on gender equality and participation in the security sector to discuss legal reforms to ensure a safe integration of women in armed forces and peacebuilding missions.<sup>2981</sup> This event advised on gender equality in the security sector to further promote women's empowerment in traditionally male-dominated forms of work.

On 6 March 2025, the European Union's Japanese Delegation hosted a seminar on gender equality, discussing the role of women in politics and structural barriers such as the pay gap and challenges for married women.<sup>2982</sup> This event promoted the sharing of strategies and tools to combat the underrepresentation of women in politics in an effort to advance women's empowerment and gender equality in the world of work.

On 6 March 2025, the European Union's Delegation to Timor-Leste organized the "Promotion of Women through Economic Empowerment and Rights (POWER)" event.<sup>2983</sup> The event aimed to provide a space for women entrepreneurs to promote their products to consumers and investors.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union's Icelandic Delegation organized an the "Women, Peace, and Security" event, inviting panelists to discuss the role of women and people with disabilities in security and peace issues and advocating for their inclusion.<sup>2984</sup> This initiative highlighted the practical necessity of inspiring women's leadership and representation.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union Delegation to Papua New Guinea announced a EUR800,000 grant to subsidize 150 women entrepreneurs to improve their access the labour market and develop their skills.<sup>2985</sup> It also announced the "Specialty Coffee Association" project with another EUR800,000 grant to foster skills training and financial counsel for women in business. These initiatives support women's economic

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<sup>2980</sup> European Union to Support Civil Society Initiatives Promoting Gender Equality, Youth Empowerment and Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System of Pakistan, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Pakistan (Islamabad) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/european-union-support-civil-society-initiatives-promoting-gender-equality-youth-empowerment-and\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/european-union-support-civil-society-initiatives-promoting-gender-equality-youth-empowerment-and_en)

<sup>2981</sup> EUCAP Somalia and EUTM Somalia: Workshop on gender equality and women's participation in Somalia's security sector reform, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Somalia (Mogadishu) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eucap-som/eucap-somalia-and-eutm-somalia-workshop-gender-equality-and-women%E2%80%99s-participation-somalia%E2%80%99s-security\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eucap-som/eucap-somalia-and-eutm-somalia-workshop-gender-equality-and-women%E2%80%99s-participation-somalia%E2%80%99s-security_en)

<sup>2982</sup> International Women's Day Seminar "Building on a new momentum for gender equality – Towards a better working environment for women," European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/international-women%E2%80%99s-day-seminar-%E2%80%9Cbuilding-new-momentum-gender-equality-%E2%80%93-towards-better-working\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan/international-women%E2%80%99s-day-seminar-%E2%80%9Cbuilding-new-momentum-gender-equality-%E2%80%93-towards-better-working_en)

<sup>2983</sup> World Vision, FOKUPERS, FEEO and EU Mark International Women's Day with Fair for Women's Economic Empowerment, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Timor-Leste (Dili) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/world-vision-fokupers-feeo-and-eu-mark-international-women%E2%80%99s-day-fair-women%E2%80%99s-economic-empowerment\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/world-vision-fokupers-feeo-and-eu-mark-international-women%E2%80%99s-day-fair-women%E2%80%99s-economic-empowerment_en)

<sup>2984</sup> Women, Peace, and Security: a successful event held in honour of the International Women's Day 2025, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Iceland (Reykjavik) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/iceland/women-peace-and-security-successful-event-held-honour-international-womens-day-2025\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/iceland/women-peace-and-security-successful-event-held-honour-international-womens-day-2025_en)

<sup>2985</sup> European Union signs two Human Rights Thematic grant contracts supporting women's economic empowerment in the country while commemorating International Women's Day 2025, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Papua New Guinea (Port Moresby) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua-new-guinea/european-union-signs-two-human-rights-thematic-grant-contracts-supporting-women%E2%80%99s-economic\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua-new-guinea/european-union-signs-two-human-rights-thematic-grant-contracts-supporting-women%E2%80%99s-economic_en)

empowerment by enhancing their labour opportunities and entrepreneurial training in regions with historically significant gender disparities.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva organized an event to amplify the voices of over 80 female Ambassadors and young professionals in discussions regarding gender equality and women's participation in diplomacy careers.<sup>2986</sup> Discussions were centred on supporting the personal and professional growth of young female diplomats in the workplace.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union Delegation to Korea hosted an event to encourage women's leadership and equal participation in security and defence.<sup>2987</sup> This event supports the inclusion of women in a male-dominated form of work.

On 7 March 2025, the European Union's Bosnian and Herzegovinian Delegation held two exhibitions and panel discussions on the visibility of the role of women in leadership positions, challenging underrepresentation and unequal labour opportunities.<sup>2988</sup> These events provided a platform to amplify women's voices, raise awareness of the gender gap in the world of work and promote collaboration on the issue.

On 8 March 2025, the European Union's Delegation to Kosovo raised awareness of prevailing structural barriers to gender equality such as uneven labour participation, the disproportionate burden of childcare on women, household work and other informal work by women and gendered challenges for professional growth in the workplace.<sup>2989</sup> This speech, delivered on International Women's Day, reaffirmed the delegation's commitment to address systemic issues and ensure policy change to advance women's economic empowerment and fair and equitable labour integration.

On 10 March 2025, the European Council oversaw a debate on the "Challenges of the Silver Transformation" providing a platform for ministers to share their countries' initiatives to boost upskilling and reskilling for older people and address age-based barriers in the workplace.<sup>2990</sup> This event highlighted age-related disparities in the world of work, encouraging policy change to empower older individuals including older women.

On 11 March 2025, the European Parliament approved additional funding for the "European Social Fund Plus post-2027," aimed at fostering dignified working conditions and standards of living for vulnerable groups like women, refugees and young people.<sup>2991</sup> This funding will allow the European Social Fund to continue its work promoting education and training to support labour integration equitably.

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<sup>2986</sup> EU Delegation Engages Young Professionals in High-Level Dialogue on Women in Diplomacy, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to the UN (Geneva) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-delegation-engages-young-professionals-high-level-dialogue-women-diplomacy\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-delegation-engages-young-professionals-high-level-dialogue-women-diplomacy_en)

<sup>2987</sup> 2025 International Women's Day- Towards More Resilient and Secure Democracies: Women in Security and Defence, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea (Seoul) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-korea/2025-international-womens-day-towards-more-resilient-and-secure-democracies-women-security-and\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-korea/2025-international-womens-day-towards-more-resilient-and-secure-democracies-women-security-and_en)

<sup>2988</sup> Europe House opens two exhibitions and hosts discussion on female empowerment for International Women's Day, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/europe-house-opens-two-exhibitions-and-hosts-discussion-female-empowerment-international-women%E2%80%99s-day\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/europe-house-opens-two-exhibitions-and-hosts-discussion-female-empowerment-international-women%E2%80%99s-day_en)

<sup>2989</sup> The Economic Power of Including More Women in the Labour Market, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Kosovo (Pristina) 8 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kosovo/economic-power-including-more-women-labour-market\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kosovo/economic-power-including-more-women-labour-market_en)

<sup>2990</sup> Employment, Social Policy, Health, and Consumer Affairs Council (Employment and Social Policy), 10 March 2025, European Council (Brussels) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/epsco/2025/03/10/>

<sup>2991</sup> Parliament calls for a strong and standalone Fund to combat social exclusion, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 11 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250310IPR27222/parliament-calls-for-a-strong-and-standalone-fund-to-combat-social-exclusion>

On 12 March 2025, the European Union's Delegation to the United Nations pledged to advance women's participation in peace processes, committing to ensure women's fair and full integration in peacebuilding and ceasefire negotiations in conflict areas.<sup>2992</sup> This commitment aims to empower women in conflict-affected regions, advocating for gender equity in decision-making processes and highlighting their expertise in labour opportunities as mediators and leaders.

On 13 March 2025, the European Parliament approved a resolution to protect workers' rights in the restructuring process with training and income support, encouraging member states to assist in collective bargaining.<sup>2993</sup> This resolution advocates for economic security for workers displaced by companies restructuring, supporting skill development and inclusive governance.

On 14 March 2025, the European Commission organized a networking event for the WomenINvestEU project where participants discussed women's representation in leadership positions, policy efforts to combat the gender gaps and strategies to empower and inspire women in the finance world.<sup>2994</sup> This event highlighted the importance of role models as well as systemic barriers to the fair integration and participation of women in the finance industry to inform policy changes.

On 19 March 2025, the European Parliament vouched for the creation of an "EU Talent Pool" to help non-EU workers find employment opportunities through a free and non-discriminatory mechanism.<sup>2995</sup> This initiative will make job-seeking more accessible for immigrant workers.

On 24 March 2025, Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management Hadja Lahbib endorsed the renewed commitment of the 69<sup>th</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women, acknowledging the need to improve gender-based economic equality and participation in the labour market for women.<sup>2996</sup> This pledge and the adoption of the UN work program for the next four years will inform policy change to tackle structural inequalities and underlying discrimination for women in the world of education and work.

On 27 March 2025, the EU, Sweden and Germany pledged EUR6 million to fund gender equality in Ukrainian civil societies organizations focused on women leadership in politics, business and peace processes.<sup>2997</sup> This funding will support the integration of women in sectors where they have been underrepresented while addressing gender-based challenges in the war context.

On 31 March 2025, the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe launched a series of informative videos to encourage to inspire women and girls to consider careers in diplomacy, with invited Ambassadors as

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<sup>2992</sup> United Nations: EU joins Common Pledge for Women's Participation in Peace Processes, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations (New York) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/united-nations-eu-joins-common-pledge-women%E2%80%99s-participation-peace-processes\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/united-nations-eu-joins-common-pledge-women%E2%80%99s-participation-peace-processes_en)

<sup>2993</sup> MEPs demand better worker protection against unfair dismissal in restructuring, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 13 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250310IPR27233/meps-demand-better-worker-protection-against-unfair-dismissal-in-restructuring>

<sup>2994</sup> Kicking off the European Network of Gender-Conscious Investors in Paris – insights from the WomenINvestEU Opening Breakfast and panel at Hello Tomorrow, European Commission (Brussels), 20 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://women-invest.ec.europa.eu/news/kicking-european-network-gender-conscious-investors-paris-2025-03-20\\_en](https://women-invest.ec.europa.eu/news/kicking-european-network-gender-conscious-investors-paris-2025-03-20_en)

<sup>2995</sup> Labour migration: an EU Talent Pool to facilitate international recruitment, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250318IPR27410/labour-migration-an-eu-talent-pool-to-facilitate-international-recruitment>

<sup>2996</sup> UNCSW69 concludes with renewed commitments for the future of gender equality, European Commission (Brussels), 24 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://commission.europa.eu/news/uncsw69-concludes-renewed-commitments-future-gender-equality-2025-03-24\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/uncsw69-concludes-renewed-commitments-future-gender-equality-2025-03-24_en)

<sup>2997</sup> EU, Sweden, and Germany announce €44 million funding for Civil Society, including €6 million on gender equality, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Kyiv) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-sweden-and-germany-announce-%E2%82%AC44-million-funding-civil-society-including-%E2%82%AC6-million-gender\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-sweden-and-germany-announce-%E2%82%AC44-million-funding-civil-society-including-%E2%82%AC6-million-gender_en)



role models.<sup>2998</sup> This initiative aims to boost the visibility of young women in leadership roles and promote equality of opportunity by challenging gender stereotypes.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to accelerating gender and other forms of equality in the workplace. The EU has taken several strong actions to accelerate gender equality, such as funding initiatives for women's participation in leadership roles and the economy across various sectors and various countries. In addition to gender equality, the European Union has promoted work equality for persons with disabilities, youth and migrant workers through funding for programs.

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

*Analyst: Andrea Gil Cano*

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<sup>2998</sup> Celebrating Women in Diplomacy: Inspiring the Next Generation, European External Action Service Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.  
[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/celebrating-women-diplomacy-inspiring-next-generation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/celebrating-women-diplomacy-inspiring-next-generation_en)

### 13. Digital Economy: Closing Digital Divides

“We will also work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

#### Background

G7 leaders have recognized the importance of bridging the digital divide as a critical step toward building a thriving digital economy since the 2000 Okinawa Summit. The digital economy encompasses concepts such as ‘the Internet’, ‘cyberspace’, ‘information technology’ (IT) and information and communication technology (ICT). The rapid evolution of ICT has raised concerns pertaining to the digital divide, especially gender digital divide. Recognizing the broader implications, G7 leaders continue to emphasize the importance of closing all forms of digital divides, not only to promote digital inclusion and equal access for marginalized groups but also to secure the economic, social, and political advancements that a robust and inclusive digital economy can offer.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders committed to expanding the reach of IT to locations and people with limited access to internet.<sup>2999</sup> This would be accomplished through the help of the World Economic Forum’s Global Digital Divide Initiative and the Global Business Dialogue on Electronic Commerce and by leveraging the private sector. Leaders also committed to the creation of the Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT force) which would investigate and recommend global action that can be taken to bridge the information and knowledge divide.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders changed the reference of IT to ICT and assigned the DOT force with training education professionals on enhanced teaching strategies and practices involving ICT.<sup>3000</sup> G8 leaders highlighted the need for private sector investments in ICT and digital education materials.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders detailed their commitment to an annual e-G8 Internet meeting with leading internet providers and stakeholders.<sup>3001</sup> The goal of the meeting would be to establish compulsory guidelines for security, intellectual property and digital taxation that would be compatible with developing innovation in the sector. These guidelines would also protect a free and open digital landscape and access to Internet.

<sup>2999</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>3000</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>3001</sup> The G8 Deauville Summit, G7 Information Center (Toronto) May 26, 2011. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-sarkozy-0526-en.html>

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders tasked the international community with promoting respect for human rights through proper governance by tackling and minimizing the spread of violence and hatred online.<sup>3002</sup> The promotion of respect through regulation and governance was meant to limit the spread of hateful ideology and extremism on digital platforms.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the necessity for the global community to cooperate on the prevention of malicious use of cyberspace by states and non-state actors.<sup>3003</sup> Leaders reiterated that a secure, reliable and accessible cyberspace is fundamental to international economic growth and prosperity. Creating this kind of digital space is also supports freedom, democracy and respect for privacy and human rights. Through the affirmation of the importance of international law in cyberspace, G7 leaders also committed to creating a strategic framework for the application of existing international law to regulate state behavior in international cyberspace. Leaders too committed to supporting an open, transparent, free, fair, and equally accessible cyberspace while respecting privacy, data protection, and cyber security. Finally, leaders reemphasized the importance of maximizing the potential of the digital economy and of cyberspace by bridging digital divides and confronting global challenges.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders addressed the Next Production Revolution's (NPR) ability to make innovation and digitalization accessible for people internationally.<sup>3004</sup> Leaders also highlighted the NPR's role in promoting women's opportunities in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to addressing the use of the internet as a tool for terrorism.<sup>3005</sup> This commitment highlighted working with the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism by addressing terrorism's role in recruitment, financing, training and propaganda. Moreover, in welcoming the interim analytical report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the impact of the digitalization of the economy on the international tax system, leaders acknowledged that the digitalization of the economy has had a significant effect on the international tax system. Leaders committed to addressing the effect digitalization has had on the international tax system by developing a consensus-based solution for this issue by 2020. Finally, G7 leaders endorsed the Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts that aimed to protect individual human rights in digital spaces.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders recognized the positive transformation artificial intelligence's (AI) has had on societies, the global economy, and job markets.<sup>3006</sup> This transformation is seen to have had positive effects on individual's wellbeing and negative effects on democracy, privacy and data protection. Leaders also emphasized the need for AI development that is innovative and focused on the protection of human rights.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to promoting freedom, trust and individual empowerment through a digital space that is open, reliable, secure and interoperable.<sup>3007</sup> Leaders also reemphasized their commitment to cooperation in a shared understanding of the applicability of existing

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<sup>3002</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Center (Toronto) June 8, 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3003</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3004</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>3005</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Center (Toronto) June 9, 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>3006</sup> Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Center (Toronto) August 26, 2019. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

<sup>3007</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Center (Toronto) June 13, 2021. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

international law on cyberspace. G7 Leaders highlighted the need for the cooperation of the international community in addressing the global threat of criminal ransomware networks.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to empowering and supporting individuals, especially those in vulnerable groups to use digital technologies and the Internet in a safe and secure manner.<sup>3008</sup> Leaders also reemphasised their commitment to protect individuals in cyberspace and welcomed the Declaration for the Future of the Internet in their efforts to oppose the trend of rising digital authoritarianism.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders addressed the potential of AI while highlighting the need for risk mitigation and the protection of individuals, the rule of law and democratic procedures within models and generative AI.<sup>3009</sup> Leaders acknowledged the importance of good governance for AI by welcoming the Hiroshima Process International Guiding Principles for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems and the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems. G7 leaders also emphasized the need for cooperation with the Global Partnership for Artificial Intelligence and the OECD in developing the aforementioned systems. Leaders committed to fostering an open environment where AI use is safe, secure and trustworthy, and promotes digital inclusion and common good worldwide.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.”<sup>3010</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment underscores a collaborative approach with developing countries and emerging economies, emphasizing key objectives: closing the digital divide – particularly the gender digital divide – and achieving digital inclusion.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Work towards” is understood to mean that actors are “applying international diplomacy, such as drafting proposals, putting forth new ideas, and encouraging new initiatives.”<sup>3011</sup> It does not include putting forward no effort, resisting or destroying efforts put forth by other actors, or merely tagging along with the consensus reached.”

“Including” is understood to mean “to take in or comprise as a part of a whole or group.”<sup>3012</sup>

“Developing countries” in this context refers to the 159 countries that the United Nations has classified for monitoring and data collection purposes.<sup>3013</sup> Although the UN has no formal definition of the term, under its current classification, all of Europe and Northern America along with Japan, Australia and New Zealand are classified as developed regions, and all other regions are developing.

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<sup>3008</sup> G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Center (Toronto) June 28, 2022. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

<sup>3009</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement on the Hiroshima AI Process, G7 Information Center (Toronto) October 30, 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231030-ai.html>

<sup>3010</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>3011</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>3012</sup> Include, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/include>

<sup>3013</sup> Methodology, United Nations Statistics Division (New York) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

“Emerging economies” is understood to mean those with sustained strong growth and stability to produce higher-value-added goods.<sup>3014</sup> The International Monetary Fund identifies emerging economies based on their presence and participation in global trade, integration with financial market, market access and income level as measured by gross domestic product per capita in nominal United States dollars. For example, the BRICS countries of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, are often understood as emerging economies.

“Closing” in this context refers “to reduce to nil.”<sup>3015</sup>

“Digital divides” is understood to mean “the economic, education, and social inequalities between those who have computers and online access and those who do not.”<sup>3016</sup>

“Gender digital divide” is understood to mean “women and girls’ lack of access to, use and development of information communication technologies.”<sup>3017</sup>

“Achieving” is understood to mean “to succeed at reaching or accomplishing a goal or a result, especially through effort.”<sup>3018</sup>

“Digital inclusion” is understood to mean “equitable, meaningful, and safe access to use, lead, and design of digital technologies, services, and associated opportunities for everyone, everywhere.”<sup>3019</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

This commitment comprises two dimensions: 1) closing the digital divide; and 2) closing the gender divide; 2) with two regional targets: 3) developing countries; and 4) emerging economies, with the welfare target of achieving digital inclusion

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be assigned to G7 members that demonstrate several strong actions in fulfilling all four dimensions of the welfare target, closing digital divides and achieving digital inclusion, through working with developing countries and emerging economies. Several is defined as at least four. By nature, these actions must be international and collaborative in scope – domestic action does not count for full or partial compliance. Examples of strong actions include funding initiatives to establish practical and affordable digital broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural and remote areas; providing equitable and affordable access to computing devices; launching digital literacy programs; building public-private partnerships for solutions that are affordable, culturally relevant, and tailored to the unique needs of each community.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take several strong actions across two or three of the four criteria or several weak actions across all four the criteria. Weak actions may include, but are not limited to, verbal affirmations of support, proposing initiatives that are not followed through, attending domestic or international meetings that emphasize the importance of closing the digital divide without taking concrete steps, or merely condemning countries that have backslid in progress towards digital inclusion and equality.

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<sup>3014</sup> Miles to Go: The Future of Emerging Markets, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2021/06/the-future-of-emerging-markets-duttgupta-and-pazarbasiglu.htm>

<sup>3015</sup> Close, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/close>

<sup>3016</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>3017</sup> Inclusive Technology: The Gender Digital Divide, Human Rights & Violence Against Women, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) May 2019. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Inclusive-Technology-The-Gender-Digital-Divide-Human-Rights-Violence-Against-Women.pdf>

<sup>3018</sup> Achieve, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Achieve>

<sup>3019</sup> Digital Inclusion, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.un.org/techenvoy/sites/www.un.org.techenvoy/files/general/Definition\\_Digital-Inclusion.pdf](https://www.un.org/techenvoy/sites/www.un.org.techenvoy/files/general/Definition_Digital-Inclusion.pdf)

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that takes only weak action to close the digital divide and achieve digital inclusion and have not done so in collaboration with developing countries or emerging economies, reasonably measured as one of the commitment's criteria, or to members that take no action or antithetical actions towards the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken only weak action in one of the four criteria of 1) closing the digital divide, 2) closing the gender digital divide, 3) working with developing countries and 4) working with emerging economies, in order to achieve the welfare target of digital inclusion, or has taken no action or action antithetical to the commitment.
0	The G7 member has taken some strong action in two or three of the four criteria or only weak action in all four criteria of: 1) closing the digital divide, 2) closing the gender digital divide 3) working with developing countries and 4) working with emerging economies, in order to achieve the welfare target of digital inclusion.
+1	The G7 member has taken several strong actions in all four criteria of 1) closing the digital divide, 2) closing the gender digital divide, 3) working with developing countries and 4) working with emerging economies, in order to achieve the welfare target of digital inclusion.

*Compliance Director: Serena Honekin  
Lead Analyst: Elliot Savin*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 24 June 2024, Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings pledged CAD97 million in combined federal and provincial funding to ROCK Network to connect more than 18,600 homes in Northern Ontario to high-speed internet.<sup>3020</sup> This project aims to bring reliable and affordable internet access to underserved communities, including over 2,500 Indigenous households.

On 4 July 2024, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunication Commission (CRTC) committed CAD271.9 million to bring high-speed fiber internet to four remote Inuit communities in Nunavut.<sup>3021</sup> The goal of the project is to connect the communities of Iqaluit, Kinngait, Coral Harbour, and Kimmirut to public institutions such as schools, health centers and community learning centers for the first time.

On 22 July 2024, the CRTC announced that CAD79.4 million will be provided to the Kativik Regional Government for the improvement of internet services.<sup>3022</sup> This initiative, processed through the Broadband Fund, will bring high-speed internet to the Inuit communities of Kangiqsualujuaq, Aupaluk, Tasiujaq, Quaqtaq, and Kangirsuk in northern Quebec.

On 25 July 2024, Innovation, Science and Economic Development of Canada (ISED) announced that the auctioning of residual spectrum licenses on 19 July 2025 had resulted in the availability of more competitive

<sup>3020</sup>Expanding high-speed Internet access in Northern Ontario, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/06/expanding-high-speed-internet-access-in-northern-ontario.html>

<sup>3021</sup> CRTC takes action to bring fiber Internet to four Inuit communities in Nunavut for the first time, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2024/07/crtc-takes-action-to-bring-fibre-internet-to-four-inuit-communities-in-nunavut-for-the-first-time.html>

<sup>3022</sup> CRTC takes action to bring fibre Internet to five Inuit communities in northern Quebec, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2024/07/crtc-takes-action-to-bring-fibre-internet-to-five-inuit-communities-in-northern-quebec.html>

and accessible digital services in Canada.<sup>3023</sup> Fifty-six residual licenses were auctioned, mostly in rural and remote regions. This will help improve internet access in underserved communities across Canada.

On 28 August 2024, the CRTC committed over CAD17 million to improving cell service along major roads in Quebec, Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador.<sup>3024</sup> These projects, administrated through the Broadband Fund, will help connect Canadians to reliable cellphone service and improve public safety.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3025</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 3 October 2024, the CRTC committed over CAD8 million to developing high-speed internet for sixteen rural communities in Manitoba.<sup>3026</sup> This funding, processed through the Broadband Fund, will be used to build 310 kilometers of transport fiber to provide reliable internet access for over 1,400 households.

On 1 November 2024, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth, Marci Ien, announced that CAD100 million in federal funding will be dedicated to improving opportunities for women in Canada.<sup>3027</sup> Funded projects include the Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology and the Information and Communications Technology Council of Canada Inc. These organizations work to advance the digital skills of women and other underrepresented individuals in Canada's digital economy.

On 15 November 2024, ISED announced that CAD1.8 million will be dedicated to improving internet access in Eastern Ontario rural communities.<sup>3028</sup> The funding will be provided through the Universal Broadband Fund and will benefit 949 households in the targeted areas.

On 15 November 2024, ISED announced that CAD38 million in federal funds will be provided to developing high-speed internet for underserved communities in Manitoba.<sup>3029</sup> The funding will be processed through the Universal Broadband Fund and will benefit over 3,600 households in rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

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<sup>3023</sup> Canadians to benefit from higher-quality and more competitive telecom services, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/canadians-to-benefit-from-higher-quality-and-more-competitive-telecom-services.html>

<sup>3024</sup> CRTC takes action to improve cellphone service along eight major roads, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2024/08/crtc-takes-action-to-improve-cellphone-service-along-eight-major-roads.html>

<sup>3025</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3026</sup> CRTC Broadband Fund: Projects selected in October 2024, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2024/10/crtc-broadband-fund-projects-selected-in-october-2024.html>

<sup>3027</sup> Federal funding to help increase opportunities for women and build a more resilient economy for everyone in Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2024/11/federal-funding-to-help-increase-opportunities-for-women-and-build-a-more-resilient-economy-for-everyone-in-canada.html>

<sup>3028</sup> Expanding high-speed Internet access in eastern Ontario, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/expanding-high-speed-internet-access-in-eastern-ontario.html>

<sup>3029</sup> Expanding high-speed Internet access for rural and Indigenous communities in Manitoba, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/expanding-high-speed-internet-access-for-rural-and-indigenous-communities-in-manitoba.html>

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3030</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

On 19 February 2025, Global Affairs Canada committed CAD3.16 million to supporting women-led entrepreneurship in the Caribbean.<sup>3031</sup> A key focus of this initiative is to leverage information and communication technology as a tool for development, which will enhance the digital skills of female entrepreneurs in the region.

On 20 February 2025, the Government of Canada announced a new policy framework to support the expansion of wireless services using satellite technology.<sup>3032</sup> This spectrum policy will help bring internet access to underserved communities, such as rural, remote or Indigenous communities.

On 25 February 2025, ISED published the list of organizations selected to receive CAD39.2 million in funding for digital skills training initiatives.<sup>3033</sup> Delivered through the CanCode program, this investment aims to improve the digital literacy of Canadian youth, particularly those from underrepresented communities.

On 6 March 2025, ISED announced the release of additional spectrum in the 27.5-28.35 GHz band to support faster 5G deployment and innovation.<sup>3034</sup> This move aims to enhance connectivity across Canada, including in rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

On 9 March 2025, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen declared that Canada will commit CAD272.1 million to international assistance projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>3035</sup> Delivered through Global Affairs Canada, this funding includes CAD12 million dedicated to Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Vocational Education and Training, which will help upskill underprivileged youth, particularly girls, and including digital skills.<sup>3036</sup>

On 18 March 2025, CRTC Commissioner for British Columbia and Yukon Claire Anderson delivered a speech at the Spectrum Summit in Nanaimo, British Columbia, hosted by the Indigenous Connectivity Institute.<sup>3037</sup> In her remarks, Commissioner Anderson called attention to the ongoing development of the Indigenous priority

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<sup>3030</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>3031</sup> Project profile — Generating resilient and inclusive trade for Caribbean women entrepreneurs – program 2024 to 2028, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/p014243001>

<sup>3032</sup> Government of Canada publishes framework to expand wireless services via satellites, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-publishes-framework-to-expand-wireless-services-via-satellites.html>

<sup>3033</sup> Government of Canada announces recipients of CanCode 4.0 funding, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-announces-recipients-of-cancode-40-funding.html>

<sup>3034</sup> Government of Canada announces additional spectrum to support improved connectivity and innovative 5G applications, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-announces-additional-spectrum-to-support-improved-connectivity-and-innovative-5g-applications.html>

<sup>3035</sup> Canada gives \$272M in aid to Bangladesh, Indo-Pacific as USAID shuttered, Global News (Vancouver) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://globalnews.ca/news/11073814/canada-aid-bangladesh-indo-pacific/>

<sup>3036</sup> Backgrounder - Minister Hussen announces support for development projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/backgrounder---minister-hussen-announces-support-for-development-projects-in-bangladesh-and-the-indo-pacific-region.html>

<sup>3037</sup> Claire Anderson to the Spectrum Summit 2025, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2025/03/claire-anderson-to-the-spectrum-summit-2025.html>



window spectrum policy framework, along with other CRTC initiatives such as regulatory changes to improve access to telecom infrastructure and the development of an Indigenous stream within the Broadband Fund. These efforts will support Indigenous communities across Canada in bridging the digital divide.

On 1 April 2025, CRTC Commissioner for Ontario Bram Abramson delivered a speech to the Canadian Independent Telecommunications Association.<sup>3038</sup> In his remarks, Commissioner Abramson outlined current CRTC initiatives, such as the Broadband Fund and the Mobile Virtual Network Operator system, as part of a broader strategy to foster competition, support investment, and close the digital divide across Canada.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. Canada has taken strong action domestically and in cooperation with developing countries by dedicating funding to both domestic and international projects aimed at improving high-speed internet access and digital skills in underserved communities.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Lillian Toe*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 9 July 2024, the French National Agency for the Cohesion of Territories launched the final application phase for its tailor-made digital support for small communities.<sup>3039</sup> This initiative is aimed at offering personalized digital solutions to improve resident satisfaction of municipalities with fewer than 3,500 inhabitants and community groups under 15,000 residents.

On 11 July 2024, Ministry of Economics and Finance awarded four winning projects EUR 6.5 million in funding under the “ECONUM – Support for the development of an innovative, circular, and low environmental impact digital economy” initiative.<sup>3040</sup> One of these projects aims to equip two million households in face of digital insecurity by 2027 through recycling digital equipment.

On 19 July 2024, the Interministerial Digital Directorate (DINUM) released eleven video tutorials in collaboration with seven ministries. These tutorials aim to simplify essential administrative tasks, such as reporting fraudulent bank use, requesting legal aid and applying for housing assistance.<sup>3041</sup> They are fully accessible to people with disabilities, increasing access to using public sectors’ digital services for all.

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<sup>3038</sup> Bram Abramson to The Canadian Independent Telecommunications Association, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2025/04/bram-abramson-to-the-canadian-independent-telecommunications-association.html>

<sup>3039</sup> Accompagnement numérique sur mesure des petites collectivités, Les services de l’État en Savoie (Paris) 9 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.savoie.gouv.fr/Actualites/Espace-collectivites/Accompagnement-numerique-sur-mesure-des-petites-collectivites>

<sup>3040</sup> France 2030 : quatre projets lauréats pour le soutien au développement d’une économie numérique innovante circulaire et à moindre impact environnemental financés à hauteur de 6,5 millions d’euros, Le ministère de l’Économie et des Finances (Paris) 11 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.entreprises.gouv.fr/fr/presse/france-2030-4-projets-laureats-soutien-developpement-economie-numerique-innovante>

<sup>3041</sup> Simplification : l’État publie des tutoriels pour accompagner les citoyens dans leurs démarches administratives essentielles, Le numérique au service de l’efficacité de l’action publique (Paris) 19 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/simplification-letat-publie-des-tutoriels-pour-accompagner-les-citoyens-dans-leurs-demarches-administratives-essentielles/>

On 30 July 2024, the Government of France released the National Digital Decade Strategic Roadmap, a comprehensive plan to achieve key digital transformation goals by 2030.<sup>3042</sup> Key measures include investments through the EUR2.5 billion “Skills and Jobs of the Future” initiative to enhance digital education in schools, higher education, as well as efforts to upskill the workforce across sectors. By strengthening digital skills, improving infrastructure, and supporting digital education, this initiative aims to bridge the digital divide and promote participation in the digital economy.

On 24 September 2024, DINUM sponsored Numérique en Commun[s], a major event focused on sustainable and inclusive digital technology.<sup>3043</sup> This initiative included workshops, masterclasses, and plenary sessions aimed at bridging the digital divide. By fostering collaboration among professionals, the event promoted innovative strategies to improve digital access and inclusion.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3044</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7’s dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 4 October 2024, President Emmanuel Macron, alongside the leaders of other French-speaking countries, issued the Villers-Cotterêts Call to promote a safe, transparent digital space.<sup>3045</sup> This declaration aims to counter disinformation through digital literacy, implementing mechanisms to flag illegal content and collaborative frameworks to uphold reliable digital standards across the Francophone world, with a focus on building an “inclusive, pluralistic, high-quality and trustworthy digital space”.<sup>3046</sup>

On October 10, 2024, DINUM launched a barometer to address the gender divide in the digital sector by gathering insights into the experiences of women in the state’s digital workforce and supporting their career advancement.<sup>3047</sup>

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3048</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

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<sup>3042</sup> France - National Digital Decade strategic roadmap, Digital Skills and Jobs Platform (Brussels) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://digital-skills-jobs.europa.eu/en/actions/national-initiatives/national-strategies/france-national-digital-decade-strategic-roadmap>

<sup>3043</sup> La DINUM partenaire de Numérique en Commun[s] à Chambéry, Le numérique au service de l'efficacité de l'action publique (Paris) 21 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024.

<https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/agenda/la-dinum-partenaire-de-numerique-en-commun-s-a-chambery/>

<sup>3044</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3045</sup> The Villers-Cotterêts Call for an honest, trustworthy digital space in the Francophone world (4 October 2024), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/francophony-and-the-french-language/news/article/the-villers-cotterets-call-for-an-honest-trustworthy-digital-space-in-the>

<sup>3046</sup> The Villers-Cotterêts Call for an honest, trustworthy digital space in the Francophone world (4 October 2024), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/francophony-and-the-french-language/news/article/the-villers-cotterets-call-for-an-honest-trustworthy-digital-space-in-the>

<sup>3047</sup> Féminisation de la filière numérique de l'État : répondez au baromètre pour agir en faveur de la parité, Le numérique au service de l'efficacité de l'action publique (Paris) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/feminisation-de-la-filiere-numerique-de-letat-repondez-au-barometre-pour-agir-en-faveur-de-la-parite/>

<sup>3048</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 28 February 2025, the Interministerial Directorate for Digital, in partnership with Déclic (France's national federation of Public Operators of Digital Services), launched the Baromètre Numérique & Collectivités as part of the Transformation Numérique des Territoires program.<sup>3049</sup> The barometer will annually document and measure the level of digital transformation of local authorities to provide insights into their digital usage and strategy. The initiative aims to enhance digital strategies, improve access to online public services, and reduce disparities in digital access across France's territories.

France has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. France has taken strong action to bridge the digital divide both domestically and with developing economies, including through the National Digital Decade Strategic Roadmap, the Villers-Cotterêts Call, and the AI Action Summit.

Thus, France receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Ethan Zingariello*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 15 July 2024, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (BMAS) launched its Youth Guarantee initiative, aiming to provide 100,000 young people with access to training and job opportunities in digital skills by 2025.<sup>3050</sup> This initiative is critical for reducing the digital divide among youth by equipping them with the necessary competencies for the digital economy, ultimately fostering greater employment prospects and economic participation.

On 22 July 2024, the German Foreign Office outlined the goals of the EU Global Gateway initiative, which has a budget of EUR300 billion earmarked for projects enhancing sustainable development, including digital connectivity efforts.<sup>3051</sup> By fostering reliable digital infrastructure, this initiative seeks to improve access to digital technologies for underserved communities, contributing to broader efforts in achieving digital inclusion across Europe and beyond.

On 31 July 2024, BMAS published a comprehensive Digitalization Strategy for Public Employment and Social Protection Services, designed to enhance access to social services through digital means.<sup>3052</sup> This strategy promotes user-friendly and inclusive digital interfaces, aiming to reach 1 million marginalized individuals by 2026, thereby facilitating their integration into the digital economy and improving overall digital literacy.

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<sup>3049</sup> Baromètre Collectivités & Numérique : Acteurs des territoires, découvrez les premiers résultats du baromètre et répondez jusqu'au 23 mai 2025 à la dernière consultation !, Direction interministérielle du Numérique (Paris) 28 February 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 10 Apr 2025. <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/actualites/barom%C3%A8tre-collectivit%C3%A9s--num%C3%A9rique--acteurs-des-territoires-d%C3%A9couvrez-les-premiers-r%C3%A9sultats-du-barom%C3%A8tre-et-r%C3%A9pondez-jusquau-23-mai-2025-%C3%A0-la-derni%C3%A8re-consultation/>

<sup>3050</sup> The Youth Guarantee, Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (Berlin) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Europe-and-the-World/Europe/Employment-and-social-policy-in-the-EU/youth-guarantee.html>

<sup>3051</sup> EU Global Gateway: Global Partnerships for Democratic and Sustainable Standards, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europe/eu-global-gateway--globale-partnerschaften-fuer-demokratische-und-nachhaltige-standards/2607028>

<sup>3052</sup> Digitalization Strategy for Employment and Social Protection Services: Improving Access through Digital Means, Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (Berlin) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Publications/a900-digitalisation-strategy-public-employment-social-protection-services.html>

On 1 September 2024, the German Foreign Office introduced its updated Humanitarian Action and Human Rights Strategy, which emphasizes integrating digital technologies into humanitarian efforts.<sup>3053</sup> The strategy specifically targets enhancing access to essential services for 500,000 vulnerable individuals, with a focus on fostering digital literacy among marginalized groups, particularly women and children, ensuring they can benefit from digital advancements.

On 25 September 2024, the German Foreign Office announced new policy guidelines for the Indo-Pacific region, which emphasize digital cooperation with partner nations.<sup>3054</sup> These guidelines aim to support the development of digital infrastructure and connectivity in the region, helping at least 20 countries overcome digital divides and aligning with Germany's commitment to international collaboration for digital inclusion.

On 25 September 2024, the German Foreign Office released a Progress Report on the German-Latin American and Caribbean Partnership, highlighting initiatives to promote digital cooperation and sustainable development.<sup>3055</sup> Specific actions include providing technical assistance to five Latin American countries to enhance their digital infrastructures, alongside capacity-building programs aimed at improving digital skills for 10,000 marginalized community members, particularly women.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3056</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 10 October 2024, the Federal Ministry of Digital and Transport initiated a National Strategy for Sea and Inland Ports, focusing on modernizing logistics through digital infrastructure improvements.<sup>3057</sup> This strategy is projected to enhance operational efficiency in 20 major ports, significantly improving trade capabilities with developing countries and thus aiding in bridging digital divides and facilitating economic growth.

On 16 October 2024, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze addressed the sixth German-Arab Women's Forum, emphasizing the empowerment of 50,000 women through digitalization and international partnerships.<sup>3058</sup> This initiative directly addresses the gender digital divide and promotes gender equality in digital spaces, fostering greater participation of women in technology sectors.

On 19 November 2024, Deputy Head of Division for Digital Technologies Katharina Mänz attended the 2024 Tallinn Digital Summit and kicked off the session titled "Bridging the Digital Divide: GovStack as the DPI

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<sup>3053</sup> Federal Foreign Office Strategy for Humanitarian Assistance Abroad, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://rom-io.diplo.de/fao-en/aktuelles/-/2678106>

<sup>3054</sup> Intensifying security policy cooperation, strengthening economic relations and tackling the climate crisis: The Federal Government adopts the fourth Progress report on the implementation of the Federal Government's policy guidelines for the Indo-Pacific, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/policy-guidelines-indo-pacific/2677534>

<sup>3055</sup> Progress report on the implementation of the Federal Government's policy guidelines for the Indo-Pacific for the year 2024, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/policy-guidelines-indo-pacific/2677534>

<sup>3056</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3057</sup> The National Ports Strategy, Federal Ministry of Digital and Transport (Berlin) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/EN/Articles/WS/national-strategy-for-sea-and-inland-ports-2015.html>

<sup>3058</sup> Speech by Federal Minister Svenja Schulze at the 6th German-Arab Women's Forum, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/speeches-and-contributions/minister-svenja-schulze/speech-6th-german-arab-womens-forum-232796>

Implementation Stack for Global Interoperability and Digital Governance.”<sup>3059</sup> This session explored how open, modular digital building blocks can create inclusive digital ecosystems to bridge the global digital divide.

On 21 November 2024, the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport hosted the first International Digital Dialogues Conference.<sup>3060</sup> The conference included over 100 selected representatives from the public and private sector, civil society and academia to discuss current digital issues with the goal of providing the opportunities of the global digital transformation to all.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3061</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

On 23 January, the Federal Ministry for Digital Affairs and Transport approved a budget of EUR1.2 billion to be made available specifically and exclusively for infrastructure funding and the digital gap-closing programme.<sup>3062</sup> This additional funding, in addition to the EUR2 billion earmarked for the project in 2024, contributes to the national expansion of fiber optic cables which provide digital services and connectivity to 440,000 households as of January 2025. The continuation of this project aims to create digital participation for all by ensuring that all citizens have access to digital infrastructures.

On 28 January, Federal Digital Minister Volker Wissing opened an Innovation and Quality Center for artificial intelligence in Berlin.<sup>3063</sup> The center, located at the German Museum of Technology and funded by the Federal Ministry for Digital Affairs and Transport, is the latest step in Germany’s Mission KI, a national initiative for artificial intelligence and data economy.<sup>3064</sup> The inauguration of this center marks progress towards strengthening digital competitiveness and making frontier digital technologies available to all. Furthermore, the center will be open to all public and private education institutions, hoping to expose children of all socioeconomic backgrounds to digital technologies and incite them to pursue careers in the domain.

On 7 February 2025, the Federal Ministry for Digital Affairs and Transport pledged EUR870,000 for the construction of a platform in the North Sea intended for launching satellites.<sup>3065</sup> The project, called the “Offshore Spaceport - Finding Solutions and Infrastructure Development for Orbital Launches” initiative will allow for increased satellite activity and provide better access to important digital services such as communications and 5G networks in remote and less digitally serviced areas.

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<sup>3059</sup> GovStack at the Tallinn Digital Summit, Digital Global (Berlin) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.bmz-digital.global/en/event/govstack-tallinn-digital-summit/>

<sup>3060</sup> International Digital Dialogues Conference – Shaping digital policy together, Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (Berlin) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://digital-dialogues.net/en/events/details/international-digital-dialogues-conference-shaping-digital-policy-together>

<sup>3061</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>3062</sup> New funding round ensures continuity in fiber optic expansion (Berlin), 28 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 January 2025. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/004-wissing-gigabitfoerderung-glasfaserausbau.html>

<sup>3063</sup> Federal Minister Wissing opens AI Center in Berlin, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin), 28 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/005-wissing-eroeffnet-ki-zentrum.html>

<sup>3064</sup> Federal Minister Wissing opens AI center in Berlin, National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence and Data Economy (Berlin), 28 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://mission-ki.de/en/federal-minister-wissing-opens-ai-center-in-berlin>

<sup>3065</sup> BMDV promotes planning for mobile satellite launches in the North Sea, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin), 7 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/008-schnorr-welttraum-ist-zukunftsmarkt.html>

On 5 March 2025, the Federal Ministry for Digital Affairs and Transport announced a EUR 40 million investment and a new call for funding to expand the Gap Closing Pilot Program<sup>3066</sup>. This initiative will support the goal of achieving nationwide gigabit access in Germany, particularly in technologically underserved areas that do not benefit from private sector expansion.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. The country has launched several initiatives aimed at enhancing digital skills and connectivity, creating opportunities for women to close the digital literacy gap and has collaborated with developing countries and emerging economies in these efforts, such as the Indo-Pacific region and the Caribbean.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Bo Wen Zhang and Raphaël Bitter*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 28 June 2024 the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation, chaired by Council Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani, approved the creation of a flagship initiative on digital development to be linked to the Mattei Plan, granting the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) a financial contribution for technical assistance aimed at drafting the project document by July 2025.<sup>3067</sup> Project development remains ongoing with four beneficiary countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Senegal and Mozambique.

On 1 July 2024, Ministry of Economy and Finance announced the launch of FiberCop as an open-access wholesale telecommunications network, providing nationwide end-to-end connectivity services.<sup>3068</sup> This strategic partnership aims to accelerate Italy's transition from copper to fiber-optic infrastructure, supporting the country's digital transformation and economic development across all regions.

On 4 July 2024, Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy released a public notice for projects aimed at enhancing digital and media literacy among minors, with a total funding of EUR 1.7 million.<sup>3069</sup> The projects are required to create educational materials and awareness campaigns targeting children aged 8 to 18, while also addressing secondary audiences such as parents, educators, and child protection workers.

On 12 July 2024, Ministers of Labor and Social Policies Marina Calderone and Eugenia Roccella raised concerns about the potential for AI to introduce new workplace discrimination, highlighting this as a key topic for the G7 Labour Ministerial in Cagliari.<sup>3070</sup>

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<sup>3066</sup> New call for funding for the gap-closing pilot program launched, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin), 5 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 April 2025.

<https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2025/014-wissing-gigabitfoerderung-lueckenschluss.html>

<sup>3067</sup> INIZIATIVE APPROVATE, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 11 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Elenco-Delibere\\_IV-Riunione-Comitato-Congiunto\\_28.06.2024.pdf](https://www.esteri.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Elenco-Delibere_IV-Riunione-Comitato-Congiunto_28.06.2024.pdf)

<sup>3068</sup> Joint statement on the FiberCop closing day, Il Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2024/Joint-statement-on-the-FiberCop-closing-day-00001/>

<sup>3069</sup> Alfabetizzazione mediatica e digitale a tutela dei minori: online l'avviso pubblico, Il Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/alfabetizzazione-mediatica-e-digitale-a-tutela-dei-minori-on-line-lavviso-pubblico>

<sup>3070</sup> The National Conference of the Equality Counsellors (consiglieri di parità) at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/g7-labour/news/national-conference-equality-counsellors-ministry-labour-and-social>

On 18 July 2024, Italy and the UNDP launched the first public report on the co-design of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hub for Sustainable Development.<sup>3071</sup> This report outlines a framework for leveraging artificial intelligence to promote social and economic development in vulnerable regions. By focusing on partnerships and innovative applications of technology, this initiative demonstrates Italy's commitment to advancing sustainable development goals through collaborative efforts.

On 19 July 2024, Italy and the UNDP opened a call for applications to the AI Hub for Sustainable Development Co-Design.<sup>3072</sup> Startup initiatives can cover three areas, compute access and affordability, skill gaps, and data public goods. Part of the Mattei Plan, projects can operate in Algeria, Republic of the Congo, Côte D'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, or Tunisia.

On 23 August 2024, Italy and the UNDP selected 12 finalists for the AI Hub for Sustainable Development Co-Design Startup Acceleration Pilot.<sup>3073</sup> Projects include Maternanet Africa, bringing digital solutions to maternal health, and Kytabu which leverages Artificial Intelligence to improve education in Kenya.<sup>3074</sup>

On 19 September 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Edmondo Cirielli participated in a ceremony to sign a convention focused on public digital infrastructure development projects.<sup>3075</sup> This initiative aims to enhance digital capabilities in Italy, facilitating greater access to technology and services for over 60 million citizens. By investing in digital infrastructure, this action supports G7 commitments to promote technological inclusivity and enhance public service delivery, ensuring that all citizens can benefit from advancements in technology.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3076</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 10 October, Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy Adolfo Urso and Deputy Minister Cirielli signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the UNDP and the International Telecommunication Union to further collaboration on supporting AI startups in Africa.<sup>3077</sup>

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<sup>3071</sup> The Italian G7 Presidency and UNDP launch first public report on the co-design of the AI Hub for Sustainable Development, Il Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/the-italian-g7-presidency-and-undp-launch-first-public-report-on-the-co-design-of-the-ai-hub-for-sustainable-development>

<sup>3072</sup> AI Hub for Sustainable Development Co-Design, United Nations Development Programme (New York) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.undp.org/digital/ai/startup-acceleration-pilot>

<sup>3073</sup> AI Hub for Sustainable Development Co-Design, United Nations Development Programme (New York) n.d.. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.undp.org/digital/ai/startup-acceleration-pilot>

<sup>3074</sup> AI Hub Co-Design Programmes: Startup Accelerator Pilot, AI Hub for Development (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.aihubfordevelopment.org/startup-accelerator-pilot>

<sup>3075</sup> Deputy Minister Cirielli at the ceremony for the signing of an agreement for development projects in the field of public digital infrastructures, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/il-vice-ministro-cirielli-alla-cerimonia-per-la-firma-di-una-convenzione-per-progetti-di-sviluppo-in-materia-di-infrastrutture-digitali-pubbliche/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/il-vice-ministro-cirielli-alla-cerimonia-per-la-firma-di-una-convenzione-per-progetti-di-sviluppo-in-materia-di-infrastrutture-digitali-pubbliche/)

<sup>3076</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, Il Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3077</sup> MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION, THE MINISTRY OF ENTERPRISES AND MADE IN ITALY AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, International Telecommunication Union (Geneva) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/extcoop/Documents/mou/ITU-UNDP-Italy-20241010.pdf>

On 18 October 2024, the Department for Digital Transformation released its first series of publications dedicated to examining the level of digital skills in Italy.<sup>3078</sup> The results of the report are relevant for future policies regarding social inclusion, employment and access to other various opportunities.

On 12 November 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy, the National Promotional Institution (CDP) and the UNDP organized the G7 Conference Growing Together: Building Public-Private Partnerships to Boost the AI Revolution.<sup>3079</sup> The conference, aimed at public-private collaboration, brought together investors, institutional representatives and startups with a mission driven by sustainable development and the Mattei Plan for Africa. Startup participants included companies from the Italy-UNDP AI Hub for Sustainable Development accelerator programs.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3080</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

On 9 December 2024, the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Development Cooperation approved the three-year programming and direction document outline for development cooperation policy.<sup>3081</sup> The plan outlines the digital transformation as a key driver of sustainable development and aims to enhance technological access in developing countries and close digital divides in public service delivery.<sup>3082</sup> The document incorporates integrates gender considerations across all cooperation initiatives for 2024-2026 and particularly promotes information and communication technologies access to empower women. Italy's Global Gateway collaboration with the EU aims to bring infrastructure and digital connectivity investment to emerging economies across Asia, Latin America, and Africa.

On 9 January 2025, the Department for Digital Transformation published the findings of a joint study between Connect Italy and the National Agency for Investment Attraction and Business Development.<sup>3083</sup> This study mapped the coverage of national territory with 4G and 5G mobile networks by 5 of the largest internet operators. The presentation of the findings works to attenuate the digital divide by physically mapping internet access and providing the Department for Digital Transformation with the data of which areas are most developed, and which require consideration regarding the digital divide.<sup>3084</sup>

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<sup>3078</sup> È online il primo Quaderno di Repubblica Digitale, dedicato alle competenze digitali, Repubblica Digitale (Roma) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://repubblicadigitale.gov.it/portale/-/al-via-a-torino-la-terza-edizione-del-festival-del-digitale-popolare-duplica-1>

<sup>3079</sup> San Francisco, G7 Conference Growing Together: Building Public-Private Partnerships to Boost the AI Revolution, Italian Consulate General in San Francisco (San Francisco) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2025. [https://conssanfrancisco.esteri.it/en/news/dal\\_consolato/2024/11/san-francisco-g7-conference-growing-together-building-public-private-partnerships-to-boost-the-ai-revolution/](https://conssanfrancisco.esteri.it/en/news/dal_consolato/2024/11/san-francisco-g7-conference-growing-together-building-public-private-partnerships-to-boost-the-ai-revolution/)

<sup>3080</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni), 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>3081</sup> RESOLUTION 9 December 2024, Gazzeta Ufficiale Della Repubblica Italiana (Rome) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2025/02/03/25A00622/SG>

<sup>3082</sup> Schema di Documento triennale di programmazione e di indirizzo della politica di cooperazione allo sviluppo, riferito agli anni 2024-2026, Camera dei Deputati (Rome) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 12 March 2025. <https://documenti.camera.it/leg19/dossier/pdf/ES0252.pdf>

<sup>3083</sup> Esiti Mappatura delle reti mobili 2024: conclusa l'analisi dei dati forniti dagli operatori, Infratel Italia (Roma), 8 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 February 2025. <https://www.infratelitalia.it/archivio-documenti/documenti/esiti-mappatura-reti-mobili-2024>

<sup>3084</sup> Reti Ultraveloci e 5G: pubblicati gli esiti della mappatura reti mobili 2024, Dipartimento per la trasformazione digitale (Roma), 9 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 February 2025. <https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/reti-ultraveloci-e-5g-pubblicati-gli-esiti-della-mappatura-reti-mobili-2024/>



On 28 January 2025, the Agency for Digital Italy published the data on the Monitoring Project as part of the Digital Accessibility Initiative.<sup>3085</sup> Having analysed more than 4.7 million web pages, 29,409 internet sites, and 780,152 PDF files, this report aims to promote a fair digital environment in which no user is excluded from the benefits that frontier digital technologies provide.<sup>3086</sup> The data is used by the Agency for Digital Italy to develop training programmes which target accessibility barriers in public administration websites and reduce the digital divide.

On 2 April 2025, the Agency for Digital Italy and the Ministry of University and Research announced the launch of phase two of the “Innovative Virtual and Augmented Reality Applications for Persons with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC)”.<sup>3087</sup> Marked by the execution of the EUR 2 million research grant for phase one and the announcement of an additional EUR 4 million for the winners of phase two, this initiative seeks to utilise frontier technologies such as augmented reality to promote the digital inclusion of individuals living with disabilities.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. Italy has taken strong action to close digital divides in Africa through the AI Hub for Sustainable Development and Mattei Plan. All Italy’s 2024-2026 development work integrates gender considerations and specific projects in Kenya demonstrate this emphasis. Italy has engaged with emerging economies but has not directly collaborated projects in these countries. Italy’s compliance remains partial as they have yet to advance four strong actions that cover each of the four compliance criteria.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Bo Wen Zhang and Raphaël Bitter*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 13 September 2024, Japan, as part of the G20 Ministers responsible for the Digital Economy, convened in Maceió, Brazil, to address digital inclusion and reducing digital inequalities.<sup>3088</sup> This meeting reaffirmed the commitment to cut the gender digital divide in half by 2030 and emphasized the need for affordable, secure, and meaningful connectivity for underserved populations. The Ministers highlighted the importance of digital literacy and skills to empower individuals for safe and productive engagement in the digital world.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the

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<sup>3085</sup> Cronologia del progetto: Scopri gli aggiornamenti in arrivo e rivedi i dettagli degli aggiornamenti passati, Monitoraggio Accessibilità (Roma), 16 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 February 2025. <https://monitoraggio.accessibilita.agid.gov.it/cronologia>

<sup>3086</sup> Accessibility monitoring, Q4 2024 data online, Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale (Roma), 28 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 February 2025. <https://www.agid.gov.it/en/news/accessibility-monitoring-q4-2024-data-online>

<sup>3087</sup> Smarter Italy, Agid and MUR launch phase 2 of the innovation procurement on autism technologies (Roma), 2 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 April 2025. <https://www.agid.gov.it/en/news/smarter-italy-agid-and-mur-launch-phase-2-innovation-procurement-autism-technologies>

<sup>3088</sup> G20 MACEIÓ MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON DIGITAL INCLUSION FOR ALL, G20 Brazil (Maceió) 13 September 2024. Access Date 1 November 2024. <https://www.g20.org/en/tracks/shepa-track/digital-economy>

Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3089</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 10 October 2024, Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba attended the 27th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Vientiane, Laos.<sup>3090</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba announced Japan's commitment to advancing digital transformation in the Association of South East Asian Nations through initiatives such as AI human resources development in partnership with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia and promoting the rollout of 5G infrastructure. These measures aim to bridge digital divides and foster trust in the digital ecosystem across the ASEAN region.

On 11 October 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba and Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh held a meeting during the ASEAN-related summit meetings.<sup>3091</sup> The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to advance the "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity in Asia and the World," and agreed to deepen cooperation in high technology, digital transformation, and human resource development. This initiative aligns with Japan's commitment to close digital divides and achieve digital inclusion by fostering collaborative efforts with Vietnam to promote digital skills and services.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba participated in the second Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum Leaders' Dialogue with the APEC Business Advisory Council in Lima, Peru.<sup>3092</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba emphasized the importance of leveraging AI and digital technologies to address social challenges and advocated for regional knowledge-sharing initiatives.

On 16 November 2024, Prime Minister Ishiba Shigeru met with Vietnamese President Luong Cuong during the APEC summit held in Peru.<sup>3093</sup> Both leaders agreed to deepen their cooperation under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for Peace and Prosperity in Asia and the World, with a focus on digital transformation, infrastructure development and human resource development. This initiative seeks to bridge technological gaps and foster sustainable growth, aligning with Japan's goals to create an inclusive digital economy.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3094</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

On 2 December 2024, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications held the Digital Academy in collaboration with the World Bank.<sup>3095</sup> The event focused on addressing the digital divide, promoting digital

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<sup>3089</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3090</sup> The 27th ASEAN Japan Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/rp/pageite\\_000001\\_00606.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/pageite_000001_00606.html)

<sup>3091</sup> Japan-Viet Nam Summit Meeting (Summary), Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 22 November 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/102\\_ishiba/diplomatic/202410/11vietnam.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/102_ishiba/diplomatic/202410/11vietnam.html)

<sup>3092</sup> APEC Leaders' Meeting 2024 (Session II: APEC Leaders Dialogue with APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)) (Summary), Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 21 November 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/15apec\\_s2.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/15apec_s2.html)

<sup>3093</sup> Japan-Vietnam Summit Meeting (Summary), Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 21 November 2024. <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202411/16vietnam.html>

<sup>3094</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>3095</sup> Results of the Digital Academy in Collaboration with the World Bank, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.soumu.go.jp/main\\_sosiki/joho\\_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2024/12/6\\_1.html](https://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2024/12/6_1.html)

resilience and leveraging ICT to tackle social issues, and was attended by 21 countries from Asia, the Pacific, the Caucasus and Eastern Europe.<sup>3096</sup>

On 4 December 2024, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications announced that representatives from Japan, Australia, Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru and the United States held the Fifth Meeting of the East Micronesia Cable Project Executive Board online, to reaffirm the progress that had been made since the previous meeting.<sup>3097</sup> The East Micronesia Cable project is jointly funded by Australia, Japan and the United States, and seeks to provide fast and reliable internet connectivity for up to 100,000 people across the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati and Nauru, via a submarine cable.<sup>3098</sup>

On 22 January 2025, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Digital Agency along with UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology held the third ministerial council of the Japan-UK digital partnership.<sup>3099</sup> The participants released a joint statement outlining the future direction of the partnership including bilateral Beyond 5G/6G R&D initiatives, cyber resilience knowledge-sharing and the promotion of DFFT in multilateral forums.

On 23 January 2025, Ambassador to Cambodia Ueno Atsushi and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prak Sokhonn signed and exchanged notes regarding a grant aid project for the provision of election-related digital equipment.<sup>3100</sup> The grant aid project has a grant provision of up to JPY750 million, and aims to promote safe and secure elections in Cambodia by providing election servers and cyber-security equipment in light of Cambodia's aging equipment and the increasing scale of cyber-attacks.

On 12 February 2025, Ambassador to the Philippines Endo Kazuya and Philippine Secretary for Foreign Affairs Enrique A. Manalo signed and exchanged notes regarding a grant aid project for the provision of Open RAN telecommunications equipment.<sup>3101</sup> The grant aid project has a grant provision of up to JPY444 million, and is expected to strengthen Filipino information and communication infrastructure as the country undergoes a digitalization of its public services.

On 27 February 2025, Ambassador to Cambodia Atsushi Ueno and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prak Sokhonn signed a grant agreement worth JPY 404 million to provide Cambodia with educational ICT equipment.<sup>3102</sup> The project will supply the Techo Sen Institute of Public Works and Transport with ICT tools manufactured by Japanese companies, enhancing digital education for students trained to lead public works projects.

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<sup>3096</sup> Tokyo Digital Academy Program – Leveraging Digital Transformation for Resilience: Ideas Actioned, World Bank Group (Washington, D.C.) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2024/10/24/tokyo-digital-academy-program-leveraging-digital-transformation-for-resilience-ideas-actioned>

<sup>3097</sup> The Fifth Meeting of the East Micronesia Cable Project Executive Board, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00785.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00785.html)

<sup>3098</sup> East Micronesia Cable, East Micronesia Cable System (Canberra) 5 June 2023. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.eastmicronesiacable.com/>

<sup>3099</sup> Outcomes of the Third Ministerial Council of the Japan-UK Digital Partnership, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, JAPAN (Tokyo) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.soumu.go.jp/main\\_sosiki/joho\\_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2025/1/22\\_1.html](https://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2025/1/22_1.html)

<sup>3100</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes Concerning Grant Aid Project to the Kingdom of Cambodia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00940.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00940.html)

<sup>3101</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes Concerning the Provision of Open RAN-related Equipment to the Republic of the Philippines (Grant Assistance “Economic and Social Development Program”), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00988.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00988.html)

<sup>3102</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes Concerning the Provision of educational ICT equipment to the Kingdom of Cambodia (Grant Assistance “Economic and Social Development Program”), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01031.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01031.html)

On 25 March 2025, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister Mori Masafumi, Philippine Secretary of Finance Ralph Recto and Philippine Secretary of National Economic and Development Authority Arsenio Balisacan co-chaired the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Japan-Philippines High Level Joint Committee on Infrastructure Development and Economic Cooperation in the Philippines.<sup>3103</sup> The meeting addressed key areas of bilateral and trilateral collaboration, disaster prevention, regional development, and both sides further agreed to increase cooperation in ICT.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. Japan has worked towards bridging the digital divide domestically and with developing countries, specifically in the Indo-Pacific region.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Serena Honekin and Ethan Zingariello*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 8 July 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) announced its expansion, integrating experts in data, digital, and AI from the Government Digital Service, Central Digital and Data Office, and the Incubator for artificial intelligence.<sup>3104</sup> The expansion aims to transform public services, making them more personalized and efficient for citizens, and to distribute the benefits of digital expansion fairly across the United Kingdom.

On 26 July 2024, the UK and the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) met at the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference.<sup>3105</sup> Both parties stressed the importance of joint efforts to address digital, technological, and AI gaps. They agreed to explore potential collaboration on digital transformation within the ASEAN Villages Network to improve connectivity in rural areas, ensuring equal access to digital services. They also explored ways to expand the UK's Digital Access Programme to support internet connectivity across ASEAN communities to bridge the digital divide.

On 13 August 2024, the UK government announced up to GBP800 million in funding to modernize broadband infrastructure in rural areas of England, Scotland, and Wales.<sup>3106</sup> This investment will provide rural homes and businesses with improved internet speeds, aiming to bridge the digital divide and boost connectivity across Britain.

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<sup>3103</sup> 15th Meeting of the Japan–Philippines High Level Joint Committee on Infrastructure Development and Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 30 March 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/s\\_sa/sea2/ph/pageite\\_000001\\_00867.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/s_sa/sea2/ph/pageite_000001_00867.html)

<sup>3104</sup> DSIT bolstered to better serve the British public through science and technology, GOV.UK (London) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dsit-bolstered-to-better-serve-the-british-public-through-science-and-technology>

<sup>3105</sup> ASEAN-UK joint ministerial statement: enhancing connectivity for a prosperous and sustainable future, July 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (Vientiane) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asean-uk-joint-ministerial-statement-enhancing-connectivity-for-a-prosperous-and-sustainable-future/asean-uk-joint-ministerial-statement-enhancing-connectivity-for-a-prosperous-and-sustainable-future-july-2024>

<sup>3106</sup> 312,000 rural homes and businesses to get access to faster broadband in overhaul of old infrastructure, gov.uk (London) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/312000-rural-homes-and-businesses-to-get-access-to-faster-broadband-in-overhaul-of-old-infrastructure>

On 26 August 2024, the UK government activated four new masts delivering 4G coverage in Britain's national parks following government funding to reduce signal loss in remote areas.<sup>3107</sup> This action is part of the UK government's efforts to close the digital divide, ensuring that residents across Britain have equal access to connectivity and opportunities.

On 1 September 2024, the UK-Ukraine digital trade deal entered into force, allowing businesses in both countries to benefit from quicker and cheaper trade of digitally delivered services and digital products.<sup>3108</sup> The agreement is part of a series of digital initiatives by the UK government to support Ukraine's digital economy and thus narrow international digital divides.

On 17 September 2024, the UK government announced GBP1.9 million in funding to strengthen science, technology and innovation in Ghana and Nigeria.<sup>3109</sup> The investment would support the UK government's partnership with governments in Nigeria and Ghana on technology and innovation and enhance government digital delivery services in these regions.

On 19 September 2024, the Fourth ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)–UK Consultation took place in Vientiane.<sup>3110</sup> At the meeting, the Department for Business and Trade and the AEM reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing economic integration and cooperation in digital transformation and sustainability. The meeting emphasized the importance of economic cooperation in key areas due to the ASEAN-UK Economic Integration Programme, which supports ASEAN's efforts toward digital integration.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3111</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 30 October 2024, His Majesty's Treasury published the Autumn Budget 2024, which allocates over GBP500 million for 2025-26 to support Project Gigabit and the Shared Rural Network.<sup>3112</sup> This funding aims to expand digital infrastructure in underserved areas of the UK, with the goal of achieving full gigabit broadband coverage by 2030.

On 7 November 2024, the DSIT appointed prominent leaders from the business, academic, and charity sectors as non-executive directors.<sup>3113</sup> These individuals would oversee DSIT and bring extensive expertise to help DSIT address the digital divide, transform public services and drive innovation-led economic growth.

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<sup>3107</sup> Signal boost for bank holiday ramblers as UK government's 4G rollout picks up pace in Great British countryside, gov.uk (London) 26 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/signal-boost-for-bank-holiday-ramblers-as-uk-governments-4g-rollout-picks-up-pace-in-great-british-countryside>

<sup>3108</sup> UK-Ukraine digital trade set to grow, gov.uk (London) 1 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-ukraine-digital-trade-set-to-grow>

<sup>3109</sup> £1.9 Million Announced for Science, Technology and Innovation in West Africa, gov.uk (London) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/19-million-announced-for-science-technology-and-innovation-in-west-africa>

<sup>3110</sup> The Fourth AEM-UK Consultation, gov.uk (Vientiane) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-fourth-aem-uk-consultation>

<sup>3111</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3112</sup> Autumn Budget 2024 (HTML), His Majesty's Treasury (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/autumn-budget-2024/autumn-budget-2024-html>

<sup>3113</sup> Refreshed DSIT board to guide plans to transform public services and close digital divide, gov.uk (London) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/refreshed-dsit-board-to-guide-plans-to-transform-public-services-and-close-digital-divide>

On 14 November 2024, the UK government announced seven 4G mast upgrades in North, South West and West Wales, delivering reliable connectivity to thousands of residents, local businesses and organizations.<sup>3114</sup> The UK government expected that improving outdated mobile connectivity networks in rural areas would stimulate regional economic growth, expand access to opportunity and help bridge the digital divide between urban and rural communities.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3115</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

On 27 November 2024, the UK government announced up to GBP3.5 million in funding for projects testing hybrid connectivity solutions in remote areas.<sup>3116</sup> Key initiatives include portable gigabit-capable internet access and hybrid networks for rural islands in Shetland and Northern Ireland. The funding includes GBP2 million to enhance wireless connectivity for education, healthcare, and businesses, along with an additional GBP1 million to improve broadband and mobile services on Papa Stour, addressing persistent infrastructure challenges.

On 7 January 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom and Openreach signed GBP289 million in contracts to connect some of Britain's most remote locations, providing people with better access to crucial online services like healthcare and education.<sup>3117</sup> This broadband boost would benefit rural villages and towns in the UK, helping around 131,000 hard-to-reach homes and businesses to get fast broadband speeds and breaking down barriers to opportunity.

On 20 January 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom reaffirmed its commitment to promoting greater participation of girls and women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects through a written response in the House of Lords.<sup>3118</sup> Minister for Skills Jacqueline Smith emphasized ongoing government efforts and stated that the UK government has made significant investments in mathematics, digital, and technical education to support this goal.

On 22 January 2025, the Secretary of State for Education Bridget Phillipson announced plans to drive a digital revolution in schools.<sup>3119</sup> She highlighted how a lack of tech awareness widens the digital divide, leaving some students and staff struggling with basic tools while others benefiting from the opportunities of new technologies. To address this, she introduced several services to guide schools on where to invest in technology. This initiative ensures schools build strong digital foundations to fully leverage technology in education and improve students' digital literacy.

On 10 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom and other co-signatories of the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse urged full gender integration at the

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<sup>3114</sup> Roll out of faster and more reliable 4G to reach thousands of businesses and households across rural Wales, gov.uk (London) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/roll-out-of-faster-and-more-reliable-4g-to-reach-thousands-of-businesses-and-households-across-rural-wales>

<sup>3115</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html> 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>3116</sup> Satellite communications to improve connectivity in remote areas, gov.uk (London) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/satellite-communications-to-improve-connectivity-in-remote-areas>

<sup>3117</sup> Hundreds of thousands of Brits in rural villages and towns to benefit from UK government broadband boost, gov.uk (London) 7 January 2025. Access Date: 18 Feb 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hundreds-of-thousands-of-brits-in-rural-villages-and-towns-to-benefit-from-uk-government-broadband-boost>

<sup>3118</sup> STEM Subjects: Women, UK Parliament (London) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2025-01-20/HL4219>

<sup>3119</sup> Education Secretary outlines plans to modernise education sector, gov.uk (London) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 18 Feb 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/education-secretary-outlines-plans-to-modernise-education-sector>

upcoming AI Action Summit in Paris and reaffirmed their commitment to bridging digital gender divides.<sup>3120</sup> They called for stronger efforts to prioritize women's rights in the digital space and promote AI literacy for all, especially women and girls. They emphasized equitable access and participation in the digital sphere, empowering women to engage with AI and combat gender biases.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat opened applications for Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Scholarships.<sup>3121</sup> This is an initiative under the ASEAN-UK Supporting the Advancement of Girls' Education (ASEAN-UK SAGE) Program. ASEAN-UK SAGE "tackles gender barriers to basic digital skills for employment, aiming to support the development of basic digital skills for marginalized groups" to help narrow the development gap in ASEAN and bridge the digital divide.<sup>3122</sup> The Women in STEM Scholarships align with this mission by providing financial aid to disadvantaged women, enabling them to access STEM education in the UK.

On 26 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom introduced a Digital Inclusion Action Plan that outlines five "first actions:" launching a Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund to increase local digital participation, enhancing the framework that helps people get essential digital skills, cooperating with the Digital Poverty Alliance to donate devices, improving the accessibility of government digital services, and measuring effective strategies for digital inclusion.<sup>3123</sup> The UK government would also establish a Digital Inclusion and Skills Unit and an expert advisory committee to guide long-term efforts. It would also collaborate with industry partners to expand connectivity, provide devices, and offer digital training.

On 26 February 2025, the UK Parliament announced that the House of Lords will hold a debate on 6 March 2025 to mark International Women's Day and discuss advancing women's roles in science and technology.<sup>3124</sup> The Parliament provided a briefing on relevant data, research and government policy. Commentators argued for more investment in STEM education for women to close the digital divide and ensure AI development considers gender impacts to avoid widening gender gaps in the job market.

On 21 March 2025, the Government initiated a consultation on its proposal to make digital standards a requirement for schools across the country.<sup>3125</sup> The UK government aims to ensure that students, particularly those in schools with weaker digital infrastructure, can acquire essential digital skills. To support this goal, the UK government made a GBP 45 million investment to "boost school infrastructure, including GBP25 million to upgrade wireless networks... boosting standards where it is most needed."

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving

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<sup>3120</sup> The Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse calls for gender to be an integral part of the AI Action Summit, gov.uk (London) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 18 Feb 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-global-partnership-for-action-on-gender-based-online-harassment-and-abuse-calls-for-gender-to-be-an-integral-part-of-the-ai-action-summit/the-global-partnership-for-action-on-gender-based-online-harassment-and-abuse-calls-for-gender-to-be-an-integral-part-of-the-ai-action-summit>

<sup>3121</sup> ASEAN-UK SAGE Women in STEM Scholarships 2025 Open to Empower Women to Lead in STEM, gov.uk (London) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 18 Feb 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/asean-uk-sage-women-in-stem-scholarships-2025-open-to-empower-women-to-lead-in-stem>

<sup>3122</sup> ASEAN-UK SAGE Women in STEM Scholarships 2025 Open to Empower Women to Lead in STEM, gov.uk (London) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 18 Feb 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/asean-uk-sage-women-in-stem-scholarships-2025-open-to-empower-women-to-lead-in-stem>

<sup>3123</sup> Digital Inclusion Action Plan: First Steps, gov.uk (London) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-inclusion-action-plan-first-steps/digital-inclusion-action-plan-first-steps>

<sup>3124</sup> International Women's Day 2025: Women in science and technology, UK Parliament (London) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/international-womens-day-2025-women-in-science-and-technology/#heading-7>

<sup>3125</sup> No child left behind in plans to narrow the digital divide in education, gov.uk (London) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 10 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/no-child-left-behind-in-plans-to-narrow-the-digital-divide-in-education>

digital inclusion. The UK has launched several initiatives to close the digital divides, such as investing in digital infrastructure in rural areas within the UK and in developing countries, signifying strong action in at least two of the commitment criteria. The UK also took adequate actions to address gender specifically, including increasing women's participation in STEM, empowering women to engage with AI, and tackling gender barriers to basic digital skills for employment.

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

*Analyst: Sonia Siming Tao*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 18 June 2024, the Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) announced investments with the goal of improving digital services for public servants, tribal communities and political campaign filers.<sup>3126</sup> These initiatives include modernizing, upgrading and creating the websites of 183 Bureau of Indian Education funded schools with the intention of reemphasizing TMF's commitment to providing essential digital services for all Americans.

On 21 June 2024, the Department of Agriculture Rural Development Secretary Basil Gooden pledged USD25 million through the Broadband Technical Assistance Program to help local cooperatives, Tribes and organizations develop and expand affordable and reliable high-speed internet projects in rural communities.<sup>3127</sup> Through partnerships with small towns, Tribes, local utilities, private companies and rural cooperatives, the investment aims to deliver critical digital services to communities and ensure that the digital economy is expanding within rural areas.

On 25 July 2024, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) released its 2024-2034 Digital Policy.<sup>3128</sup> The new policy reflects USAID's growing commitment to bridging the global digital divide through infrastructure investments and the improvement of digital skills. As part of this policy change, USAID will provide USD14.6 million in new funding for global initiatives and will cooperate with Estonia and Latvia to help other countries enhance their digital economies.

On 7 August 2024, USAID Administrator Samantha Power, announced that USAID will grant USD2.5 million to the Dominican Republic through the Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund.<sup>3129</sup> These funds will be used to support Dominican organizations and women-led businesses in causes such as advancing women's digital literacy.

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<sup>3126</sup>Technology Modernization Fund announces investments to modernize Tribal school websites, campaign finance software, federal HR system, U.S. General Services Administration (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/newsroom/news-releases/technology-modernization-fund-announces-investment-06182024>

<sup>3127</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$25 Million to Help Expand High-Speed Internet Access in Rural Areas, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/news-release/biden-harris-administration-announces-availability-25-million-help-expand-high-speed-internet-access>

<sup>3128</sup> In Keynote Speech, Administrator Samantha Power Announces Agency's New Digital Policy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jul-25-2024-keynote-speech-administrator-samantha-power-announces-agencys-new-digital-policy>

<sup>3129</sup> The United States Announces More Than \$87 Million in Assistance for the People of the Dominican Republic through USAID and DFC, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-07-2024-united-states-announces-more-87-million-assistance-people-dominican-republic-through-usaid-and-dfc>



On 20 September 2024, USAID announced that it would be working with two new partners, the Reliance Foundation and the UPS Foundation, to help global gender-based digital inclusion efforts.<sup>3130</sup> These partners will add funds to and work with the Women in the Digital Economy Fund (WiDEF), which is a US-led initiative to address the gender digital divide.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, Korea, the Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3131</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 10 October 2024, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced that it had processed over 700 applications under the Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program, which provides federal funding for organizations working to improve digital access in underserved communities.<sup>3132</sup> The program will make available approximately USD1 billion in the first round of funding.

On 17 October 2024, the NTIA announced the approval of Alabama and Florida's "Internet for All" Initial Proposals, which allows the two states to access over USD2.5 billion in the implementation of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.<sup>3133</sup> The funding will be used to provide affordable high-speed internet access for underserved communities. It is part of the BEAD program, which makes available USD42.45 billion for states, territories, and Native Entities to build or upgrade internet infrastructure for the bridging of the country's digital divides.

On 16 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD6.3 million to Idaho to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3134</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 25 October 2024, the NTIA approved over USD70 million to California to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3135</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

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<sup>3130</sup> USAID Announces New Partners to the Women in the Digital Economy Fund Ahead of New Funding Rounds, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-20-2024-usaid-announces-new-partners-women-digital-economy-fund-ahead-new-funding-rounds>

<sup>3131</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3132</sup> NTIA Receives More Than 700 Applications Seeking Over \$6.5 Billion for Digital Equity Projects, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington D.C.) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/ntia-receives-more-700-applications-seeking-over-65-billion-digital-equity-projects>

<sup>3133</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves Alabama and Florida's "Internet for All" Initial Proposals, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-alabama-and-florida-s-internet-all-initial-proposals>

<sup>3134</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$6.3M to Idaho to Implement Digital Inclusion Efforts (Washington D.C.) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-awards-63m-idaho-implement-digital-inclusion-efforts>

<sup>3135</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award California's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$70 Million (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-california-s-digital-equity-capacity-grant>

On 25 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD8 million to New Mexico to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3136</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 25 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD37 million to Georgia and Indiana to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3137</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 30 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD12 million to Minnesota to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3138</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 30 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD9 million to Connecticut to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3139</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 31 October 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD36 million to New York to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3140</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 1 November 2024, the NTIA announced the approval of West Virginia's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application, which allows the state to access over USD9 million in the implementation of its Digital Equity Plan.<sup>3141</sup> The funding will provide affordable devices and improve the digital skills of eligible West Virginia residents. This initiative is part of the federal Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, which makes available USD1.44 billion for states, territories, and Native Entities to empower underserved communities with meaningful access to affordable and high-speed internet.

On 1 November 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD13 million to Wisconsin to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3142</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

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<sup>3136</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award New Mexico's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$8 Million (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-new-mexico-s-digital-equity-capacity-grant>

<sup>3137</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Digital Equity Capacity Grant Applications Totaling More Than \$37 Million (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-digital-equity-capacity-grant-applications>

<sup>3138</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Minnesota's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$12 Million (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-minnesota-s-digital-equity-capacity-grant>

<sup>3139</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Connecticut's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$9 Million (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-connecticut-s-digital-equity-capacity>

<sup>3140</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award New York's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$36 Million (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-new-york-s-digital-equity-capacity-grant>

<sup>3141</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award West Virginia's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$9 Million, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-west-virginia-s-digital-equity-capacity>

<sup>3142</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Wisconsin's Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application for More Than \$13 Million (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-wisconsin-s-digital-equity-capacity-grant>

On 1 November 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD20 million to Alabama and Utah to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3143</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 7 November 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD8 million to Alaska and Ohio to implement its Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3144</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 12 November 2024, the NTIA awarded over USD72 million to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to improve internet access and digital literacy training for Native Hawaiians.<sup>3145</sup> The funding will be processed through the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, which provides USD3 billion for the expansion of internet infrastructure in Tribal Lands through the “Internet For All” Initiative.

On 14 November 2024, the NTIA has approved over USD68 million for Delaware, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Puerto Rico to implement their Digital Equity Plans.<sup>3146</sup> This funding comes from the USD1.44 billion State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, one of three Digital Equity Act grant programs created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

On 18 November 2024, the WiDEF announced the recipients of its first round of funding. The ten selected recipients will each receive between USD500,000 and USD1.5 million in funding to address the global gender digital divide.<sup>3147</sup> Awardees include non-profit organizations in Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mexico, Malawi, Ghana, Tanzania and Guatemala.

On 19 November 2024, the NTIA announced that “Internet For All” Initial Proposals had been processed and approved in every state and territory.<sup>3148</sup> These proposals detail plans to expand internet access to unserved communities in the United States. Their approval allows states, territories and Native Entities to utilize USD42.45 billion in federal funding through the BEAD program.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3149</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

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<sup>3143</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Digital Equity Capacity Grant Applications Totaling More Than \$20 Million (Washington D.C.) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-digital-equity-capacity-grant-applications-0>

<sup>3144</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards More Than \$28 Million to Alaska and Ohio to Implement Digital Inclusion Efforts (Washington D.C.) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-awards-more-28-million-alaska-and-ohio-implement-digital-inclusion>

<sup>3145</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$72 Million to Expand Internet Access and Digital Literacy for Native Hawaiians, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-awards-72-million-expand-internet-access-and-digital-literacy-native>

<sup>3146</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Digital Equity Capacity Grant Applications Totaling More Than \$68 Million (Washington D.C.) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-digital-equity-capacity-grant-applications-1>

<sup>3147</sup> WiDEF announces first awardees of funding to close the gender digital divide, CARE (Geneva) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.care.org/media-and-press/widef-announces-first-awardees-of-funding-to-close-the-gender-digital-divide-ten-trailblazing-organizations-from-the-global-south-to-receive-over-14-million-for-digital-inclusion-efforts/>

<sup>3148</sup> Every State and Territory is Ready to Implement Internet for All, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 31 November 2024. <https://www.ntia.gov/blog/2024/every-state-and-territory-ready-implement-internet-all>

<sup>3149</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 4 December 2024, US representatives joined representatives from Japan, Australia, Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia and Nauru to hold the Fifth Meeting of the East Micronesia Cable Project Executive Board online, to reaffirm the progress that had been made since the previous meeting.<sup>3150</sup> The East Micronesia Cable project is jointly funded by Australia, Japan and the United States, and seeks to provide fast and reliable internet connectivity for up to 100,000 people across the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati and Nauru, via a submarine cable.<sup>3151</sup>

On 16 December 2024, the NTIA awarded over USD273 million to support high-speed internet access on forty-four tribal lands.<sup>3152</sup> This funding is part of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, which makes available USD3 billion under the “Internet for All” initiative for helping eligible tribal entities bridge the digital divide.

On 19 December 2024, the NTIA announced the approval of the U.S. Virgin Islands’ Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application, which allows the territory to access USD2.1 million in the implementation of its Digital Equity Plan.<sup>3153</sup> The funding will promote digital literacy of eligible U.S. Virgin Islands residents, particularly those facing language barriers or from low-income households. This initiative is part of the federal Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, which makes available USD1.44 billion for states, territories, and Native Entities to empower underserved communities with meaningful access to affordable and high-speed internet. As of 19 February 2025, the U.S. Virgin Islands is the latest of fifty-five states and territories to receive federal approval for its Digital Equity Capacity Grant Application.<sup>3154</sup>

On 6 January 2025, the NTIA recommended for award over USD250 million to twenty-four organizations for expanding digital skills training across the country.<sup>3155</sup> This funding is part of the Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program, which allocates USD1.25 billion for initiatives that support equitable community access to digital skills and resources.

On 10 January 2025, the NTIA announced that, as part of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, it had awarded an additional USD18 million for expanding high-speed internet access in or near seven tribal entities in Alaska, Washington, Arizona and North Dakota.<sup>3156</sup>

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<sup>3150</sup> The Fifth Meeting of the East Micronesia Cable Project Executive Board, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00785.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00785.html)

<sup>3151</sup> East Micronesia Cable, East Micronesia Cable System (Canberra) 5 June 2023. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.eastmicronesiacable.com/>

<sup>3152</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Recommends for Award More Than \$276 Million to Expand Internet Use on Tribal Lands, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-recommends-award-more-276-million-expand-internet-use-tribal-lands>

<sup>3153</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Approves and Recommends for Award Digital Equity Capacity Grant Applications Totaling More Than \$60.6 Million, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2024/biden-harris-administration-approves-and-recommends-award-digital-equity-capacity-grant-applications-5>

<sup>3154</sup> News and Events, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2024.

[https://www.ntia.gov/newsroom?type=All&tid=All&funding\\_programs=541&categories=All&program=](https://www.ntia.gov/newsroom?type=All&tid=All&funding_programs=541&categories=All&program=)

<sup>3155</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Recommends for Award More Than \$250 Million to Expand Digital Skills, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 6 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

<https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2025/biden-harris-administration-recommends-award-more-250-million-expand-digital-skills>

<sup>3156</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$18 Million in Internet for All Grants to Tribal Lands, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 10 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

<https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2025/biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-18-million-internet-all-grants-tribal-lands>

On 16 January 2025, the NTIA announced that, as part of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, it had awarded an additional USD162 million for expanding high-speed internet access in or near four tribal lands.<sup>3157</sup> These tribal entities include those in the Old Harbor and Bering Strait regions of Alaska, as well as the Pueblo de Cochiti and Taos Pueblo of New Mexico.

On 17 January 2025, the NTIA recommended for award an additional USD369 million to expand digital skills across the country.<sup>3158</sup> This funding is part of the Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program, and will be allocated to forty-one organizations for purposes such as digital skills training and affordable technological access.

On 5 March 2025, Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick released a statement declaring upcoming reforms to the BEAD program.<sup>3159</sup> The proposed changes include adopting a more technology-neutral approach by removing the current preference for fiber infrastructure over alternatives like satellite broadband.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. The United States dedicated funding to both domestic and international projects aimed at improving high-speed internet access and digital literacy for underserved individuals, including women. For example, a key initiative is the Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program under the “Internet for All” initiative to fund digital equity plans across states. Moreover, the United States worked with emerging economies and developing countries, such as Latvia, Estonia and Dominica.

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

*Analyst: Lillian Toe*

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

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion.

On 11 June 2024, the European Union kicked off project “REDI: Rural Development Through Digital Inclusion.”<sup>3160</sup> This initiative aims to bridge the digital gap between rural and urban areas in Georgia and empower citizens through teaching digital skills.

On 1 July 2024, Stavros Lambrinidis, Ambassador of the European Union to the United Nations, made a statement to announce the EU’s strong support for a Global Digital Compact, aiming to build an inclusive, sustainable, and equitable digital future for the globe.<sup>3161</sup> The EU and its member states would actively support

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<sup>3157</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Recommends for Award More Than \$162 Million to Expand Internet Use on Tribal Lands, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2025/biden-harris-administration-recommends-award-more-162-million-expand-internet-use-tribal-lands>

<sup>3158</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Recommends for Award More Than \$369 Million to Invest in Digital Skills, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.ntia.gov/press-release/2025/biden-harris-administration-recommends-award-more-369-million-invest-digital-skills>

<sup>3159</sup> Statement from U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick on the BEAD Program, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Washington, D.C.) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2025/statement-us-secretary-commerce-howard-lutnick-bead-program>

<sup>3160</sup> Kick-off of the new EU-funded project REDI: Rural Empowerment Through Digital Inclusion, Delegation of the European Union to Georgia (Tbilisi) 11 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://eu4georgia.eu/kick-off-of-the-new-eu-funded-project-redi-rural-empowerment-through-digital-inclusion/>

<sup>3161</sup> EU Statement - Informal Consultations on the Global Digital Compact, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-informal-consultations-global-digital-compact\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-informal-consultations-global-digital-compact_en)

countries worldwide in their digital and green transitions through global official development assistance, capacity-building, and investments. Funds are increasingly directed toward digital infrastructure to bridge the digital divides.

On 3 July 2024, the European Union and UNESCO co-chaired an event in Brussels to discuss the ethical dimensions and opportunities of digital technologies.<sup>3162</sup> This dialogue emphasized their commitment to harness digital innovation for sustainable development, cultural diversity, human rights, and gender equality while addressing the growing digital divides and threats such as disinformation.

On 22 July 2024, Antti Karhunen, Director for ‘Sustainable Finance, Investment and Jobs; Economy that works for the People’ at the European Commission, delivered a General Statement at the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development highlighting the EU’s Global Gateway strategy.<sup>3163</sup> The Global Gateway strategy aims to support digital transitions in partner countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Through this strategy, the EU is dedicated to closing digital divides by investing in areas such as digital services, skills, innovation, data centers, last-mile networks, and submarine cables.

On 8 August, 2024, Mario Milouchev, Director of Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans II at the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, highlighted the EU’s advancements toward achieving its long-term vision of digitalization for rural areas.<sup>3164</sup> He shared various initiatives focused on enhancing digital connectivity and skills to close the rural-urban digital divide, aiming to build stronger, more connected, resilient, and prosperous rural areas by 2040.

On 12 August 2024, the European Commission released the ‘Women in Digital Scoreboard 2024’ to evaluate the inclusion of women in digital jobs, careers and entrepreneurship.<sup>3165</sup> It measures progress across EU member states using 13 indicators grouped into three key dimensions: internet usage, internet user skills and specialist skills and employment. The scoreboard provides systematic measurements to track EU’s progress in closing the digital gender gap.

On 30 September 2024, the EU and the East African Community (EAC) launched the EU-EAC Regional Co-creation Workshop on Digital Transformation in Arusha, Tanzania.<sup>3166</sup> The EU reaffirmed its commitment to promoting a human-centric approach to digital transformation in East Africa by using technology and innovation. The workshop brought together stakeholders from the EAC region and result in key recommendations for collaborative efforts.

On 1 October 2024, the G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convened to discuss digital development and bridging the digital divide in Africa, with contributions from Egypt, India, Kenya, South Africa, South Korea,

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<sup>3162</sup> Thematic EU-UNESCO Partnerships Dialogue on Human Rights-based Digital Transformation for Sustainable Development, UNESCO (Brussels) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 29 2024. <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/thematic-eu-unesco-partnerships-dialogue-human-rights-based-digital-transformation-sustainable>

<sup>3163</sup> EU General Statement – 4th International Conference on Financing for Development: 1st PrepCom Session, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-general-statement-%E2%80%93-4th-international-conference-financing-development-1st-prepcom-session\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-general-statement-%E2%80%93-4th-international-conference-financing-development-1st-prepcom-session_en)

<sup>3164</sup> Mario Milouchev on digital connectivity and skills for thriving rural areas, European Commission (Brussels) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/video-mario-milouchev-digital-connectivity-and-skills-thriving-rural-areas>

<sup>3165</sup> Women in Digital Scoreboard 2024, European Commission (Brussels) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/women-digital-scoreboard-2024>

<sup>3166</sup> EAC-EU convene a digital transformation co-creation to accelerate East Africa's digital economy, Delegation of the European Union to the United Republic of Tanzania and the East African Community (Arusha), 30 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/eac-eu-convene-digital-transformation-co-creation-accelerate-east-africas-digital-economy\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tanzania/eac-eu-convene-digital-transformation-co-creation-accelerate-east-africas-digital-economy_en)

The Netherlands and Tunisia.<sup>3167</sup> This commitment aligns with the G7's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable digital growth.

On 3 October, 2024, during the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee, the EU delivered a statement affirming its commitment to ensuring that all global stakeholders can equally benefit from the digital transition.<sup>3168</sup> The EU emphasized the importance of closing digital divides through its Digital Strategy, highlighting its investments in a high-capacity internet network for research and education in Africa. The EU also stressed that women's full participation in the development and use of digital technologies is essential to bridging the digital divide.

On 10 October 2024, President of the European Council Charles Michel made a keynote speech at the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Business and Investment summit in Laos, emphasizing on the importance of digital connectivity with Southeast Asian Nations.<sup>3169</sup> President Michel announced the EU's plan to finalize negotiations for an ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement in 2025 to promote intra-ASEAN digital trade and international investments.

On 14 October 2024, the 12th edition of EU Code Week started, uniting participants across Europe to promote coding and digital skills.<sup>3170</sup> Running until 27 October, the initiative offers resources in 29 languages to support organizers, including teachers, and features an interactive map of activities. This year's event highlights inspiring stories of women in tech and advances in digital education, aiming to improve digital literacy and bridge the gender digital divide.

On 29 October 2024, the EU introduced a new initiative to fund media skills projects aimed at promoting gender equality and empowering young women in Uzbekistan.<sup>3171</sup> Running from 2024 to 2026, these projects will work to combat gender-based disinformation and encourage active participation of women in digital public spaces.

On 26 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America and the High Representative of the European Union reiterated their commitment to protect human rights and dignity for all individuals and to promote gender equality.<sup>3172</sup> In particular, they recognized the importance of bridging digital divides between G7 and African countries.

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<sup>3167</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers Convene in Rome to Advance Industrial Competitiveness, Digital Innovation, and Sustainable Digital Transformation, MIMIT (Italy) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>3168</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 3rd Committee: Interactive Dialogue with UN DESA, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-interactive-dialogue-un-desa\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-interactive-dialogue-un-desa_en)

<sup>3169</sup> Keynote speech of President Charles Michel at the ASEAN Business and Investment summit in Laos, European Council (Vientiane) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/10/keynote-speech-of-president-charles-michel-at-the-asean-business-and-investment-summit-in-laos/>

<sup>3170</sup> EU Code Week 2024 kicks off to encourage young people to acquire coding and digital skills, European Commission (Brussels) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/eu-code-week-2024-kicks-encourage-young-people-acquire-coding-and-digital-skills>

<sup>3171</sup> European Union launched a new initiative on gender equality on media skills in Uzbekistan, Delegation of the European Union to Uzbekistan (Tashkent) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/uzbekistan/european-union-launched-new-initiative-gender-equality-media-skills-uzbekistan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/uzbekistan/european-union-launched-new-initiative-gender-equality-media-skills-uzbekistan_en)

<sup>3172</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 6 December 2024, the European Council approved conclusions on the European Commission's White Paper titled "How to master EU's digital infrastructure needs".<sup>3173</sup> The Council's conclusion emphasizes the need to drive investment in digital infrastructures to advance the EU's digital transformation goals, which could support reducing regional digital divides.

On 13 February 2025, the Delegation of the European Union to Kenya announced that the DigiKen Joint Program, funded by the EU, selected 15 innovation hubs.<sup>3174</sup> These selected hubs support digital innovation and equip young people, women, and marginalized communities in Kenya with essential digital skills and resources, helping bridge the digital divide and create opportunities for underserved communities.

On 27 March 2025, the European Commission allocated EUR1.3 billion through the Digital Europe Programme to advance AI, cybersecurity, and digital skills.<sup>3175</sup> A key focus is supporting European Digital Innovation Hubs, which offer access to technical expertise and digital skills training to help individuals and businesses adopt new technologies.

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to work, including with developing countries and emerging economies, towards closing digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and achieving digital inclusion. The EU has launched several initiatives to close the digital divides, including partnering with developing countries to increase digital literacy and invest in digital infrastructure. These initiatives, such as the one in Uzbekistan, also address the gender digital divide.

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

*Analyst: Sonia Siming Tao*

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<sup>3173</sup> Digital infrastructure: Council approves conclusions on the Commission's White Paper, European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/06/digital-infrastructure-council-approves-conclusions-on-the-commission-s-white-paper/>

<sup>3174</sup> Advancing Kenya's digital future: 15 innovation hubs selected through the DigiKen initiative, Delegation of the European Union to Kenya (Nairobi) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya/advancing-kenya%E2%80%99s-digital-future-15-innovation-hubs-selected-through-digiken-initiative\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya/advancing-kenya%E2%80%99s-digital-future-15-innovation-hubs-selected-through-digiken-initiative_en)

<sup>3175</sup> Commission to invest €1.3 billion in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital skills, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2024. Access Date: 11 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_907](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_907)



## 14. Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence for Work

“[We will work to ensure that artificial intelligence] ... fosters inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

The digital economy was first integrated into the G7 agenda at the 2000 Okinawa Summit with the formation of the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force.<sup>3176</sup> As digitalization and technological advancements accelerated, G7 strategies have evolved to ensure that digital innovation remains inclusive and fosters economic productivity. The 2000 Okinawa Summit marked the then G8's early recognition of the potential of Information Technology to empower the global citizens and drive sustainable economic growth.<sup>3177</sup> On 18 June 2013, the Lough Erne Summit communiqué underscored the ability of open digital data to expand labor markets by creating new jobs and businesses, signaling optimism about the impact of digital technologies on employment opportunities.<sup>3178</sup> By the 2017 Taormina Summit, the focus shifted to emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and the need to adapt societal structures to evolving global norms in the digital realm.<sup>3179</sup> Most recently, at the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 members highlighted the importance of human-centricity and inclusivity in AI deployment to sustain a resilient digital revolution. The discourse on the digital economy and AI's impact on the workforce remains vital to ensuring a productive and resilient economy in today's data-driven world.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders recognized the critical role of IT in the global economy, understanding its potential to boost productivity, stimulate economic growth, and expand job opportunities.<sup>3180</sup> They emphasized the need to ensure transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in the IT-driven economic and social transformation by creating the DOT Force.<sup>3181</sup>

<sup>3176</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>3177</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>3178</sup> G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html>

<sup>3179</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>3180</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

<sup>3181</sup> Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge | DOTForce Report Card, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce\\_reportcard.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce_reportcard.pdf)

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the DOT, identifying strategies to ensure that the digital revolution benefits all sectors and helps reduce economic inequalities between countries.<sup>3182</sup> The DOT also reiterated supporting developing countries so they could equally participate in and benefit from emerging digital economies. Additionally, the term IT was replaced by Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 members pledged to host an annual e-G8 Internet meeting with key stakeholders to discuss potential challenges posed by the growing Internet economy.<sup>3183</sup> The members committed to robust cooperation to create a framework to advance digital innovation and maximize new opportunities in cloud computing, social networking, and citizen publications.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders published an Open Data Charter and acknowledged that open government data can be useful in producing new markets, businesses, and jobs.<sup>3184</sup> They further encouraged the private sector to embrace open data practices and make this information accessible to the public, fostering greater innovation and transparency.<sup>3185</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders adopted the Charter for the Digitally Connected World where they reiterated the vital role of ICT in generating socially inclusive economic growth and expanding employment opportunities.<sup>3186</sup> The Charter promoted the proliferation of ICT infrastructure to enable new business models, ensure equitable access to international markets, reduce unemployment disparities, and strengthen connectivity among global citizens.<sup>3187</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders announced the Next Production Revolution (NPR), which enables all businesses to harness the benefits of digitalization and innovation-driven growth.<sup>3188</sup> They also recognized the challenges posed by the automation in labor markets, emphasizing the need to manage this transformation by adapting education systems, modernizing work training, and enacting effective labor policies. Accordingly, the People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor was adopted, aimed at advancing the use of AI, fostering people-driven innovation and enhancing the quality of jobs.<sup>3189</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members endorsed the Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, committing to generating economic growth through AI advancements while ensuring inclusivity in the AI-driven workforce.<sup>3190</sup> They pledged to promote lifelong education on AI adoption, support marginalized populations in participating in the labor market, and establish active labor market policies to achieve inclusivity in the digital sphere.

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<sup>3182</sup> Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 May 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/dotforce1.html>

<sup>3183</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3184</sup> G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html>

<sup>3185</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>3186</sup> G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

<sup>3187</sup> Charter for the Digitally Connected World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 April 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/2016-ict-charter.html>

<sup>3188</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>3189</sup> G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

<sup>3190</sup> Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.html>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders stated that the core agenda for economic recovery and growth is a green digital transformation that increases productivity, creates quality jobs, and improves resilience.<sup>3191</sup> Additionally, they emphasized the importance of values-driven, human-centric digital ecosystems to boost productivity and resilient innovation.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to driving digital and green transformations, promising to leverage digital technologies to build a net-zero, resource-efficient, and productive economy.<sup>3192</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders launched the Hiroshima AI Process to advance the safety, security, and trustworthiness of AI while addressing its potential risks.<sup>3193</sup> Furthermore, they created the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems, underscoring human rights, fairness and non-discrimination, democracy, and a human-centric approach in the deployment of advanced AI technologies.<sup>3194</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “[work to ensure that AI]...fosters inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work.”<sup>3195</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

Compliant members must take action to ensure that AI is utilized to foster inclusive and equal opportunities in the world of work.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“AI” or artificial intelligence is understood to “the use or study of computer systems or machines that have some of the qualities that the human brain has, such as the ability to interpret and produce language in a way that seems human, recognize or create images, solve problems, and learn from data supplied to them.”<sup>3196</sup>

“Ensure” is understood as “to make something certain to happen.”<sup>3197</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the guarantee that AI supports work opportunities according to the two dimensions.

“Foster” is understood to mean “to encourage the development of something.”<sup>3198</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to growing and encouraging the two dimensions of work opportunities.

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<sup>3191</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>3192</sup> G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>3193</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement on the Hiroshima AI Process, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 October 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231030-ai.html>

<sup>3194</sup> Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 October 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2023. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231030-ai-code-of-conduct.html>

<sup>3195</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>3196</sup> Artificial Intelligence, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/artificial-intelligence>

<sup>3197</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>3198</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

“Inclusive” is understood as “includ[ing] different types of people and treat[ing] them all fairly and equally.”<sup>3199</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to demographic and regional inclusiveness, such as across gender, race, and socioeconomic status for individuals, and level of economic development for countries.

“Equal” is understood to mean “like in quality, nature, or status,” and “like for each member of a group, class, or society.”<sup>3200</sup>

“Opportunities” is understood to mean “an occasion or situation that makes it possible to do something that you want to do or have to do, or the possibility of doing something.”<sup>3201</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to career or job-related opportunities, such as labour participation or career advancement.

“Equal opportunities” in the context of this commitment, therefore, refer to employment opportunities accessible regardless of social identifiers such as (but not limited to) race, gender, urban-rural status, age, and immigrant-status.

“World of work.” “World” is understood to mean “an area of human activity or understanding.”<sup>3202</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the members and elements of work, such as industries, organizations, jobs, employers, employees, financial compensation, culture, practices, and promotions. “Work” is understood to mean “an activity, such as a job, that a person uses physical or mental effort to do, usually for money.”<sup>3203</sup> In the context of this commitment, it refers to paid employment.

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members who demonstrate at least four strong actions toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The actions can occur domestically and/or internationally. Examples of strong actions include, but are not limited to: working with the private sector to develop AI-based opportunities; creating and supporting AI-based job openings; collaborating with higher education institutions to prepare the upcoming workforce; funding research to anticipate how AI will change the field of work; exploring interdisciplinary applications of AI across different industries; developing AI educational programs for marginalized communities, rural or geographically isolated populations, and minority groups; integrating AI knowledge into educational curriculums for children; developing programs for regulating the development of AI to protect workers and organizations; supporting innovative AI tools that increase accessibility and efficiency in the workplace; and establishing reskilling and upskilling programs as AI changes the labour force.<sup>3204</sup> International examples of strong action include working with international stakeholders and organizations; leading global initiatives and summits on AI and work; and collaborating with countries on regulating AI and mitigating risks.<sup>3205</sup>

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members who take between one and three strong actions or take several weak actions toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Weak actions can occur domestically or internationally. Examples of weak actions include but are not limited

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<sup>3199</sup> Inclusive, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 22 October 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/world>

<sup>3200</sup> Equal, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/equal>

<sup>3201</sup> Opportunity, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/opportunity>

<sup>3202</sup> World, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/world>

<sup>3203</sup> Work, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/work>

<sup>3204</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>3205</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

to attending meetings on AI and work; consulting stakeholders such as labour organizations on the impact of AI; and verbal affirmations of support for creating AI-based job opportunities, research on the impact of AI.

Non-compliance, or a score of  $-1$ , will be assigned if the G7 member takes no strong actions and fewer than four weak actions towards fostering inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work or takes action contradictory to the commitment. Actions contradictory to the commitment may include the cancellation of above-listed strong actions and associated policies or programs. Further, if the member takes action to foster AI in the workplace but no action taken fosters inclusivity, this will result in a score of  $-1$ .

### Scoring Guidelines

$-1$	The G7 member has taken no strong action and fewer than four weak actions towards fostering inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work, has taken actions contradictory to the commitment or has taken steps to ensure AI in the workplace but no steps to foster inclusivity.
$0$	The G7 member has taken action toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work by taking between one and three strong actions or at least four weak actions.
$+1$	The G7 member has taken at least four strong actions to ensure inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

*Compliance Director: Eliza Yip*  
*Lead Analyst: Yeji Kim*

### Canada: $+1$

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages Randy Boissonnault, along with Manitoba's Minister of Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Jamie Moses, convened the Forum of Labour Market Ministers to discuss the importance of labour market agreements in addressing employment challenges across various sectors.<sup>3206</sup> Minister Boissonnault reiterated the need to develop a workforce capable of adapting to the emerging challenges posed by AI and automation.

On 26 June 2024, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne launched the Consultation on AI Compute, designed to facilitate the execution of a new AI Compute Access Fund and a Canadian AI Sovereign Compute.<sup>3207</sup> Through this consultation, the Government of Canada seeks to ensure fair opportunities and secure high-computing access for multiple generations. The consultation will target researchers, businesses, civil society groups, and Indigenous groups.

On 2 July 2024, Minister Champagne and European Union Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth Mariya Ivanova signed an agreement allowing Canada to enter the Horizon Europe

<sup>3206</sup> Minister Boissonnault engages in strategic discussions with provincial and territorial ministers to strengthen Canada's workforce, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/06/minister-boissonnault-engages-in-strategic-discussions-with-provincial-and-territorial-ministers-to-strengthen-canadas-workforce.html>

<sup>3207</sup> Government of Canada launches public consultation on artificial intelligence computing infrastructure, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-launches-public-consultation-on-artificial-intelligence-computing-infrastructure.html>

program, an initiative supporting research conduct on mitigating and regulating AI risks in the future digital economy.<sup>3208</sup>

On 9 July 2024, Minister Champagne and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage Taleeb Noormohamed introduced a project aimed at supporting healthcare professionals and improving the patient experience by using AI.<sup>3209</sup> Canada's Digital Technology Cluster backs the initiative to expand government support for the health sector in adapting to AI.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3210</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 13 September 2024, Canadian Heritage announced a partnership with Mila, Quebec's Artificial Intelligence Institute, to advance AI in Canada while maintaining the integrity of Canadian content creators.<sup>3211</sup> Canadian Heritage hopes to use the expertise of Mila in developing a data strategy that promotes Canadian AI innovation, ensuring transparency within content use and the compensation of creators.

On 26 September 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron announced the continued Canada-France partnership in the AI development.<sup>3212</sup> The collaboration will focus policies for the responsible implementation of AI technologies and the ethical considerations surrounding these new technologies.

On 4 October 2024, Commissioner of Competition Matthew Boswell participated in the G7 meeting focused on the ethical development of AI technologies and the importance of risk mitigation.<sup>3213</sup> Canada and other G7 members collectively reaffirmed their commitment to developing AI in accordance with principles such as transparency, accountability, fairness, and inclusivity.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3214</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 22 October 2024, Prairies Economic Development Agency of Canada Minister Dan Vandal announced the opening of the national Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative to small and medium-sized businesses based

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<sup>3208</sup> Canada joins Horizon Europe programme, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3626](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3626)

<sup>3209</sup> Minister Champagne to highlight AI project for health care supported by Canada's Digital Technology Cluster, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/minister-champagne-to-highlight-ai-project-for-health-care-supported-by-canadas-digital-technology-cluster.html>

<sup>3210</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) ) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3211</sup> Government of Canada partners with Mila to guide the development of a cultural data strategy for artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Montreal) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2024/09/government-of-canada-partners-with-mila-to-guide-the-development-of-a-cultural-data-strategy-for-artificial-intelligence.html>

<sup>3212</sup> Remarks during the visit of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/videos/2024/09/26/remarks-during-visit-president-france-emmanuel-macron>

<sup>3213</sup> Competition Bureau participates in G7 Summit on competition concerns raised by Artificial Intelligence, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2024/10/competition-bureau-participates-in-g7-summit-on-competition-concerns-raised-by-artificial-intelligence.html>

<sup>3214</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

in the Prairie provinces.<sup>3215</sup> This initiative aims to enhance AI adoption in Canada and seeks to support AI projects and technologies out of the Prairie provinces in need of funding. The initiative allocated CAD33.8 million out of the total CAD200 million initiative funds specifically for businesses in the Canada Prairies.

On 22 October 2024, Minister for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario Filomena Tassi announced the opening of applications for the Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative (RAII) to small and medium-sized businesses based in Southern Ontario.<sup>3216</sup> This initiative aims to support small and medium sized businesses with funding for AI related projects to help them integrate AI into the workplace. This regional initiative is part of the larger national RAII initiative which is set to invest CAD200 million into the AI sector over the next five years.

On 22 October 2024, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, along with Minister Champagne, announced two initiatives aimed at helping small and medium-sized Canadian enterprises adopt new AI technologies.<sup>3217</sup> The two programs, the RAII and the AI Assist Program, will invest CAD300 million to accelerate both adoption and education on generative AI and deep learning.

On 28 October 2024, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada announced that Minister Champagne will speak at the Canada-Italy Forum of Artificial Intelligence on the topic of the countries relations and cooperation.

On 28 October 2024, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan) Harjit S. Sajan announced the Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative aimed at supporting AI innovation and commercialization in British Columbia.<sup>3218</sup> Pacifican plans to invest CAD32.2 million in the initiative, prioritizing businesses and not-for-profit organizations with strong economic prospects while considering the health of Canadians and the environment.

On 7 November 2024, Minister Champagne completed an investment of CAD79.1 million to support the Ericsson Group's project aimed at improving Canada's telecommunications industry.<sup>3219</sup> This investment will advance Canada's 5G technologies using research and development (R&D) work and AI. This partnership aims to create 1200 new co-op student positions, 190 new jobs and maintain 2400 R&D jobs in Canada, supporting Canada's commitment to creating AI-based jobs and working with the private sector to develop AI-based opportunities.

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<sup>3215</sup> Businesses can now apply to Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative in the Prairie provinces, Government of Canada (Edmonton) 22 October 2024. Access date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2024/10/businesses-can-now-apply-to-regional-artificial-intelligence-initiative-in-the-prairie-provinces.html>

<sup>3216</sup> Applications are now open for business growth and artificial intelligence projects, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2024/10/applications-are-now-open-for-business-growth-and-artificial-intelligence-projects.html>

<sup>3217</sup> Federal government launches programs to help small and medium-sized enterprises adopt and adapt artificial intelligence solutions, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/10/federal-government-launches-programs-to-help-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-adopt-and-adapt-artificial-intelligence-solutions.html>

<sup>3218</sup> Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative will support AI innovation and adoption in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/pacific-economic-development/news/2024/10/regional-artificial-intelligence-initiative-will-support-ai-innovation-and-adoption-in-british-columbia.html>

<sup>3219</sup> Strengthening Canada's leadership in telecommunications technology: A new partnership with Ericsson, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/strengthening-canadas-leadership-in-telecommunications-technology-a-new-partnership-with-ericsson.html>

On 12 November 2024, Minister Champagne launched the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute (CAISI).<sup>3220</sup> This institute will focus on maintaining safety and security in the adoption of AI in Canada. The CAISI is part of the CAD2.4 billion funding allocated to the responsible development of AI technologies in the 2024 Canadian budget. This initiative aims to anticipate how AI will change the technological field of work while protecting workers and organizations.

On 13 November 2024, Competition Bureau of Canada published a report overviewing the key points from Canada's Competition Summit that took place on 14 September 2024.<sup>3221</sup> The summit aimed to understand the role of AI in the context of the Canadian economy. The published report highlights the need for regulatory frameworks for AI with both domestic and international partners and underscores AI transparency to ensure trust with consumers and citizens. The goal of the summit and the report is to advance the understanding of AI's impact on competition and create informed policy decisions to foster opportunities in the AI sphere.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting to continue establishing strong relations between the two countries.<sup>3222</sup> During the meeting, the leaders verbally committed to deepening business and trade relationships on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulations.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the President of South Korea Yoon Suk Yeol at the APEC Leaders' Meeting to continue building strong relations between the two countries.<sup>3223</sup> The two leaders verbally committed to strengthening business and trade relationships on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulations.

On 18 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba at the G20 Summit to reaffirm Canada's business relationships with Japan.<sup>3224</sup> The two leaders verbally affirmed the ongoing technological partnership on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulation.

On 11 February 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly announced that Canada had signed the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the rule of law.<sup>3225</sup> The aim of this convention is to institute an international document that sets standards for AI, particularly in upholding democratic principles and protections for workers. Canada joins twelve other signatories of the convention along with the European Union and the G7 nations.

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<sup>3220</sup> Canada launches Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Unit, the Government of Canada (Montreal) 12 November 2024.

Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/canada-launches-canadian-artificial-intelligence-safety-institute.html>

<sup>3221</sup> Competition Bureau publishes report on Canada's Competition Summit, the Government of Canada (Gatineau) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2024/11/competition-bureau-publishes-report-on-canadas-competition-summit-2024.html>

<sup>3222</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 2 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto>

<sup>3223</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of the Republic of Korea Yoon Suk Yeol, Prime Minister of Canada (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 2 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto>

<sup>3224</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of Japan Ishiba Shigeru, Prime Minister of Canada (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/18/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-japan-ishiba-shigeru>

<sup>3225</sup> Canada signs the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-signs-the-council-of-europe-framework-convention-on-artificial-intelligence-and-human-rights-democracy-and-the-rule-of-law.html>



On 12 February 2025 Prime Minister Trudeau attended the Paris AI Action Summit, where he reinforced Canada's commitment to the responsible usage of AI, particularly in sustainable energy, and the globalization of this practice to ensure widespread usage of responsible artificial intelligence.<sup>3226</sup> While in Brussels, Prime Minister Trudeau also signed a "Leader's Declaration," focused on the sustainable and ethical development of AI, and met with key figures in the AI sector to help promote Canada as a prime destination for innovation and investment while enhancing its commercial ties with the U.S and the European Union.

On 3 March 2025, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jenna Sudds announced over CAD7 million in funding for six AI and technology companies in the Ottawa region.<sup>3227</sup> This investment aims to support the commercialization and scaling of innovative technologies, including AI-enabled caregiver support platforms, fiber optic chips for faster data transmission, and drone-based avalanche monitoring systems. The initiative highlights the government's strategy to accelerate the development of advanced technologies that benefit both local communities and global markets.

On 4 March 2025, President of the Treasury Board Ginette Petitpas Taylor launched Canada's first-ever Artificial Intelligence Strategy for the federal public service, aimed at improving digital service delivery through the safe, ethical and transparent use of AI.<sup>3228</sup> Developed in consultation with the public and experts, the Strategy outlines four priorities: establishing an AI Centre of Expertise, enhancing security and responsible use, supporting training and talent development and fostering public trust through openness. It also seeks to modernize government operations by overcoming barriers to AI adoption and promoting interdepartmental collaboration. This initiative positions Canada as a leader in responsible public-sector AI use while reinforcing its broader digital transformation goals.

On 4 March 2025, Minister of Democratic Institutions Ruby Sahota and Minister of Small Business Rechie Valdez announced over CAD25 million in funding to support eighteen AI and tech companies across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.<sup>3229</sup> This investment aims to help businesses scale operations and commercialize innovative products and services. Funded projects include advancements in generative AI, robotics, telehealth, legal and tax technology and environmental monitoring.

On 6 March 2025, Minister Champagne announced new initiatives to strengthen the safe and responsible development of AI, including a refreshed Advisory Council on AI, the creation of a new Safe and Secure AI Advisory Group and a guide for managers implementing AI systems.<sup>3230</sup> This action supports AI efforts on infrastructure, adoption and safety.

On 7 March 2025, the Government of Canada launched the AI Compute Access Fund, providing up to CAD300 million to help small and medium-sized enterprises access the high-performance computing power

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<sup>3226</sup> Strengthening transatlantic partnerships and securing Canada's AI advantage, Prime Minister of Canada (Brussels) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2025/02/12/strengthening-transatlantic-partnerships-and-securing-canadas-ai>

<sup>3227</sup> Government of Canada investments support six AI and tech businesses across Ottawa Region, The Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-investments-support-six-ai-and-tech-businesses-across-ottawa-region.html>

<sup>3228</sup> Canada launches first-ever Artificial Intelligence Strategy for the federal public service, The Government of Canada (Waterloo) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/news/2025/03/canada-launches-first-ever-artificial-intelligence-strategy-for-the-federal-public-service.html>

<sup>3229</sup> AI and tech business in Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area receive Government of Canada investment to scale, bring new products to market, The Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2025/03/ai-and-tech-businesses-in-greater-toronto-and-hamilton-area-receive-government-of-canada-investments-to-scale-bring-new-products-to-market.html>

<sup>3230</sup> Canada moves towards safe and responsible artificial intelligence, The Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2025/03/canada-moves-toward-safe-and-responsible-artificial-intelligence.html>

needed for AI development.<sup>3231</sup> By lowering cost barriers and enabling broader participation in AI innovation, especially in sectors like health, energy and manufacturing, the fund promotes more inclusive and equitable access to AI-based opportunities in the workforce.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The member is engaging various stakeholders to develop equitable AI opportunities, supporting AI opportunities in healthcare, and discussing how the labour force can overcome AI challenges. Canada has produced initiatives to promote inclusiveness and equal opportunities, such as the AI Compute Access Fund, its partnership with Mila, and its Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative. Aside from verbal commitments, Canada has taken strong actions, such as providing funds, conducting online surveys, and engaging with communities and the ongoing online applications open for Canadians and businesses.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joanna Decc*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3232</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 10 September 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry (MEFI) announced the upcoming release of an AI training module.<sup>3233</sup> MEFI will offer this initiative to ministry members as part of an internal training course, aiming to support AI-based upskilling within the ministry.

On 12 September 2024, at the G7 Labour and Employment Ministers meeting, France reaffirmed its commitment to procuring equal access to quality employment opportunities and to adopting a risk-benefit balancing approach toward AI.<sup>3234</sup>

On 26 September 2024, French President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the continued France-Canada partnership in the AI development.<sup>3235</sup> The collaboration will focus policies for the responsible implementation of AI technologies and the ethical considerations surrounding these new technologies.

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<sup>3231</sup> Government of Canada introduces AI Compute Access Fund to support Canadian innovators, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2025/03/government-of-canada-introduces-ai-compute-access-fund-to-support-canadian-innovators.html>

<sup>3232</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) ) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3233</sup> Mission Innovation : Les Grands Enjeux de la Rentrée 2024, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (Paris) 10 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/mission-innovation/mission-innovation-les-grands-enjeux-de-la-rentree-2024>

<sup>3234</sup> G7 Travail-Emploi | Réunion des ministres en Italie de septembre 2024, Ministère de Travail et de l'Emploi (Paris) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/g7-travail-emploi-reunion-des-ministres-en-italie-de-septembre-2024>

<sup>3235</sup> Remarks during the visit of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/videos/2024/09/26/remarks-during-visit-president-france-emmanuel-macron>

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3236</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 31 October 2024, the France Relance program, a post-Covid economic support fund, contributed EUR400,000 to the firm Cartesiam's construction of a Full Edge AI Industrial Innovation Workshop in Toulon.<sup>3237</sup> The France Relance program's contribution will create approximately 30 jobs in AI.

On 29 November 2024, General Secretariat for Investment (SGPI) announced the launch of "AI Convergence" challenges for February 2025 Artificial Intelligence Action Summit to promote innovation.<sup>3238</sup> The five themes for this challenge are: AI serving the public interest, The Future of Work, Innovation and culture, Trusted AI and Global AI Governance. This action will promote the development of technological solutions to the use of AI for work in an equitable and regulated manner.

On 29 November 2024, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry and Secretary of State for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Affairs Clara Chappaz publicly called for Expressions of Interest regarding "AI for efficiency."<sup>3239</sup> The program intends to highlight organizations successfully utilizing AI at the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit in Paris on 10-11 February 2025. This action will allow the government to showcase French creations in responsible AI for the workplace, promoting global innovation.

On 19 December 2024, France's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Jay Dharmadhikari, highlighted the importance of creating inclusive international governance for AI that respects workers' rights and ensures fair access to AI-driven opportunities.<sup>3240</sup> Mr. Dharmadhikari stressed the need to avoid fragmented regulatory approaches that could lead to unequal workforce outcomes, especially widening digital divides. To advance these goals, France will host a Global AI Summit in Paris on 10-11 February 2025, bringing together governments, businesses, and workers' organizations to establish a unified approach to AI governance.

On 6 February 2025, the Government of France hosted the AI Action Summit in Paris. The summit presented an opportunity for civil society groups to organize side events, which included a subtheme Future of Work.<sup>3241</sup> The summit featured international discussion on how to ensure equitable outcomes from AI in the workplace.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of France, along with representatives from over 100 countries, issued the "Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet" at the AI Action

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<sup>3236</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3237</sup> 400 000 € pour la création du centre d'intelligence artificielle de Cartesiam, Gouvernement de France (Paris) 31 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/portraits-de-la-relance/industrie/400-000-e-pour-la-creation-du-centre-d-intelligence-artificielle-de-cartesiam>

<sup>3238</sup> Sommet pour l'action sur l'intelligence artificielle : lancement des défis « Convergence IA », Secrétariat général pour l'investissement (SGPI) (Paris) 10 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/actualite/sommet-pour-l'action-sur-l'intelligence-artificielle-lancement-des-defis-convergence-ia>

<sup>3239</sup> Entreprises : candidatez au nouvel appel à manifestation d'intérêt « IA au service de l'efficience », ministère de l'économie des finances et de l'industrie et le ministère charge du budget et des comptes publics (Paris) 29 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/entreprises-candidatez-au-nouvel-appel-manifestation-dinteret-ia-au-service-de>

<sup>3240</sup> Our priority must be to put into place an inclusive form of international governance for AI which is responsible and which respects fundamental rights, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/our-priority-must-be-to-put-into-place-an-inclusive-form-of-international>

<sup>3241</sup> Sommet pour l'action sur l'intelligence artificielle (10 et 11 février 2025), Ministère de l'Europe et Affaires Étrangères (Paris). Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/news/article/ai-action-summit-10-11-feb-2025>

Summit in Paris.<sup>3242</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

On 3 March 2025, the National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology and the University of Lorraine signed a strategic partnership agreement, reaffirming their cooperation to develop digital transformation strategies.<sup>3243</sup> This action supports the development of AI skills and improvements in the accessibility of AI education.

On 4 April 2025, the Government of France reaffirmed its commitment to inclusive global AI governance at a UN Security Council Arria-formula meeting. France advocated for a multi-stakeholder framework ensuring AI is accessible, safe and aligned with human rights and international law.<sup>3244</sup> Additionally, France highlighted the CurrentAI partnership, launched at the Paris AI Action Summit, which aims to raise EUR2.5 billion for global AI capacity-building

France has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Whilst France has verbally affirmed its support towards the commitment on numerous occasions, it has not demonstrated strong compliance, such as through the allocation of significant financial resources or conducting legal reform. France has only engaged in a few strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Stephen Bogle*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3245</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 26 July 2024, Germany and Slovenia signed a partnership agreement focused on joint research, innovation, and the ethical use of AI technologies.<sup>3246</sup> This initiative aims to strengthen ties between the two countries, promote the exchange of expertise, and foster advancements in AI-driven solutions that benefit both societies.

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<sup>3242</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>.

<sup>3243</sup> L'Université de Lorraine et Inria : une alliance stratégique pour l'avenir du numérique, Institut national de recherche en sciences et technologies du numérique (Paris) 4 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. <https://www.inria.fr/fr/luniversite-de-lorraine-et-inria-une-alliance-strategique-pour-lavenir-du-numerique>

<sup>3244</sup> France is mobilized to build an inclusive international governance of AI, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (Paris) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-is-mobilized-to-build-inclusive-and-sustainable-international-governance>

<sup>3245</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forlì) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3246</sup> Kooperation bei KI mit Slowenien, BMDV (Berlin) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/kooperation-bei-ki-mit-slowenien.html>

On 1 August 2024, the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (BMDV) announced the enforcement of the European Union's AI Act, which innovatively regulates the use of technology and human aid.<sup>3247</sup> The act mandates a two-year timeline for national implementation, ensuring AI applications align with the EU's fundamental rights and values, including transparency and ethical standards. This initiative establishes a benchmark for responsible AI development and inclusion.

On 13 September 2024, Federal Digital Minister Volker Wissing verbally affirmed the importance of AI-driven equitable opportunities in shaping a fair and inclusive global digital economy at the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting. Minister Wissing called for international collaboration to harness AI's potential while ensuring ethical guidelines and equitable access, particularly for underserved regions.<sup>3248</sup> The minister highlighted Germany's leadership in ethical AI development, advocating for frameworks that align with the global agenda to reduce inequalities and harness AI's transformative potential for sustainable development.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3249</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 18 October 2024, the BMVD and Federal Digital Minister Wissing launched the Center for Research and Development of Trustworthy AI Applications for Medium-Sized Companies at the German Center for Artificial Intelligence in Osnabrück. Federal and state governments invested EUR8.3 million in the project, aiming to assist medium-sized companies in all phases of implementing AI technologies.<sup>3250</sup> By providing a real-world laboratory for AI testing, this initiative will help companies navigate technical challenges and legal uncertainties, ultimately fostering innovation and enhancing Germany's AI-driven economic competitiveness.

On 20-21 October 2024, the federal government's 17<sup>th</sup> Digital Summit took place in Frankfurt am Main bringing together over 1,500 experts from business, politics, science, and civil society. Under the theme "Digital Germany - Innovative. Sovereign. International," the summit focused on key topics such as digital sovereignty and artificial intelligence. Federal Ministers Wissing and Robert Habeck, who co-organized the event, highlighted Germany's progress and commitment to advancing its position as a leader in the digital age.<sup>3251</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Germany and Brazil co-facilitated the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee resolution on the "Right to Privacy in the Digital Age." The resolution includes new provisions on artificial intelligence, addressing emerging privacy risks and reinforcing the importance of responsible oversight.<sup>3252</sup> This initiative strengthens privacy protections globally, promotes digital literacy, and

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<sup>3247</sup>Erstes KI-Gesetz der Welt verabschiedet, BMDV (Berlin) 1 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/erstes-ki-gesetz.html>.

<sup>3248</sup> B G20-Treffen: Mit KI weltweit Chancengleichheit stärken BMDV (Berlin) 7 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/077-wissing-g20-ki-chancengleichheit.html>.

<sup>3249</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3250</sup> KI-Reallabor für den Mittelstand startet in Osnabrück, Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr (Berlin) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate, Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/087-wissing-ki-reallabor-startet-in-osnabrueck.html>.

<sup>3251</sup> Digital-Gipfel 2024, Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr (Berlin) 23 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/digital-gipfel-2024.html>.

<sup>3252</sup> Statement by Germany on the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee Resolution on the Right to Privacy in the Digital Age, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations (New York) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://new-york-un.diplo.de/un-en/2684730-2684730>.

encourages the private sector to align data practices with human rights, ultimately ensuring that privacy remains a fundamental right in an evolving digital landscape.

On 12-13 December 2024, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the OECD hosted a conference addressing AI's impact on labour markets, skills and social policies.<sup>3253</sup> Experts from various sectors discussed AI's potential to transform employment, productivity and innovation while exploring training systems and policies for AI adoption in workplaces. The conference aimed to promote policies that ensure workers are equipped for the changes AI brings, while balancing risks and opportunities for all sectors.

On 7 February 2025, Minister of Digital and Transport Volker Wissing visited Paris to engage with French leaders on key issues like AI governance, infrastructure security and industry transformation.<sup>3254</sup> His discussions aimed at reducing bureaucracy, promoting innovation and fostering Franco-German cooperation. Minister Wissing actively pushed for policies to ensure Europe's competitiveness in the global digital landscape, focusing on responsible AI use and creating favourable conditions for future-ready industries. This initiative underscores his commitment to strengthening Europe's technological and economic position amidst global tensions.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of Germany, along with representatives from over 100 countries issued the "Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet" at the AI Action Summit in Paris.<sup>3255</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The member has collaborated globally with other countries to strengthen international regulation and literacy on AI, hosted consultations of a diverse range of stakeholders, invested in the AI transition, and supported ethical AI development. Germany has engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Naiera Sharma*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy (MIMIT) Valentino Valentini, spoke at the We Make Future conference and emphasized his priority to empower Italian businesses and provide resources with the digital transition to AI.<sup>3256</sup>

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<sup>3253</sup> International Conference on AI in Work, Innovation, Productivity and Skills, OECD (Paris) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.oecd.org/en/about/news/media-advisories/2024/11/international-conference-on-ai-in-work-innovation-productivity-and-skills-12-13-december-2024-paris-france.html>

<sup>3254</sup> We Need More Europe – Not Less, Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport, BMDV (Berlin) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/wissing-wir-brauchen-mehr-europa.html>

<sup>3255</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>

<sup>3256</sup> Il Viceministro Valentini a We Make Future, il Festival internazionale sull'innovazione Digital, AI e Tech, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/il-viceministro-valentini-a-we-make-future-il-festival-internazionale-sullinnovazione-digital-ai-e-tech>

On 24 June 2024, Prime Minister Georgia Meloni met with Singaporean President Tharman Shanmugaratnam to discuss the strengthening of Italy and Singapore relations and partnerships.<sup>3257</sup> They discussed artificial intelligence, focusing on balancing between AI's potential to reduce costs and its security.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3258</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 16-17 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and the G7 Trade Ministers met in Reggio Calabria to discuss how AI can be used to optimize trade operations and supply chains.<sup>3259</sup> In the final document, ministers reaffirmed their commitment to balance the risks of AI whilst pursuing the benefits for international trade.<sup>3260</sup>

On 17 July 2024, Italy and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released the first public report on the “AI Hub for Sustainable Development” project.<sup>3261</sup> This initiative aims to serve as a platform to strengthen the AI ecosystem in emerging economies such as those in Africa.

On 18 July 2024, MIMIT and the United Nations Development Programme announced the first report on the recommendations and feedback gathered from regional AI stakeholders in Africa.<sup>3262</sup> MIMIT and the UNDP will use the recommendations and feedback to create a fair and collaborative AI Hub for Sustainable Development.

On 24 July 2024, Italy launched the pilot phase of its “International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems” aimed at collecting feedback to improve the monitoring system.<sup>3263</sup> The program seeks to ensure that AI systems are designed and implemented in alignment with democratic values.

On 6 September, Prime Minister Meloni spoke to the G7 members in Verona at the 22nd G7 Speakers' meeting.<sup>3264</sup> In the speech, she addressed AI and the importance of its ethical utilisation, ensuring equity and inclusivity. Additionally, she noted that AI systems should remain in human control as they are integrated into society.

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<sup>3257</sup> Meeting with the President of the Republic of Singapore, Italian Government (Rome) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-republic-singapore/26091>

<sup>3258</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3259</sup> Trade Ministers' Meeting Outreach Session (16 July 2024) Government of Italy (Rome). Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/dichiarazione-della-presidenza-riunione-dei-ministri-del-commercio-g7-villa-san-giovanni-reggio-calabria/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/dichiarazione-della-presidenza-riunione-dei-ministri-del-commercio-g7-villa-san-giovanni-reggio-calabria/)

<sup>3260</sup> G7 Trade Ministerial Meeting: Ministerial Statement, G7 Information Centre (Villa San Giovanni – Reggio Calabria), 17 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/240717-statement.html>

<sup>3261</sup> AI Hub for Sustainable Development: Strengthening Local AI Ecosystems through Collective Action, UNDP (New York City) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.undp.org/publications/ai-hub-sustainable-development-strengthening-local-ai-ecosystems-through-collective-action>

<sup>3262</sup> The Italian G7 Presidency and UNDP launch first public report on the co-design of the AI Hub for Sustainable Development, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/the-italian-g7-presidency-and-undp-launch-first-public-report-on-the-co-design-of-the-ai-hub-for-sustainable-development>

<sup>3263</sup> G7: Pilot phase begins for monitoring of Code of Conduct on Artificial Intelligence, Italian Government (Rome) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/g7-inizia-la-fase-pilota-per-il-monitoraggio-del-codice-di-condotta-sull-intellig/>

<sup>3264</sup> President Meloni's address at 22nd G7 Speakers' Meeting, Italian Government (Rome) 6 September 2024. Access Date 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-22nd-g7-speakers-meeting/26522>

On 24 September, Prime Minister Meloni spoke at a press conference in New York regarding the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>3265</sup> She met with leaders from major companies such as Google and OpenAI to discuss AI governance and investment.

On 24 September 2024 Prime Minister Georgia Meloni addressed the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>3266</sup> She stressed importance of balancing technological innovation with individual rights, intellectual property and democratic values.

On 2 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President of Microsoft Brad Smith to discuss Microsoft's investment in Italy's technology sector.<sup>3267</sup> The investment aims to aid Italy in addressing the increasing need for AI technologies, especially through an increase in data centres.

On 7 October 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli attended the Hamburg Conference on Sustainability, where he reiterated Italy's commitment to fostering economic growth in Africa.<sup>3268</sup> Deputy Minister Cirielli announced the "Digital Flagship" project, which will foster digital advancement in Senegal, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Mozambique.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3269</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation. The meeting also discussed the progress of the "AI Hub for Sustainable Development," reaffirming Italy's commitment to the advancement of the AI ecosystem in Africa.

On 5 November 2024, Director General of the Treasury Riccardo Barbieri Hermitte participated in an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) roundtable discussion focusing on AI's opportunities and risks related to inclusiveness and sustainability.<sup>3270</sup> This roundtable was a part of the OECD World Forum on Well-being, which Italy presided over in Rome for 2024.

On 12 November 2024, Undersecretary of State to the Ministry of Business and Made in Italy Fausta Bergamotto reaffirmed Italy's commitment to increasingly integrate AI into African production processes to support economic and social development within the continent.<sup>3271</sup> This commitment supports the ethical and inclusive development of emerging technologies such as AI.

On 15 November 2024, the Italian G7 Presidency and UNDP co-hosted a meeting with a delegation of the private sector and technology companies to promote public-private partnerships with the African private sector

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<sup>3265</sup> UNGA: President Meloni's press point in New York, Italian Government (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/unga-president-meloni-s-press-point-new-york/26666>

<sup>3266</sup> President Meloni's address at 79th United Nations General Assembly, Italian Government (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date October 31 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-79th-united-nations-general-assembly/26659>

<sup>3267</sup> President Meloni meets with Microsoft President Brad Smith, Italian Government (Rome) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-microsoft-president-brad-smith/26713>

<sup>3268</sup> Deputy Minister Edmondo Cirielli attended the Hamburg Conference on Sustainability: focus on youth entrepreneurship in Africa, Italian Government (Rome) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/il-vice-ministro-edmondo-cirielli-partecipa-alla-conferenza-di-amburgo-sulla-sostenibilita-focus-sullimprenditorialita-giovanile-giovanile-in-africa/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/il-vice-ministro-edmondo-cirielli-partecipa-alla-conferenza-di-amburgo-sulla-sostenibilita-focus-sullimprenditorialita-giovanile-giovanile-in-africa/)

<sup>3269</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3270</sup> The third day of the OECD World Forum in Rome focuses on artificial intelligence, Ministry of Economy and Finances (Rome) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. [https://www.dt.mef.gov.it/en/news/2024/ocse\\_05112024.html](https://www.dt.mef.gov.it/en/news/2024/ocse_05112024.html)

<sup>3271</sup> G7, Undersecretary Bergamotto in the US to promote the ethical use of AI and emerging technologies, Ministry of Business and Made in Italy (Rome) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/g7-il-sottosegretario-bergamotto-negli-usa-per-promuovere-lutilizzo-etico-dellia-e-delle-tecnologie-emergenti>



and seek out investment opportunities in emerging technologies.<sup>3272</sup> This meeting highlights Italy's commitment to working with the private sector to develop AI based opportunities and globally collaborating on AI based initiatives.

On 18 November 2024, President Meloni met with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at a bilateral meeting during the G20 summit, discussing bilateral ties on AI.<sup>3273</sup> This meeting puts forth Italy's continued commitment to developing AI international partners.

On 28 November 2024, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani met at the Pontignano Conference on Italy and UK relations on AI.<sup>3274</sup> They committed to discuss opportunities for innovative collaborations in sectors such as AI intelligence at the upcoming CEO forum in London in 2025.

On 2 December 2024, Undersecretary Bergamotto participated in the "Llama Impact Hackathon – AI at the service of citizens," aimed at developing digital skills and connecting young developers with established Italian innovation and technology associations.<sup>3275</sup> The hackathon consisted of workshops, webinars and mentoring sessions. The event highlighted Italy's commitment to collaborative and educational opportunities for the upcoming workforce within the technological sector.

On 13 December 2024 President Meloni led a G7 meeting addressing the importance of the G7's role in a variety of global issues including that of artificial intelligence.<sup>3276</sup> The Apulia Summit was referenced as a guideline for AI's responsible use and President Meloni reaffirmed Italy's G7 commitment to ethical artificial intelligence. As a result, the G7 now will label and identify organizations that uphold the principles of the "Hiroshima AI Process."

On 11 February 2025, the Government of Italy, along with representatives from over 100 countries issued the "Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet" at the AI Action Summit in Paris.<sup>3277</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

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<sup>3272</sup> G7: Mimit delegation in San Francisco for the Conference on AI for Sustainable Development in Africa, Ministry of Business and Made in Italy (San Francisco) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/g7-delegazione-mimit-a-san-francisco-per-la-conferenza-sullia-per-lo-sviluppo-sostenibile-in-africa>

<sup>3273</sup> G20 Summit: President Meloni meets with the Crown Prince of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, Italian Government (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-summit-president-meloni-meets-crown-prince-emirate-abu-dhabi/27069>

<sup>3274</sup> Minister Tajani at the Italy-UK conference in Pontignano: "Rome and London are becoming closer: in the G7, in the NATO, on migration," Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/ministro-tajani-al-convegno-italo-britannico-di-pontignano-roma-e-londra-sempre-piu-vicine-nel-g7-nella-nato-sulle-migrazioni/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/ministro-tajani-al-convegno-italo-britannico-di-pontignano-roma-e-londra-sempre-piu-vicine-nel-g7-nella-nato-sulle-migrazioni/)

<sup>3275</sup> L' intelligenza artificiale elemento chiave per lo sviluppo dell'economia e del tessuto produttivo, Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy (Rome) 2 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 December 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/l-intelligenza-artificiale-elemento-chiave-per-lo-sviluppo-delleconomia-e-del-tessuto-produttivo>

<sup>3276</sup> President Meloni chairs a G7 Leaders' meeting. Focus on Ukraine, the Middle East, Venezuela and the handover of the G7 Presidency from Italy to Canada, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-chairs-g7-leaders-meeting-focus-ukraine-middle-east-venezuela-and-handover>

<sup>3277</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>

On 18 February 2025 the Government of Italy launched the Haip Code of Conduct monitoring system at the OECD, marking a major milestone in ensuring AI transparency and accountability, with broad support from international governments and tech companies.<sup>3278</sup> Italy's goal is to expand this framework, making AI reliable and safe globally while also balancing the aspect of innovation.

On 21 February 2025 Undersecretary Maria Tripodi reaffirmed Italy's commitment to the Artificial Intelligence Hub for Sustainable Development at the G20 Foreign Ministers meeting in Johannesburg. The hub tackles digital disparities and is a key initiative supporting technological progress in Africa.<sup>3279</sup>

On 24 February 2025 President Meloni met with Emirati President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nayan to discuss Italy and UAE relations.<sup>3280</sup> The visit highlighted strong bilateral relations between the two nations, and both committed to furthering this relationship, with the United Arab Emirates announcing investments into Italy of USD40 billion, and discussion focusing on the tech sector, such as the use of AI in the creation of data centres.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Italy verbally affirmed its support for the commitment and engaged stakeholders for feedback. Italy has also engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Italy has collaborated with international and domestic private and public actors to promote the ethical and efficient use of AI, including in the world of work.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Joanna Decc*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 28 June 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) developed Priority Fields in the Use of Technologies for Long-term Care, aiming to improve the quality of long-term care services using Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and AI.<sup>3281</sup> This updated initiative emphasizes the vital role of ICT to decrease the stressors of nursing staff.

On 28 June 2024, METI published ideal strategies to human resources and skills for effective utilization of generative AI in a comprehensive report.<sup>3282</sup> The report highlights various challenges in the adoption of AI technology and proposes solutions to foster an innovative and productive data-driven society.

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<sup>3278</sup> Italy's fundamental contribution to AI governance at global level, Department for Digital Transformation (Rome) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/il-contributo-fondamentale-dell-italia-per-la-governance-dell-ai-a-livello-global/>

<sup>3279</sup> G20 Foreign Affairs Ministerial Meeting in Johannesburg under the Presidency of South Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Johannesburg) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/riunione-ministeriale-affari-esteri-g20-a-johannesburg-sotto-presidenza-del-sud-africa/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/riunione-ministeriale-affari-esteri-g20-a-johannesburg-sotto-presidenza-del-sud-africa/)

<sup>3280</sup> President Meloni meets with the President of the United Arab Emirates, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-president-united-arab-emirates/27731>

<sup>3281</sup> Priority Fields in the Use of Robot Technology for Long-term Care Revised, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628\\_004.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628_004.html)

<sup>3282</sup> Compilation of Report on Approaches to Human Resources and Skills Required for DX Promotion in the Age of Generative AI 2024: How to Face Generative AI for Transformation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628_003.html)

On 28 June 2024, METI leveraged post-5G information and communication system infrastructure as part of the Generative AI Accelerator Challenge to enhance the capabilities of generative AI development companies in Japan.<sup>3283</sup> The ministry recognizes the importance of building high-quality datasets for AI learning and is committed to supporting surveys and research that contribute to accelerating AI development within companies.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3284</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 25 July 2024, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)'s Study Group on the Use of Generative AI in Primary and Secondary Education held their first meeting.<sup>3285</sup> They have since held four other meetings, on 8 August 2024, 3 September 2024, 24 September 2024 and 18 October 2024. This study group's meetings aim to create guidelines for AI in primary and secondary education, recognizing the importance of early education on the uses and risks of the technology.

On 2 August 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida attended the 11th Joint Meeting of the AI Strategy Council and the First Joint Meeting of the AI System Study Group at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>3286</sup> Based on the discussion, the Prime Minister Kishida reiterated Japan's commitment to the international guidelines established in Hiroshima, emphasizing the significance of balancing risk and innovation to ensure the proper use of AI.

On 27 August 2024, the Cabinet Office and METI, jointly with the MEXT, announced that the "Mathematics, Data Science and AI Education Program Certification System Review Committee" had certified 112 new literacy level programs and 100 applied basic level programs.<sup>3287</sup> These initiatives also upgraded the certifications of five previously certified programs to "Certified Education Program (Literacy Level) Plus" and six to "Certified Education Program (Applied Basic Level) Plus." This is a continuation of efforts to improve AI, mathematics and data analysis skills in university-level programs to update the skillsets of the next generation.

On 12 September 2024, Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare Keizo Takemi attended the G7 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3288</sup> There, he reaffirmed Japan's commitment to human-centric developments of AI in the labour force.

On 30 September 2024, MHLW announced the establishment of an internal project team under the guidance of OpenAI Japan to investigate the possible uses of AI for Hello Work Internet Services, a government agency.<sup>3289</sup> OpenAI Japan established the team to consider using AI in labour supply and demand adjustment in the private sector. The team will focus on investigating possible usage, effects and issues using AI.

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<sup>3283</sup> 生成AIの学習に必要なデータセット構築や データ・生成AIの利活用に向けた調査事業を実施します, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 September 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/06/20240628013/20240628013.html>

<sup>3284</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3285</sup> 初等中等教育段階における生成AIの利活用に関する検討会議, 文部科学省 (Tokyo) 25 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.mext.go.jp/b\\_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/index.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/index.html)

<sup>3286</sup> AI戦略会議・AI制度研究会合同会議, 首相官邸 (Tokyo) 2 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101\\_kishida/actions/202408/02ai.html](https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101_kishida/actions/202408/02ai.html)

<sup>3287</sup> 「数理・データサイエンス・AI教育プログラム認定制度」について 令和6年度の認定・選定結果をお知らせします, 内閣府、文部科学省 (Tokyo) 27 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/08/20240827002/20240827002.html>

<sup>3288</sup> G7労働雇用大臣会合がイタリアで開催され、武見厚生労働大臣が出席しました, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_43095.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_43095.html)

<sup>3289</sup> ハローワークにおけるAIの活用について検討するための省内プロジェクトチームを設置します, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/newpage\\_43953.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/newpage_43953.html)

On 5 October 2024, the Information-technology Promotion Agency (IPA), under MHLW, published a document outlining its plans to upgrade the MHLW employment portal to facilitate movement of workers into higher value-added jobs involved in Digital Transformation (DX) and to enhance current skills in high tech roles.<sup>3290</sup> IPA further reiterated its commitment to the AI Business Guidelines and the Hiroshima AI Process.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3291</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 10 October 2024, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization announced the planned implementation sites and subsidy recipients for “Post-5G Information and Communications System Infrastructure Strengthening Research and Development Project/Development of Post-5G Information and Communications System (Subsidy).”<sup>3292</sup> This project, focused on developing high-quality datasets for AI learning, aims to support Japanese private firms and universities by providing data for building AI models that foster job creation.

On 17 October 2024, METI and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) launched the Mobility DX Platform, designed to facilitate cooperation and the exchange of human resources and information between companies.<sup>3293</sup> METI and MLIT designed this platform to strengthen employment opportunities and support businesses in the AI-based self-driving vehicles industry.

On 29 October 2024, the Ministry of Finance’s Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) firm and Toyota Motor Corporation committed JPY500 billion to jointly develop driver assistance technology based on AI.<sup>3294</sup> This project is an indirect public-private partnership, as the government, with its one-third ownership stake in NTT, uniquely protects this project as an indirect public-private partnership.<sup>3295</sup>

On 26 November 2024, MEXT’s Study Group on the Use of Generative AI in Primary and Secondary Education held their sixth meeting.<sup>3296</sup> This meeting focused on updating and refining the guidelines for the use of generative AI in early education. This action will prepare the school system and future students for the increasing prevalence of generative AI.

On 5 December 2024, the Prime Minister’s Office uploaded a video demonstrating Japan’s fisheries’ efforts to make the fishing industry sustainable through the development and use of AI.<sup>3297</sup> This process involves using

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<sup>3290</sup> 生成AI時代のデジタル人材育成の取組について, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 5 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/11801000/001310736.pdf>

<sup>3291</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3292</sup> 「ポスト5G情報通信システム基盤強化研究開発事業／生成AI開発加速に向けた新たなデータセットの構築に関する調査」に係る実施体制の決定について, 国立研究開発法人新エネルギー・産業技術総合開発機構 (Kawasaki City) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.nedo.go.jp/koubo/IT3\\_100322.html](https://www.nedo.go.jp/koubo/IT3_100322.html)

<sup>3293</sup> モビリティDX促進のための新たなコミュニティ「モビリティDXプラットフォーム」を立ち上げました, 経済産業省と国土交通省は (Tokyo) 31 October, 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/10/20241031004/20241031004.html>

<sup>3294</sup> Toyota and NTT to jointly develop driver assistance technology that uses AI, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Date Accessed: 31 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/business/2024/10/29/companies/toyota-ntt-driver-assistance/>

<sup>3295</sup> Japan weighs selling rest of NTT stake for defense funding, Nikkei (Tokyo) 26 July 2023. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Japan-weighs-selling-rest-of-NTT-stake-for-defense-funding>

<sup>3296</sup> 初等中等教育段階における生成AIの利活用に関する検討会議(第6回) 文部科学省 (Tokyo) 26 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.mext.go.jp/b\\_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/kaisai/mext\\_01948.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/kaisai/mext_01948.html)

<sup>3297</sup> Japan’s Fisheries Industry and AI Technologies, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.japan.go.jp/topics/AI.html>

AI to analyse cross sections of tuna for quality checking, and operational and oceanographic data from satellites to track traditional fishing methods.

On 23 January 2025, METI hosted “Working Group on the Use of AI in Local Governments” under the “Study Group on Sustainable Local Government Administration and Finance.”<sup>3298</sup> This working group discussed specific methods and details regarding the use of AI to support local government administrations facing labour shortages due to aging populations.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of Japan, along with representatives from over 100 countries issued the “Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet” at the AI Action Summit in Paris.<sup>3299</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

On 1 April 2025, MHLW announced an expansion of the Human Resource Development Support Grant to cover specialized practical AI and digital economy-related education and training courses.<sup>33003301</sup> This action will support inclusive and equal access to AI skill development and opportunities.

On 3 April 2025, MHLW published the report “FY2024 AI/Metaverse Research Project, which focused on AI issues in Japan and other countries.”<sup>3302</sup> The report also explored whether Japan could improve its labour law education effectiveness, using artificial intelligence tools to ensure legality and equality in workplace outcomes.

Japan fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Japan has held meetings and published reports on creating opportunities for businesses in adapting to AI. It has also engaged stakeholders in obtaining feedback on AI development in companies and verbally affirming support for high-quality, inclusive opportunities. The member has engaged in strong actions by demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach through its educational, subsidy, and worker mobility programs.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Stephen Bogle*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 8 July 2024, Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Peter Kyle announced the expansion of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) to incorporate experts in data, digital and

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<sup>3298</sup> 自治体におけるAIの利用に関するワーキンググループ」の開催, 総務省 (Tokyo) 21 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 February 2025. [https://www.soumu.go.jp/menu\\_news/s-news/01gyosei07\\_02000168.html](https://www.soumu.go.jp/menu_news/s-news/01gyosei07_02000168.html)

<sup>3299</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>.

<sup>3300</sup> 専門実践教育訓練の指定講座を公表しました (令和7年4月1日付け指定), 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 1 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_50917.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_50917.html)

<sup>3301</sup> 人材開発支援助成金, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 1 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/koyou\\_roudou/koyou/kyufukin/d01-1.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/koyou_roudou/koyou/kyufukin/d01-1.html)

<sup>3302</sup> 令和6年度AI・メタバース関係の調査研究事業, 厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 3 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 April 2025. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_56134.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_56134.html)

AI from the Government Digital Service, the Central Digital and Data Office and the Incubator for AI.<sup>3303</sup> This move unifies digital transformation efforts under one department, positioning DSIT as the government's central hub for enhancing public services and improving the digital experience for citizens across the UK.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3304</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 26 July 2024, the Department for Business and Trade and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched the Flexible AI Upskilling Fund pilot scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Professional and Business Services sector by providing match-funding for AI skills training for their employees.<sup>3305</sup> With GBP6.4 million in available funding, eligible businesses can apply for grants to enhance their workforce's AI capabilities, with amounts based on business sizes. This initiative aims to help SMEs improve their AI expertise, ensuring they remain competitive and equipped for future technological advancements, ultimately strengthening the sector's overall innovation and productivity.

On 7 August 2024, DSIT announced the distribution of GBP32 million in funding to support 98 AI projects aimed at enhancing productivity and public services across the UK.<sup>3306</sup> The funding will benefit over 200 businesses and research organizations, with a focus on sectors such as healthcare, transportation and construction. Key projects include the development of AI-driven solutions to reduce train delays, improve NHS prescription delivery efficiency and provide AI-powered construction training. The initiative aims to harness AI to drive economic growth, improve safety and increase efficiency, ultimately benefiting both businesses and public services across the nation.

On 28 August 2024, DSIT and the Department of Education launched a GBP4 million project to enhance AI tools in education, specifically aimed at reducing teacher workload.<sup>3307</sup> The project involves creating a content store of government educational resources, including curriculum guidelines and lesson plans, which AI developers will use to train more reliable and efficient tools. This initiative will help teachers by providing AI tools that can assist with marking, lesson planning and administrative tasks, ultimately saving time and improving the quality of education in classrooms.

On 19 September 2024, DSIT announced that the United Kingdom will host a conference in San Francisco on 21-22 November 2024, focused on AI safety.<sup>3308</sup> The event will bring together global AI developers to discuss the implementation of commitments made at the AI Seoul Summit earlier in the year, where companies agreed to publish their AI safety frameworks. This conference will provide a platform for AI developers and

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<sup>3303</sup> DSIT bolstered to better serve the British public through science and technology, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dsit-bolstered-to-better-serve-the-british-public-through-science-and-technology>

<sup>3304</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3305</sup> Flexible AI Upskilling Fund Pilot, Department for Business and Trade and Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 13 November. <https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/flexible-ai-upskilling-fund-pilot>

<sup>3306</sup> AI to reduce train delays, speed up NHS prescriptions and train construction workers gets £32 million boost, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, UK Research and Innovation and Feryal Clark MP (London) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 13 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-to-reduce-train-delays-speed-up-nhs-prescriptions-and-train-construction-workers-gets-32-million-boost>

<sup>3307</sup> Teachers to get more trustworthy AI tech, helping them mark homework and save time, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department for Education (London) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/teachers-to-get-more-trustworthy-ai-tech-as-generative-tools-learn-from-new-bank-of-lesson-plans-and-curriculums-helping-them-mark-homework-and-save>

<sup>3308</sup> UK to bring global AI developers together ahead of AI Action Summit, AI Safety Institute, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-bring-global-ai-developers-together-ahead-of-ai-action-summit>

researchers to collaborate and refine their safety plans, addressing risks such as misuse. The initiative will advance international efforts to ensure AI development is both responsible and secure, in preparation for the AI Action Summit in February 2025.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3309</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 6 November 2024, DSIT published a report, “Assuring a Responsible Future for AI.”<sup>3310</sup> The report highlights the government’s commitment to ensuring the safe, responsible and equitable development of AI. By exploring the growth potential of the AI assurance sector, the report provides actions to increase both the demand and supply of AI assurance tools. These efforts aim to mitigate AI risks, promote public trust and position the UK as a global leader in responsible AI development.

On 19 November 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office announced an open call for proposals to research how humanitarian actors can address the risks associated with AI systems.<sup>3311</sup> The project aims to recommend a responsible framework to guide humanitarian action, ensuring AI tools are used safely and ethically in emergencies. This initiative will provide a practical approach to managing AI risks in humanitarian work, benefiting NGOs, educational institutions, and relief organizations by supporting the development of tools and frameworks for responsible AI use in crisis response.

On 25 November 2024, the United Kingdom announced the launch of the new Laboratory for AI Security Research (LASR) at the NATO Cyber Defence Conference, aimed at addressing emerging threats posed by artificial intelligence to citizens.<sup>3312</sup> The lab, supported by an initial GBP8 million of government funding, will bring together experts from industry, academia, and government, including partners such as Government Communications Headquarters, the Ministry of Defence’s Defence Science and Technology Laboratory and the Alan Turing Institute. This initiative will enhance the UK’s cyber resilience and national security by fostering AI-driven solutions to both bolster defence capabilities and counter adversaries’ AI-driven cyber threats.

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<sup>3309</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3310</sup> Assuring a Responsible Future for AI, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assuring-a-responsible-future-for-ai>

<sup>3311</sup> Humanitarian action and responsible artificial intelligence (AI), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/humanitarian-action-and-responsible-artificial-intelligence-ai>

<sup>3312</sup> UK and its allies must stay one step ahead in new AI arms race, Cabinet Office, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-its-allies-must-stay-one-step-ahead-in-new-ai-arms-race>

<sup>3313</sup> UK and its allies must stay one step ahead in new AI arms race, Cabinet Office, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-its-allies-must-stay-one-step-ahead-in-new-ai-arms-race>

On 6 December 2024, Government Skills launched an AI-generated video module within its Civil Service Expectations course.<sup>3314</sup> This pilot project aims to enhance learning on diversity, inclusion and new legislation, such as the Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010). Feedback from civil servants will determine if this approach can be expanded, as it offers a cost-effective, time-saving method for teaching complex topics. The initiative strives to increase accessibility and engagement in learning while promoting inclusivity in the civil service workforce.

On 19 December 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN James Kariuki delivered a statement at the UN Security Council on AI's role in international peace and security.<sup>3315</sup> The UK emphasized AI's potential for enhancing peacekeeping, supporting human rights and improving resilience through better decision-making and early warning systems. The UK also committed GBP58 million to responsible AI research labs in Africa to promote international collaboration and digital equity, ensuring AI benefits are shared globally, fostering inclusivity and security.

On 13 January 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom announced GBP1 million in funding for sixteen ed-tech companies to develop AI tools that assist teachers with marking and feedback.<sup>3316</sup> The initiative targets specific subjects and age groups, improving feedback accuracy and supporting teachers in elevating student performance. The project is part of the government's broader mission to harness AI for public service improvements and reduce barriers to educational opportunity.

On 13 January 2025, Prime Minister Kier Starmer unveiled the UK's AI Opportunities Action Plan, aimed at making the UK a global leader in AI.<sup>3317</sup> The plan includes initiatives like AI Growth Zones to speed up planning and data centre development, alongside major investments from tech companies. It also focuses on creating a National Data Library and a dedicated AI Energy Council to address energy demands. This strategy is designed to boost productivity and guide AI in transforming public services and driving economic growth across the UK.

On 14 January 2025, the United Kingdom announced GBP7 million in funding for 120 projects aimed at boosting productivity using AI.<sup>3318</sup> The funded projects span from agriculture industry to road repair, including AI tools for predicting potholes and reducing food waste in bakeries. This initiative, part of the AI Opportunities Action Plan, aims to enhance efficiency, foster innovation and create jobs. By adopting AI, businesses will tackle everyday challenges and contribute to economic growth, while helping smaller enterprises integrate advanced technologies into their operations.

On 17 January 2025, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport announced a GBP60 million investment to boost the creative industries, marking the first step of its Creative Industries Sector Plan.<sup>3319</sup> The funding targets start-up video game studios, grassroots music venues, and British music and film exports, supporting creative businesses across the country. This initiative aims to drive economic growth, create jobs

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<sup>3314</sup> Government Skills Trials AI Video in Civil Service Course Update, Cabinet Office (London) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-skills-trials-ai-video-in-civil-service-course-update>

<sup>3315</sup> UK Statement on AI's Opportunities for Peace and Security at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ai-presents-significant-opportunities-to-support-international-peace-and-security-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>3316</sup> AI Teacher Tools Set to Break Down Barriers to Opportunity, Department for Education (London) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-teacher-tools-set-to-break-down-barriers-to-opportunity>.

<sup>3317</sup> Prime Minister Sets Out Blueprint to Turbocharge AI, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-sets-out-blueprint-to-turbocharge-ai>.

<sup>3318</sup> Government puts AI to work for bakers, road workers, and more, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Innovate UK, UK Research and Innovation, The Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP (London) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-puts-ai-to-work-for-bakers-road-workers-and-more>

<sup>3319</sup> £60 million boost for creative industries to turbocharge growth, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (London) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/60-million-boost-for-creative-industries-to-turbocharge-growth>



and enhance regional opportunities. Additionally, a new Soft Power Council will promote the UK's global influence, driving investment and growth in the creative sector.

On 21 January 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology unveiled a comprehensive plan to enhance public services using AI and technology.<sup>3320</sup> This plan includes the introduction of “Humphrey,” a suite of AI tools aimed at streamlining operations, improving data-sharing across government departments, and reducing costs. The initiative targets key areas like health and employment services, intending to make processes more efficient, cut delays, and foster economic growth. The strategy also emphasizes collaboration with smaller tech firms, creating job opportunities and boosting innovation in the public sector.

On 28 January 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology showcased AI-driven technology designed to help vulnerable individuals maintain independence.<sup>3321</sup> AI-enabled sensors on fridges and kettles in the London Borough of Sutton can detect changes in daily routines, signalling potential health issues like missed meals. This initiative sends alerts to carers or family members, fostering early intervention. The program aims to reduce pressures on adult social care services, improve quality of life, and enable elderly people to live at home longer, supporting the broader goal of inclusivity and enhancing job opportunities in the care sector.

On 29 January 2025, the UK government announced the publication of the first International AI Safety Report, which will inform discussions at the upcoming AI Action Summit.<sup>3322</sup> The report, based on insights from 100 global AI experts, emphasizes AI's rapid advancements and associated risks. It advocates for scientific research to guide AI policy decisions. This initiative includes the ideas of international stakeholders and aims to ensure responsible AI development, providing the evidence necessary for policymakers to manage risks and capitalize on AI's transformative potential.

On 30 January 2025, Chris Bryant delivered a speech at the TMT World Congress 2025, outlining the United Kingdom's digital infrastructure vision.<sup>3323</sup> He emphasized the importance of continued investments in broadband, 5G and data centres, aiming for 100% gigabit-capable broadband access by 2030. The government's strategy includes collaborating with private sectors, enhancing competition, and ensuring regulatory frameworks support growth. The initiative focuses on fostering economic growth, job creation, and inclusivity, ensuring all UK households benefit from digital connectivity and thus enhancing opportunities for individuals and businesses across the nation.

On 3 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology updated guidance on software and AI as medical devices.<sup>3324</sup> The new guidance includes references to transparency for machine learning-enabled medical devices and updates on digital mental health technology. It outlines how these technologies should be classified and regulated in the healthcare sector, ensuring safety and compliance. This initiative

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<sup>3320</sup> Shake up of tech and AI usage across NHS and other public services to deliver plan for change, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Government Digital Service, Department for Work and Pensions, Department of Health and Social Care, The Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP, The Rt Hon Liz Kendall MP, and The Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP (London) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 26 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/shake-up-of-tech-and-ai-usage-across-nhs-and-other-public-services-to-deliver-plan-for-change>.

<sup>3321</sup> AI sensors on fridges and kettles helping vulnerable people to live independently, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 28 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-sensors-on-fridges-and-kettles-helping-vulnerable-people-to-live-independently>  
<sup>3322</sup> First International AI Safety Report to inform discussions at AI Action Summit, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-international-ai-safety-report-to-inform-discussions-at-ai-action-summit>.

<sup>3323</sup> Sir Chris Bryant speech at TMT World Congress 2025, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/sir-chris-bryant-speech-at-tmt-world-congress-2025>

<sup>3324</sup> Software and artificial intelligence (AI) as a medical device, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025.

supports the safe integration of AI in healthcare, addressing both ethical concerns and potential biases, and fosters inclusivity by making healthcare innovations accessible to diverse populations.

On 7 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology updated the Frontier AI Safety Commitments, initially made during the AI Seoul Summit 2024.<sup>3325</sup> The updated commitments aim to enhance international cooperation on AI safety, focusing on mitigating high-risk AI impacts. This includes strengthening collaboration between governments and industry leaders, addressing AI's potential misuse and ensuring transparency and ethical guidelines. The initiative aims to build a safer AI environment through shared responsibility and global governance frameworks.

On 7 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology announced three new Turing AI World-Leading Researcher Fellows.<sup>3326</sup> These fellows, Steve Benford, Subramanian Ramamoorthy, and Stefanos Zafeiriou, will lead AI research to address challenges such as sustainability in aviation and advancing robust, ethical AI. This initiative aims to strengthen the UK's AI capabilities and support future innovation, while also fostering inclusivity and creating new job opportunities within the sector.

On 10 February 2025, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, along with Australia, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Sweden issued a joint statement emphasizing the critical need to address human rights and gender equality issues in the era of AI.<sup>3327</sup> They highlighted that while AI offers opportunities to advance the human rights of women and LGBTQI+ persons, it also introduces challenges that can amplify existing gender biases and inequalities. The statement advocates for a human rights-based approach to AI development, with gender equality at its core, to ensure that AI systems do not perpetuate gender stereotypes and biases.

On 10 February 2025, the Department for Work and Pensions introduced a new tool for Employment and Support Allowance claims, designed to match medical conditions more efficiently.<sup>3328</sup> This system aims to streamline the eligibility process by using technology to map free-text conditions. The initiative fosters inclusivity by improving access for diverse claimants and creates job opportunities in AI and support roles, contributing to workforce growth.

On 10 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom released the AI Playbook, designed to guide civil servants in the safe and effective use of AI.<sup>3329</sup> It outlines 10 principles for AI implementation, covering its capabilities, risks, and the processes for selecting and deploying AI technologies in government. The playbook builds on the Generative AI Framework and includes updated guidance on AI developments, aiming to ensure responsible AI adoption across public services.<sup>1</sup>

On 10 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology invited regional authorities, local authorities and industry players to submit expressions of interest for the development of AI Growth

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<sup>3325</sup> Frontier AI Safety Commitments, AI Seoul Summit 2024, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-international-ai-safety-report-to-inform-discussions-at-ai-action-summit>.

<sup>3326</sup> Turing Artificial Intelligence Fellowships, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Office for Artificial Intelligence, UK Research and Innovation, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London), 5 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-artificial-intelligence-fellowships>

<sup>3327</sup> The Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse calls for gender to be an integral part of the AI Action Summit, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025.

<sup>3328</sup> DWP: Employment and Support Allowance Online Medical Matching, Cabinet Office, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Government Digital Service (London) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/algorithmic-transparency-records/dwp-employment-and-support-allowance-online-medical-matching>

<sup>3329</sup> AI Playbook for the UK Government, Government Digital Service (London) 10 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-playbook-for-the-uk-government>

Zones.<sup>3330</sup> These zones aim to foster investment in AI-enabled data centres and infrastructure, supporting innovation, job creation and the UK's leadership in AI.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom, along with representatives from over 100 countries issued the “Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet” at the AI Action Summit in Paris.<sup>3331</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

On 13 February 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology launched the AI Metascience Fellowship Programme with GBP4 million in funding to explore AI's potential in transforming scientific research.<sup>3332</sup> The program will address AI's ethical implications, its role in research practices and its impact on research jobs. The initiative aims to improve transparency in AI-driven discoveries, enhance international collaboration with the US and examine responses from governments and businesses to AI's evolving role in science.

On 26 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom published the “Digital Inclusion Action Plan: First Steps,” aiming to close the digital divide in the country.<sup>3333</sup> The plan outlines five initial actions: launching a Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund to support local community initiatives, enhancing support for essential digital skills frameworks, piloting a device donation scheme with the Digital Poverty Alliance, improving accessibility of government digital services, and measuring the effectiveness of digital inclusion efforts. The plan focuses on assisting youth, seniors, disabled individuals, those currently out of work and low-income households.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom launched a GBP5 million AI Security Challenge Fund to support research into AI security.<sup>3334</sup> The AI Security Institute will administer the fund, which offers grants of up to GBP200,000 per project for researchers addressing AI security threats, including protecting critical systems from failure and preventing AI misuse. This initiative aims to bolster public trust in AI and facilitate its broader adoption across the economy.

On 10 March 2025, Science and Technology Secretary Peter Kyle emphasized the critical role of innovation in driving long-term economic growth during his speech at the techUK Conference. He highlighted the government's commitment to removing regulatory barriers that hinder technological advancements, ensuring

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<sup>3330</sup> AI Growth Zones: Expression of Interest, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London), 7 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-growth-zones-expression-of-interest>.

<sup>3331</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>.

<sup>3332</sup> Fellowships launched to explore how AI could change the way scientists drive new discoveries, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, UK Research and Innovation, Lord Vallance (London) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fellowships-launched-to-explore-how-ai-could-change-the-way-scientists-drive-new-discoveries>

<sup>3333</sup> Digital Inclusion Action Plan: First Steps, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department of Health and Social Care, Department for Education, Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (London) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-inclusion-action-plan-first-steps>.

<sup>3334</sup> Cutting-Edge Research on AI Security Bolstered with New Challenge Fund to Ramp Up Public Trust and Adoption, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, AI Security Institute, and Feryal Clark MP (London) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cutting-edge-research-on-ai-security-bolstered-with-new-challenge-fund-to-ramp-up-public-trust-and-adoption>.

that emerging technologies—such as AI, quantum computing, and medical delivery drones—can be developed and deployed more effectively.

On 10 March 2025, the United Kingdom government announced a new “test and learn” approach to funding AI and digital projects.<sup>3335</sup> This strategy involves experimenting with small-scale AI initiatives, assessing their effectiveness and scaling successful projects. The approach intends to foster innovation, enhance public services and ensure the efficient use of taxpayer money.

On 25 March 2025, Technology Secretary Peter Kyle concluded his United States visit to advocate for a closer AI partnership between the United Kingdom and the United States.<sup>3336</sup> During his visit, he highlighted the United Kingdom’s strengths as a global hub for AI investment and discussed opportunities for collaboration in AI research, development and regulation. This effort aimed to strengthen the two countries’ relationship in the tech sector and align strategies for harnessing AI’s transformative potential.

On 18 March 2025, the Department for Education announced a new package to support young people in accessing high-quality arts education and enrichment activities.<sup>3337</sup> As a part of this initiative, the Department of Education will establish a “Digital, AI and Technology Task and Finish Group” to advise on preparing children and young people for future job markets.

On 19 March 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology announced the Manchester Prize, a challenge prize representing a decade-long commitment to supporting the use of AI for public good innovation.<sup>3338</sup> The prize aims to reward UK-led breakthroughs in artificial intelligence that address societal challenges and promote public benefit. This initiative underscores the UK’s dedication to fostering cutting-edge AI solutions that contribute positively to society.

On 22 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom, in partnership with technology corporation IBM, announced its plan to boost skills and diversity in the United Kingdom’s cyber sector.<sup>3339</sup> IBM committed to providing the platform for the 2025 CyberFirst Girls Competition, a nationwide program aimed at encouraging young girls aged twelve to thirteen to develop computing and cybersecurity skills. This initiative addresses the gender imbalance in the cyber workforce and aims to inspire a diverse new generation of cybersecurity professionals.

On 24 March 2025, the Office for National Statistics published a report titled “Management Practices and the Adoption of Technology and Artificial Intelligence in UK Firms: 2023.”<sup>3340</sup> This study investigated how technology adoption, particularly regarding AI, varies with management practices across UK businesses. The

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<sup>3335</sup> Government to Take a ‘Test and Learn’ Approach with Spending on AI and Digital to Push Innovation, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, The Rt Hon Darren Jones MP, and The Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP (London) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-take-a-test-and-learn-approach-with-spending-on-ai-and-digital-to-push-innovation>.

<sup>3336</sup> UK Tech Secretary to Bang the Drum for Closer AI Partnership with the US, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, The Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP (London) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-tech-secretary-to-bang-the-drum-for-closer-ai-partnership-with-the-us>.

<sup>3337</sup> Education and The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP (London) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/young-people-to-benefit-from-creative-education-boost>.

<sup>3338</sup> Manchester Prize: Winner and Finalists, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/manchester-prize-successful-finalists>.

<sup>3339</sup> Plans to Boost Skills and Diversity in UK Cyber Backed by Tech Giant IBM, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, National Cyber Security Centre, and Feryal Clark MP (London) 22 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-boost-skills-and-diversity-in-uk-cyber-backed-by-tech-giant-ibm>.

<sup>3340</sup> Management Practices and the Adoption of Technology and Artificial Intelligence in UK Firms: 2023, Office for National Statistics (Newport) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/productivitymeasures/articles/managementpracticesandtheadoptionoftechnologyandartificialintelligenceinukfirms2023>.

findings provide valuable insights into the relationship between managerial approaches and the integration of advanced technologies, informing policies to support businesses in adopting AI and enhancing productivity.

On 24 March 2025, the British Embassy in Manila announced that the Government of the United Kingdom had hosted the UK-Southeast Asia Tech Week 2025 in the Philippines.<sup>3341</sup> This event aimed to drive innovation, collaboration and investment between the United Kingdom and Southeast Asian tech sectors. A delegation of twelve pioneering British AI and data companies showcased cutting-edge technologies and explored partnerships with Southeast Asian counterparts. The event featured panel discussions on AI and cybersecurity, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in addressing emerging tech challenges. Additionally, the UK signed a strategic partnership with Fintech Alliance Philippines to enhance cooperation in the fintech sector, promoting financial inclusion and technological advancement.

On 27 March 2025, Minister Feryal Clark delivered a keynote speech at AI UK, the Alan Turing Institute's national AI conference, emphasizing the United Kingdom's approach to inclusive and trustworthy AI.<sup>3342</sup> She highlighted cross-sector collaboration, upskilling initiatives and government-backed programs that aim to democratize AI access, enhance transparency and align AI development with democratic values and public trust. Her speech reaffirmed the United Kingdom's leadership in shaping global AI standards rooted in fairness and inclusivity.

On 28 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom launched an AI Bootcamp for civil servants, targeting individuals with basic coding skills across Whitehall departments.<sup>3343</sup> This eight-week program transitions public sector employees into AI specialists, equipping them with hands-on technical knowledge, policy awareness and ethical training. The initiative ensures government decision-makers reflect diverse backgrounds and are better prepared to design and implement inclusive, responsible AI solutions in public services.

On 1 April 2025, the United Kingdom Defence and Security Accelerator advanced its "Breaking AI to Make it Better" initiative by funding projects that test AI systems for vulnerabilities and biases.<sup>3344</sup> By supporting adversarial testing and AI assurance research, this initiative aims to improve transparency in AI models used in critical areas such as defence, cybersecurity and national infrastructure. It ensures the technology can withstand real-world challenges and serves diverse user groups without unintended harm.

On 2 April 2025, the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency expanded its AI Airlock sandbox, a first-of-its-kind regulatory environment for "Artificial Intelligence as a Medical Device."<sup>3345</sup> This sandbox enables AI developers, healthcare providers and regulators to collaborate in testing and validating AI tools in real-world healthcare settings. The Airlock enhances inclusivity by ensuring AI-driven medical technologies are safe and accessible to diverse patient populations before being introduced into the healthcare system.

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<sup>3341</sup> UK-Southeast Asia Tech Week 2025 in Manila, British Embassy Manila (London) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-southeast-asia-tech-week-2025-in-manila>.

<sup>3342</sup> Minister Feryal Clark Speech at the Alan Turing Institute's Conference AI UK, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and Feryal Clark MP (London) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-feryal-clark-speech-at-the-alan-turing-institutes-conference-ai-uk>.

<sup>3343</sup> New Bootcamp Upskills Whitehall Coders into AI Specialists, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Government Digital Service, and Feryal Clark MP (London) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bootcamp-upskills-whitehall-coders-into-ai-specialists>.

<sup>3344</sup> Breaking AI to Make it Better: DASA's Investment in the Future of AI Assurance, Defence and Security Accelerator (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/breaking-ai-to-make-it-better-dasas-investment-in-the-future-of-ai-assurance>.

<sup>3345</sup> AI Airlock: The Regulatory Sandbox for AlaMD, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ai-airlock-the-regulatory-sandbox-for-aiamd>.

On 8 April 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom convened the inaugural meeting of the AI Energy Council to ensure the country's energy infrastructure can sustainably support its AI ambitions.<sup>3346</sup> While primarily focused on infrastructure, the Council also aims to deliver economic growth and job creation through AI Growth Zones, helping ensure that the benefits of AI are widely distributed

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work. The United Kingdom has verbally affirmed its support for the commitment. Additionally, the United Kingdom has engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

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

*Analyst: Naiera Sharma*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, the General Services Administration launched the first cohort of Presidential Innovation Fellows on AI, which is comprised of experts from various AI stakeholder groups.<sup>3347</sup> These experts will contribute their insights to various government agencies' projects to ensure fair and responsible use of AI in fields from justice, commerce, to energy infrastructure.

On 26 June 2024, the Department of Education published a report advising how AI developers can create secure, equitable, and reliable tools for educators.<sup>3348</sup> This report's findings will support the responsible and safe use of AI within education.

On 28 June 2024, Ambassador at Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy Nathaniel C. Fick met with Paraguayan digital stakeholders as part of the United States' commitment to supporting a reliable and secure technology ecosystem in Paraguay.<sup>3349</sup> Ambassador Fick also discussed AI issues in Chile, following his visit to Paraguay.

On 2 July 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration committed USD504 million in funding to 12 Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs to create AI job opportunities across the country, including marginalized areas.<sup>3350</sup> This funding will support equitable use of AI and related benefits across the country.

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<sup>3346</sup> AI Energy Council to ensure UK's energy infrastructure ready for AI revolution, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 8 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-energy-council-to-ensure-uks-energy-infrastructure-ready-for-ai-revolution>

<sup>3347</sup> Presidential Innovation Fellows launches first cohort focused exclusively on Artificial Intelligence, G7 Research Group (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/newsroom/news-releases/presidential-innovation-fellows-launches-first-cohort-focused-exclusively-on-artificial-intelligence-06172024>

<sup>3348</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New AI Actions and Receives Additional Major Voluntary Commitment on AI, White House (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/26/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-ai-actions-and-receives-additional-major-voluntary-commitment-on-ai/>

<sup>3349</sup> Ambassador Fick's Travel to Paraguay and Chile, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/ambassador-ficks-travel-to-paraguay-and-chile/>

<sup>3350</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Investment in Twelve Regional Technology Hubs, Creating Good-paying Jobs and Driving Economic Opportunity and Innovation in Communities Across the Country, White House (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/02/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-investment-in-twelve-regional-technology-hubs-creating-good-paying-jobs-and-driving-economic-opportunity-and-innovation-in-communities-across-the-cou/>

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3351</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 10 July 2024, the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) published a report identifying labour market disruptions from AI.<sup>3352</sup> In the report, the CEA reaffirmed its commitment to consult with stakeholders to ensure inclusive government responses to AI.

On 11 July 2024, Director of the US AI Safety Institute (US AISI) Elizabeth Kelly met with European Union Director of the European AI Office (EUAIO) Lucilla Sioli to discuss ideal practices and main risks associated with AI, strengthening bilateral collaboration on scientific information exchange between the EU and the US.<sup>3353</sup> They covered topics such as content authentication tools, government computing infrastructure and best practices for implementing AI safety. Both institutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to fostering a global network that promotes safe and trustworthy AI technology.

On 16 July 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced over USD100 million towards fostering education and career opportunities for marginalized groups, as well as developing ethical and socially conscious AI.<sup>3354</sup> This funding will support the equitable use of AI across the country.

On 19 July 2024, General Services Administrator Robin Carnahan announced that the Technological Modernization Fund had allocated USD13.8 million to the Department of Energy and Department of Commerce for upgrading nuclear energy capabilities and establishment of comprehensive AI safety guidelines.<sup>3355</sup> These funds aim to improve AI governance in the United States.

On 26 July 2024, the Department of Commerce released new guidance documents and tools on the safe, secure and trustworthy development of AI systems.<sup>3356</sup> The Department of Commerce will use these guidelines to help enhance AI governance systems and mitigate AI-related risks in the United States.

On 29 August 2024, the Department of Commerce announced agreements with two major AI developers to initiate testing on major new AI models.<sup>3357</sup> These tests aim to evaluate AI capabilities and risks while developing risk mitigation measures for AI. The agreements will help advance the AI Governance infrastructure and enhance AI safety within the US.

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<sup>3351</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3352</sup> Potential Labor Market Impacts of Artificial Intelligence: An Empirical Analysis, White House (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/written-materials/2024/07/10/potential-labor-market-impacts-of-artificial-intelligence-an-empirical-analysis/>

<sup>3353</sup> U.S. AI Safety Institute and European AI Office Technical Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/us-ai-safety-institute-and-european-ai-office-technical-dialogue>

<sup>3354</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Commitments from Across Technology Ecosystem including Nearly \$100 Million to Advance Public Interest Technology, White House (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2024/07/16/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-commitments-from-across-technology-ecosystem-including-nearly-100-million-to-advance-public-interest-technology/>

<sup>3355</sup> Technology Modernization Fund announces investments in nuclear safety and AI governance, General Services Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/newsroom/news-releases/technology-modernization-fund-announces-investments-in-nuclear-safety-and-ai-governance-07192024>

<sup>3356</sup> Department of Commerce Announces New Guidance, Tools 270 Days Following President Biden's Executive Order on AI, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/07/department-commerce-announces-new-guidance-tools-270-days-following>

<sup>3357</sup> Fact Sheet: Key AI Accomplishments in the Year Since the Biden-Harris Administration's Landmark Executive Order, The White House (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/30/fact-sheet-key-ai-accomplishments-in-the-year-since-the-biden-harris-administrations-landmark-executive-order/>

On 4 September 2024, the National Science Foundation (NSF) invested USD8 million into five projects under the NSF EducateAI initiative.<sup>3358</sup> This initiative plans to prepare the next generation as a diverse, AI-literate and trained workforce.

On 11 September 2024, the Department of Commerce proposed a new regulation requiring that AI developing companies report quarterly on safety testing, training plans for generative AI models and the use of large computing clusters for such training.<sup>3359</sup> The Department of Commerce will improve the AI regulatory environment and governance inside the US through this regulation.

On 18 September 2024, the Biden-Harris administration announced a planned two-day international AI safety gathering scheduled for November 20 and 21 with government leaders, scientists and AI experts from at least nine countries and the European Union.<sup>3360</sup> This gathering will focus on coordinating how to safely develop AI technologies and avert their dangers.

On 23 September 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced the Partnership for Global Inclusivity on AI, bringing together the Department of State, Amazon, Anthropic, Google, IBM, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia and OpenAI to jointly invest USD100 million.<sup>3361</sup> The Department of State promised an investment of USD10 million and planned to invest an additional USD23 million. The partnership intends to share resources to unlock AI potential for sustainable global development, improving global AI governance, training people to work with AI and increasing access to AI models for the public.

On 23 September 2024, President Joe Biden and United Arab Emirates President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan presented a memorandum for cooperation in AI and related technologies.<sup>3362</sup> This memorandum discusses improving AI governance in both countries, promoting ethical AI research, improving AI protection, fostering sustainable development of AI and increasing bilateral research and development (R&D) investment.

On 2 October 2024, the US invested USD100 million into R&D of AI technologies to develop experimental AI-powered semiconductor autonomous and sustainable manufacturing programs.<sup>3363</sup> This investment plans to integrate AI into the regular workforce and manufacturing of semiconductors.

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<sup>3358</sup> NSF investing nearly \$8M in EducateAI awards to develop next generation of well-trained AI workforce, National Science Foundation (Washington D.C.) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://new.nsf.gov/news/nsf-investing-nearly-8m-educateai-awards-develop-next>

<sup>3359</sup> Fact Sheet: Key AI Accomplishments in the Year Since the Biden-Harris Administration's Landmark Executive Order, The White House (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/30/fact-sheet-key-ai-accomplishments-in-the-year-since-the-biden-harris-administrations-landmark-executive-order/>

<sup>3360</sup> Biden Administration to Host International AI Safety Meeting in San Francisco After Election, U.S. News (Washington D.C.) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2024-09-18/biden-administration-to-host-international-ai-safety-meeting-in-san-francisco-after-election>

<sup>3361</sup> United States and Eight Companies Launch the Partnership for Global Inclusivity on AI, The Department of State (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-and-eight-companies-launch-the-partnership-for-global-inclusivity-on-ai/>

<sup>3362</sup> United States and United Arab Emirates Cooperation on Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/23/united-states-and-united-arab-emirates-cooperation-on-artificial-intelligence/>

<sup>3363</sup> Biden-Harris Administration to Invest up to \$100 Million to Accelerate R&D and AI Technologies for Sustainable Semiconductor Materials, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/biden-harris-administration-invest-100-million-accelerate-rd-and-ai](https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/biden-harris-administration-invest-100-million-accelerate-rd-and-ai)



On 24 October 2024, the government of the US released a new national security memorandum, articulating its national security strategy and policy towards AI.<sup>3364</sup> This memorandum documents safety guidance, security guidelines and development procedures for AI.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3365</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 24 October 2024, the government published the Framework to Advance AI Governance and Risk Management in National Security.<sup>3366</sup> The government documents future AI risk management procedures and policies in national security through this framework.

On 14 November 2024, the Department of Homeland Security released a new set of recommendations for safe and secure deployment and development of AI within critical infrastructure, the “Roles and Responsibilities Framework for Artificial Intelligence in Critical Infrastructure.”<sup>3367</sup> This new set of recommendations will help reduce the vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure from attacks using AI, attacks targeting US AI systems, and AI risks.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce announced the formation of the Testing Risks of AI for National Security Taskforce.<sup>3368</sup> This taskforce will bring together personnel across the US government to help regulate and manage national security implications from AI.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce invested USD3.8 million to a total global funding of USD11 million to build, research and deploy safe, risk mitigated and responsible AI in USAID partners overseas.<sup>3369</sup> This investment will help increase global AI regulations and mitigate risks for AI safety globally.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce and the Department of State participated in launching the International Network of AI Safety, alongside 10 other countries.<sup>3370</sup> This international network aims to coordinate global efforts to ensure AI safety across all member nations in the network, whilst providing a platform to bring together global expertise on AI regulation and safety.

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<sup>3364</sup> The Biden Administration’s National Security Memorandum on AI Explained, CSIS (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/biden-administrations-national-security-memorandum-ai-explained>

<sup>3365</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3366</sup> The Biden Administration’s National Security Memorandum on AI Explained, CSIS (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/biden-administrations-national-security-memorandum-ai-explained>

<sup>3367</sup> U.S. AI Safety Institute Establishes New U.S. Government Taskforce to Collaborate on Research and Testing of AI Models to Manage National Security Capabilities & Risks, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/11/us-ai-safety-institute-establishes-new-us-government-taskforce>

<sup>3368</sup> U.S. AI Safety Institute Establishes New U.S. Government Taskforce to Collaborate on Research and Testing of AI Models to Manage National Security Capabilities & Risks, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/11/us-ai-safety-institute-establishes-new-us-government-taskforce>

<sup>3369</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of AI Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international>

<sup>3370</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of AI Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international>

On 20 November 2024, the US AISI participated in the first multi-national AI safety testing exercise, alongside experts from Singapore's Digital Trust centre and the United Kingdom's AI Safety Institute.<sup>3371</sup> This exercise will enhance AI safety testing procedures and AI safety risk mitigation strategies.

On 19 December 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration, under the CHIPS and Science Act, awarded up to USD458 million in funding and USD500 million in loans to South Korean company SK Hynix for a USD3.87 billion AI semiconductor facility in Indiana.<sup>3372</sup> This investment aims to create close to 1000 jobs and bolster US AI chip supply chain resilience through developing research technology with Purdue University.

On 14 January 2025, the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration announced USD210 million in implementation grants for six regional technology and innovation hubs.<sup>3373</sup> The grants are expected to bring together diverse public, private and academic partners into partnerships to drive inclusive growth from the AI industry and create AI jobs in the United States.<sup>3374</sup>

On 14 January 2025, the Biden-Harris administration announced an executive order on Advancing United States Leadership in Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure.<sup>3375</sup> This executive order will make available federal sites for AI private sector data centres, improve AI safety training by investing into AI infrastructure development and increase AI integration in the country by collaborating with the private sector to build new AI. It also aims to improve AI workplace conditions to ensure high labour standards are maintained in their infrastructure projects and will direct the State Department to cooperate with allied nations to build safe AI infrastructure worldwide.

On 23 January 2025, the Trump-Vance Administration declared the repealing of the Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence.<sup>3376</sup> This repeal removes regulations on AI governance and inhibits the federal government's ability to govern and enforce AI regulations.

On 3 April 2025, the Executive Office of the President announced memorandum M-25-21, which officially rescinded the previous memorandum of M-24-10 on "Advancing Governance, Innovation and Risk Management for Agency Use of Artificial Intelligence," ordering the loosening of regulatory constraints on development of AI and requiring each Chief Financial Officer Act agency to announce publicly their AI

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<sup>3371</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of AI Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international>

<sup>3372</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces CHIPS Incentives Award with SK hynix to Advance U.S. Technological Leadership and Expand Capacity of Chips Crucial to the AI Supply Chain, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/12/biden-harris-administration-announces-chips-incentives-award-sk-hynix>

<sup>3373</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards Additional \$210 Million Tech Hub Grants, Department of Commerce (Washington DC) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2025/01/biden-harris-administration-awards-additional-210-million-tech-hub>

<sup>3374</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Awards Additional \$210 Million Tech Hub Grants, Department of Commerce (Washington DC) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2025/01/biden-harris-administration-awards-additional-210-million-tech-hub>

<sup>3375</sup> Executive Order on Advancing United States Leadership in Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure, The White House (Washington DC) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2025/01/14/executive-order-on-advancing-united-states-leadership-in-artificial-intelligence-infrastructure/>

<sup>3376</sup> REMOVING BARRIERS TO AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, White House (Washington DC) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/removing-barriers-to-american-leadership-in-artificial-intelligence/>

strategies within 180 days.<sup>3377</sup> While this aims to enhance public accountability for AI development, it also deregulates AI governance and regulatory frameworks for AI risk management.

On 3 April 2025, the Department of Energy announced consultation efforts with developers and the general public to co-locate data centers and new energy infrastructure through public-private partnerships.<sup>3378</sup> This plan intends to lower overall costs for AI development in the United States.

On 23 April 2025, President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order launching a national initiative to expand AI education and workforce development across the United States.<sup>3379</sup> The order establishes a White House Task Force on AI Education, supports public-private partnerships and lifelong AI learning and promotes registered apprenticeships and AI certifications. With a strong focus on inclusiveness, equitable access and preparing Americans for AI-driven jobs, the order aims to ensure that all communities benefit from the opportunities of the AI economy.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The United States has invested in creating education and job opportunities for diverse communities, various industry sectors, and international partners. It has also engaged a wide range of stakeholders in the digital transition process and published reports guiding the equitable and fair development of AI. The member has begun to repeal some of its previously implemented actions while the other policy actions remain standing. While recent deregulatory actions—such as the rescinding of memorandum M-24-10 and DOE’s support for AI infrastructure—raise concerns due to their lack of an explicit inclusivity focus, they do not constitute reversals of inclusive AI policies nor directly undermine equal opportunities in the world of work. In the context of broader, ongoing U.S. efforts to promote AI education, apprenticeships, and workforce inclusion, these actions do not outweigh the overall commitment to fostering inclusive AI-based opportunities.

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

*Analyst: Ngai Chung Chan*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 18 June 2024, the European Commission launched a targeted consultation to gather input from stakeholders on the utilization of AI in finance.<sup>3380</sup> The active contribution of industries will help the Commission provide guidance to the financial sector for executing the AI Act, fostering technological innovation while ensuring effective management of associated risks.

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<sup>3377</sup> Accelerating Federal Use of AI through Innovation, Governance, and Public Trust, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Washington DC) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/M-25-21-Accelerating-Federal-Use-of-AI-through-Innovation-Governance-and-Public-Trust.pdf>

<sup>3378</sup> DOE Identifies 16 Federal Sites Across the Country for Data Center and AI Infrastructure Development, Department of Energy (Washington DC) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-identifies-16-federal-sites-across-country-data-center-and-ai-infrastructure>

<sup>3379</sup> Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/advancing-artificial-intelligence-education-for-american-youth/>

<sup>3380</sup> Commission seeks input from industry on the use of artificial intelligence in finance, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-seeks-input-industry-use-artificial-intelligence-finance>

On 2 July 2024, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth Mariya Ivanova and Canadian Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François Champagne signed an agreement allowing Canada to enter the Horizon Europe program, an initiative supporting research conduct on mitigating and regulating AI risks in the future digital economy.<sup>3381</sup>

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission launched the DIGITAL program, investing EUR55 million into specialised education programs at the bachelor to doctorate level related to AI and sustainable AI development in fields such as robotics, virtual reality, renewable energy and transport.<sup>3382</sup> The European Commission plans to significantly increase the number of specialists in information and communications technology capable of working with AI up to 20 million by 2030, while also promoting gender equality in the AI sector.

On 3 July 2024, the European Commission published a report on the State of the Digital Decade, publicly recognizing the need for increased investments in digital capacity, high-quality internet connectivity, and adoption of AI.<sup>3383</sup> The report also evaluates the progress made toward accomplishing the digital objectives established for 2030 under the EU's Digital Decade Policy Programme. Through this report, the EU reaffirms its commitment to strengthening cooperation to achieve the Digital Decade's goals and to fostering a functional Digital Single Market.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission introduced the Digital Europe Programme (DEP) which aims to invest over EUR108 million to reinforce the EU's digital and technological capacity.<sup>3384</sup> These investments will improve Europe's leadership in AI, establish specialized training programs for advanced digital skills and address the risks of disinformation.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced an investment of over EUR210 million under the DEP to enhance cybersecurity strategies and develop advanced digital capabilities across the EU.<sup>3385</sup> The Commission committed to strengthening cybersecurity of critical infrastructure and providing high-quality education programs in main digital technology fields.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced a budget of EUR25 million for multi-country projects for investing into the European Digital infrastructure.<sup>3386</sup> This funding aims to decreasing digital divides and increasing European accessibility to digital infrastructure including AI.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission invested EUR20 million into the Local Digital Twins (LDT), which aims to integrate complex AI tools into LDT toolboxes, improving economies of scale in AI and connecting

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<sup>3381</sup> Canada joins Horizon Europe programme, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3626](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3626)

<sup>3382</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech>

<sup>3383</sup> Digital Decade 2024 report calls for strengthened collective action, European Commission (Brussels) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/news/digital-decade-2024-report-calls-strengthened-collective-action-2024-07-03\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/digital-decade-2024-report-calls-strengthened-collective-action-2024-07-03_en)

<sup>3384</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over EUR108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech>

<sup>3385</sup> Commission to invest over EUR210 million in cybersecurity, digital capacities and technology under the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-invest-over-eu210-million-cybersecurity-digital-capacities-and-technology-under-digital>

<sup>3386</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech>

European digital and AI infrastructure.<sup>3387</sup> This funding will help cities and communities decrease costs in data platform development and AI-based solutions, enhancing both innovation and AI job opportunities in the European economy.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced an investment of EUR8 million into helping independent regional and national level hubs to improve regulation in the digital media ecosystem.<sup>3388</sup> These hubs aim to fight against disinformation created by AI, enhance monitoring of online platforms and strengthen public awareness about the risks of the digital ecosystem.

On 9 July 2024, the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth jointly released a report examining the impacts of AI on youth rights and well-being.<sup>3389</sup> The report highlights the advantages of accessible AI-powered tools for youth employment while addressing AI-related challenges, including ethical concerns, data profiling and automated substitution for youth work services.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>3390</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 11 July 2024, Director of the EUAIO Lucilla Sioli, met with Director of the US AI Safety Institute Elizabeth Kelly, to discuss ideal practices and main risks associated with AI, strengthening bilateral collaboration on scientific information exchange between the EU and the US.<sup>3391</sup> They covered topics such as content authentication tools, government computing infrastructure and best practices for implementing AI safety. Both institutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to fostering a global network that promotes safe and trustworthy AI technology.

On 1 August 2024, the Directorate-General for Communication declared that the AI Act would enter into force, aimed to increase the transparency of AI technologies, minimize AI risks in Europe and restrict violations of individual rights, such as attempted social credit scoring with AI.<sup>3392</sup> This initiative will improve the AI regulatory framework and governance in Europe.

On 1 August 2024, the European Commission created the AI Board which includes representatives from each EU member.<sup>3393</sup> The AI Board will assist with the implementation of the AI act in the European Union, providing advice to the European Commission on international AI cooperation policies and other strategic AI-related policies.

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<sup>3387</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech>

<sup>3388</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech>

<sup>3389</sup> Insights into artificial intelligence and its impact on the youth sector, the European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/42128013/105305579/051024\\_Insights%20into%20AI%20and%20the%20youth%20sector.pdf/2a717a7f-8e51-6fad-c129-5a4521d6c8b6?t=1720513638458](https://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/42128013/105305579/051024_Insights%20into%20AI%20and%20the%20youth%20sector.pdf/2a717a7f-8e51-6fad-c129-5a4521d6c8b6?t=1720513638458)

<sup>3390</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bologna and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html>

<sup>3391</sup> U.S. AI Safety Institute and European AI Office Technical Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/us-ai-safety-institute-and-european-ai-office-technical-dialogue>

<sup>3392</sup> AI Act enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/news/ai-act-enters-force-2024-08-01\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/ai-act-enters-force-2024-08-01_en)

<sup>3393</sup> AI Board, European Commission (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-board>

On 5 September 2024, the Council of Europe stated that the Framework Convention on AI and human rights, democracy and the rule of law would come into force.<sup>3394</sup> This international treaty, signed by 11 non-EU member states and the European Union, aims to regulate AI systems in alignment with human rights, democracy and rule of law, thereby strengthening the international AI governance and regulatory framework for AI.

On 9 September 2024, the European Commission launched a call for creating new AI factories to help research and development in AI.<sup>3395</sup> It also called for increasing the availability to AI technologies in Europe towards all Europeans, including startups, industry and research.

On 30 September 2024, the European Commission announced a global list of experts recruited to draft a code of practice for general-purpose AI.<sup>3396</sup> The code aims to encompass guidelines for risk management, transparency, copyright and safety.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>3397</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 29 October 2024, the European Innovation Council will contribute EUR1.4 billion next year into the AI research sector.<sup>3398</sup> This funding represents an increase of EUR200 million from the previous year.

On 5 November 2024, the European Council approved the conclusions reached by the European Court of Auditors, affirming that the EU must increase investments in AI and enhance public access to digital infrastructure.<sup>3399</sup> This approval demonstrates the EU's future commitment towards investing into the AI sector and digital infrastructure.<sup>3400</sup>

On 13 November 2024, the European Commission launched a targeted stakeholder consultation process to help shape the future guidelines of AI regulation under the AI act.<sup>3401</sup> This will improve the practicality of the regulatory process of AI and provide industry stakeholder feedback to further improve the guidelines for AI regulation under the AI act.<sup>3402</sup>

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<sup>3394</sup> Council of Europe opens first ever global treaty on AI for signature, Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/council-of-europe-opens-first-ever-global-treaty-on-ai-for-signature>

<sup>3395</sup> EU boosts European AI developers with the AI Factories call for proposals, European Commission (Brussels) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4621](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4621)

<sup>3396</sup> European Commission appoints 13 experts to draft AI Code, Euronews (Lyon) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/next/2024/09/30/european-commission-appoints-13-experts-to-draft-ai-code>

<sup>3397</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html>

<sup>3398</sup> EU to invest \$1.5 billion in region's deep tech sector, Reuters (Toronto) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/eu-invest-15-billion-regions-deep-tech-sector-2024-10-29/>

<sup>3399</sup> Artificial intelligence (AI): Council approves conclusions to strengthen EU's ambitions, Council of the EU (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/artificial-intelligence-ai-council-approves-conclusions-to-strengthen-eu-s-ambitions/>

<sup>3400</sup> Artificial intelligence (AI): Council approves conclusions to strengthen EU's ambitions, Council of the EU (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/artificial-intelligence-ai-council-approves-conclusions-to-strengthen-eu-s-ambitions/>

<sup>3401</sup> Commission launches consultation on AI Act prohibitions and AI system definition (Brussels) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-consultation-ai-act-prohibitions-and-ai-system-definition>

<sup>3402</sup> Commission launches consultation on AI Act prohibitions and AI system definition (Brussels) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-consultation-ai-act-prohibitions-and-ai-system-definition>

On 20 November 2024, the AI Office participated in launching the International Network of AI Safety, alongside 10 other initial member nations.<sup>3403</sup> This international network seeks to coordinate global efforts to ensure AI safety across all member nations in the network, whilst providing a platform to bring together global expertise on AI regulation and safety.<sup>3404</sup>

On 4 December 2024, the European Commission launched an industry-academia network under the European Cyber Skills academy to improve links between industry and academia on matters of cybersecurity.<sup>3405</sup> This will improve the infrastructure of AI safety, mitigate AI risks and improve AI security.

On 12 December 2024, the European Commission established the CitiVerse European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) to deliver AI-based solutions towards enhancing urban planning in European cities.<sup>3406</sup> EDIC is expected to help improve installation of Digital Twins in cities to increase digitalisation in the EU, improve digital and AI infrastructure in European cities and develop AI training programs.

On 3 February 2025, the European Commission awarded the OpenEuroLLM project, supported by the Digital Europe Programme by a EUR37.4 million budget, the STEP Seal for its development of open-source Large Language Models that cover all official and future EU languages.<sup>3407</sup> The project aims to foster collaboration between EU startups, research labs, and supercomputing entities, contributing to the growth of AI-based work opportunities.

On 4 February 2024, the European Commission published the guidelines for prohibited AI practices in accordance with the AI act.<sup>3408</sup> This will improve the AI regulation and safety for the public in Europe when interacting with AI, improving the practicality and governance structure for AI in Europe.

On 11 February 2024, the European Commission launched InvestAI, an initiative to mobilise EUR200 Billion of investment into AI, including a European fund of EUR20 Billion for AI gigafactories.<sup>3409</sup> This investment will significantly increase the European research and innovation on AI, increase opportunities for European talents in the AI industry and will help further develop European AI models.

On 11 February 2025, representatives from the European Union, along with representatives from over 100 countries issued the “Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet”

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<sup>3403</sup> Fostering global AI safety: EU AI Office participates in inaugural International Network of AI Safety Institutes meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/fostering-global-ai-safety-eu-ai-office-participates-inaugural-international-network-ai-safety>

<sup>3404</sup> Fostering global AI safety: EU AI Office participates in inaugural International Network of AI Safety Institutes meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/fostering-global-ai-safety-eu-ai-office-participates-inaugural-international-network-ai-safety>

<sup>3405</sup> The Commission launches Industry-Academia Network to bridge cybersecurity skills gap, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-industry-academia-network-bridge-cybersecurity-skills-gap>

<sup>3406</sup> EU-funded AI innovation powers a new era in cooperative smart city development, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/eu-funded-ai-innovation-powers-new-era-cooperative-smart-city-development>

<sup>3407</sup> A pioneering AI project awarded for opening Large Language Models to European languages, European Commission (Brussels) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/pioneering-ai-project-awarded-opening-large-language-models-european-languages>

<sup>3408</sup> Commission publishes the Guidelines on prohibited artificial intelligence (AI) practices, as defined by the AI Act, European Commission (Brussels) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/commission-publishes-guidelines-prohibited-artificial-intelligence-ai-practices-defined-ai-act>

<sup>3409</sup> EU launches InvestAI initiative to mobilise €200 billion of investment in artificial intelligence, European Commission (Brussels) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/eu-launches-investai-initiative-mobilise-eu200-billion-investment-artificial-intelligence>

at the AI Action Summit in Paris.<sup>3410</sup> This declaration emphasizes the importance of developing AI technologies that are human rights-based, ethical, safe, secure and trustworthy. It highlights the need to reduce digital divides, promote AI accessibility and assist developing countries in building AI capacities. The statement also calls for international cooperation to ensure AI contributes positively to sustainable development goals.

On 12 March 2025, the European Commission announced an investment of EUR485 million into seven AI factories in Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Poland and Slovenia to provide privileged access to AI start-ups and SMEs.<sup>3411</sup> This funding project aims to foster EU-wide innovation and enhance the development of large-scale, trustworthy and ethical AI models.

On 9 April 2025, the European Commission launched the AI Continent Action Plan, which will invest EUR20 billion into five AI gigafactories in the European Union and create data labs to foster an internal market for data. The plan also aims to develop an “Apply AI Strategy” to increase AI in industrial use and recruit international AI experts to expand the EU talent pool. Furthermore, it will create the AI Act Service Desk to enhance cooperation between corporations and the government on AI regulatory compliance.<sup>3412</sup> These actions will improve AI safety through improving business to government communications on AI regulatory compliance and increase the AI-based opportunities in Europe through investment into AI businesses.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The European Union has invested in establishing governance and training infrastructure, creating upskilling and education opportunities, funded initiatives on the regional and national level, engaged a wide range of stakeholders in the digital transition process, investigated the effects of AI on youth employment, and published reports guiding the equitable and fair development of AI.

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

*Analyst: Ngai Chung Chan*

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<sup>3410</sup> Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet, The Élysée (Paris), 11 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2025/02/11/statement-on-inclusive-and-sustainable-artificial-intelligence-for-people-and-the-planet>

<sup>3411</sup> Second wave of AI Factories set to drive EU-wide innovation, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/second-wave-ai-factories-set-drive-eu-wide-innovation>

<sup>3412</sup> The AI Continent Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/ai-continent-action-plan>



## 15. Macroeconomics: Price and Financial Stability

“[Our policy efforts will continue to focus on promoting] ... ensuring price and financial stability.”

*Apulia G7 Summit Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

Since its inception, G7 leaders placed macroeconomics and stability at the centre of many discussions and declarations. The first declaration, issued following the inaugural Rambouillet Summit, contained 15 points. Of the 15 each mentioned economic priorities, seven directly mentioned price and/or fiscal stability, and a further four addressed facets of the issue. At the time, leaders sought to address persistent inflationary pressures by exploring various avenues for innovation, energy, and supply chain stability.<sup>3413</sup> Despite decades of change, crises, and upheaval, several issues outlined in the declaration remain prevalent today, including inflationary pressures and economic stability. Recent years saw higher than expected inflation rates amid supply-chain shocks and extraordinary fiscal stimulus during the Covid-19 Pandemic. At the 2024 Apulia Summit, members reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring price and financial stability.

At the 1976 San Juan Summit, G7 leaders recognized the need to avoid international payments imbalances as a means for achieving domestic economic stability.<sup>3414</sup> Leaders reaffirmed a commitment promote a stable system of exchange rates. Furthermore, leaders committed to cooperation on a transition to economic growth with low inflation and unemployment.

At the 1977 London Summit, G7 leaders committed to inflation stabilization policies and further rectification of international payment imbalances.<sup>3415</sup> Additionally, leaders committed to further support for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) linking lending to stabilization policies.

At the 1978 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders committed to increasing employment through skills development and combatting inflation, while reducing exchange market fluctuations.<sup>3416</sup>

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders recommitted to foreign exchange stability.<sup>3417</sup>

<sup>3413</sup> G7 Rambouillet Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

<sup>3414</sup> Joint Declaration of the International Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 1976. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1976sanjuan/communique.html>

<sup>3415</sup> Declaration: Downing Street Summit Conference, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 May 1977. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1977london/communique.html>

<sup>3416</sup> G7 Bonn Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

<sup>3417</sup> Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 14 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

At the 1980 Venice Summit, G7 leaders declared inflation reduction to be their top priority and committed to increasing productivity through innovation and private-sector partnerships to combat the issue.<sup>3418</sup> Leaders also committed to trimming government spending and regulation during the process. On financial stability, G7 leaders reiterated commitments to payment balance and exchange stability as well as tasking the IMF and World Bank with addressing financial problems in low-income and developing countries.

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed the need to reduce inflation to foster an environment for sustainable growth.<sup>3419</sup> Leaders further committed to cutting government spending and borrowing to eliminate debts and deficits in the interest of fiscal stability.

At the 1982 Versailles Summit, G7 leaders committed to an evolution in monetary cooperation between members to achieve fiscal stability through strengthening the IMF to monitor exchange rate activity and ruling out using exchange rates for trade advantages.<sup>3420</sup> Additionally, leaders committed to ensuring price stability by standing against protectionism and trade distortion through open markets.

At the 1983 Williamsburg Summit, G7 members committed to assisting developing nations with their debt burden through a large package of measures, including official and private finance, further funds for the IMF, and opening markets for developing countries. These measures would be aimed to increase the liquidity of developing nations and ensure sufficient access to key resources.<sup>3421</sup>

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to innovation as a solution for growth and development, particularly where demand created the need for more industry and services.<sup>3422</sup> Additionally, in the area of developing nation debt alleviation, leaders improved upon previous commitments by encouraging the rescheduling of private and government debts where possible, foreign direct investment, and policy-making assistance for indebted nations.

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed the need to sustain non-inflationary growth by lowering interest rates, tying public spending to Gross National Product, and removing regulations to create space for entrepreneurship.<sup>3423</sup> These measures would induce consumerism, private sector growth, and further limit government spending.

At the 1986 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders committed to forming a G7 Finance Ministers grouping, to meet between annual summits, utilizing respective forecasts and objectives to assess compatibility in areas such as market incentives, trade, investment, and exchange rates.<sup>3424</sup> This grouping would produce a report for the following summit, to encourage members to produce and implement compatible economic policies aligned with G7 goals.

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<sup>3418</sup> G7 Venice Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 June 1980. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1980venice/communique/index.html>

<sup>3419</sup> Declaration of the Ottawa Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/communique/index.html>

<sup>3420</sup> Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 June 1982. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1982versailles/communique.html>

<sup>3421</sup> Declaration on Economic Recovery, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 May 1983. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1983williamsburg/communique.html>

<sup>3422</sup> 9 The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

<sup>3423</sup> The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1985bonn/communique.html>

<sup>3424</sup> Tokyo Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 1986. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1986tokyo/communique.html>

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders agreed to implement structural policies for effective job creation, with a focus on removing market imperfections and increasing competition.<sup>3425</sup> Furthermore, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to developing nation debt reduction by encouraging debtors to use the “menu” method of options for indebted nations, including alternative financing and negotiation schemes, as well as rescheduling options.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, members formed a consensus around a framework for extant developing country debt alternatives, with options put on the table from partial write-offs, altering of payment terms and timelines, or a combination of these options.<sup>3426</sup>

At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to economic recovery through job growth by increasing human capital investments, deregulation of the labour market, and job creation in emerging sectors.<sup>3427</sup>

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to open markets and building up the World Trade Organization (WTO) to resolve trade disputes, encourage greater regional and global market access, and mitigate supply chain issues.<sup>3428</sup>

At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders committed to retaining low interest rates and credible fiscal consolidation programs in the interests of maintaining fiscal stability and sustainable, non-inflationary growth.<sup>3429</sup>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G7 leaders called upon financial institutions and regulatory bodies to help strengthen and stabilize financial systems in emerging economies.<sup>3430</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, in the aftermath of the Asian Financial Crisis, G8 leaders committed to undertaking measures to assist least developed countries (LDCs) through duty-free access for goods imported from those nations, assisting regional integration efforts, and promoting their markets for investment.<sup>3431</sup> Furthermore, leaders committed to extending further debt relief through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, including the provision of interim relief measures where necessary.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders announced the Köln Debt Initiative, restructuring the HIPC initiative by calling for full cancellation of official debt, and up to 90 per cent of commercial debt, with countries not qualifying under the HIPC initiative eligible for a 67 per cent reduction consideration.<sup>3432</sup>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders announced the completion of HIPC initiative financing, and the need for continued support for HIPC “graduates” to continue carrying a sustainable debt load.<sup>3433</sup> Additionally,

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<sup>3425</sup> Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communiqu/index.html>

<sup>3426</sup> Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communiqu.html>

<sup>3427</sup> Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 1994. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/communiqu/index.html>

<sup>3428</sup> Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communiqu/index.html>

<sup>3429</sup> Lyon Economic Communiqué: Making a Success of Globalization for the Benefit of All, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 1996. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996lyon/communiqu.html>

<sup>3430</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.html>

<sup>3431</sup> 7 Birmingham Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.html>

<sup>3432</sup> Köln Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.html>

<sup>3433</sup> Statement by G7 Leaders Delivering on the Promise of the Enhanced HIPC Initiative, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/hipc.html>

G8 leaders committed to assisting African governments in reaching fiscal stability through obtaining sovereign credit ratings, promoting public-private partnerships, and facilitating investment through a variety of means.

At the 2003 Evian-les-Bains Summit, G8 leaders committed to promoting internationally recognized accounting standards that would be applicable across nations, as well as a host of measures to improve financial transparency around multilateral development banks (MDBs).<sup>3434</sup>

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders committed to ensuring LDCs had the wherewithal to pursue all economic strategies, and to cancel all outstanding HIPC debts.<sup>3435</sup>

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders announced the implementation of the Joint Oil Data Initiative through which energy market data would be collected and reported, and a global standard for energy reserve reporting developed.<sup>3436</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders provided updates on the progress of their joint economic growth strategy.<sup>3437</sup> The United States and Canada announced budgetary progress and demand upswings. Russia announced strong growth, consumption, and investment. Furthermore, leaders announced their support for self-regulation within the hedge fund and similarly highly leveraged institutions, drawing from the Fiscal Stability Forum update.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed commitments made at the London Summit to maintain financial stability and non-inflationary growth, in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis.<sup>3438</sup> Leaders noted efforts made to restore consumer and investor confidence through re-stabilization efforts in economies and financial systems. However, due to the financial crisis, leaders committed to reaching fiscal sustainability in the medium-term and addressing immediately price stability through macroeconomic stimulus. Furthermore, leaders committed to preparing “exit strategies” for when the crisis response policies would no longer be needed.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to recovery and financial sustainability, noting with concern the effects of commodity price volatility on recovery.<sup>3439</sup> Leaders further gave updates on recovery progress, with the European Union having adopted sweeping measures to address sovereign debt crises, the United States implementing a medium-term fiscal consolidation framework, and Japan allocating resources for reconstruction.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders prioritized economic recovery along with price stability and medium-term fiscal sustainability.<sup>3440</sup> Leaders placed emphasis on European recovery during the Euro-crisis and European Economic and Monetary Union financial infrastructure.

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<sup>3434</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

[https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique\\_en.html](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique_en.html)

<sup>3435</sup> Gleneagles Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>3436</sup> St. Petersburg Summit: Update on Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/africa.html>

<sup>3437</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

<sup>3438</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>3439</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3440</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders agreed that key financial reforms following the 2008 financial crisis would be completed within the year.<sup>3441</sup> These reforms would include financial institution regulations and derivative market reform, among other initiatives.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to fiscal discipline to address nearer-term objectives such as growth and job creation, and for the first time to achieve sustainable debt-to-gross domestic product ratios.<sup>3442</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders agreed to the Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth, in which members committed to investing in smart, sustainable, and quality infrastructure to induce job creation, productivity increases, and economic growth.<sup>3443</sup> They also reaffirmed commitments on exchange rates.

At the 2021 Carbis Bay Summit, G7 leaders, noting the severe economic ramifications of the pandemic, committed to large economic stimuli initiatives to preserve jobs where possible and for economic recovery in the aftermath of the pandemic.<sup>3444</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to tackling the cost of living crisis through increasing supply chain resilience and implementing energy price caps.<sup>3445</sup> Leaders also committed to addressing debt burdens for developing countries.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to economic growth through a macroeconomic policy mix that guaranteed medium-term price and fiscal stability. Additionally, leaders reaffirmed their support for the Financial Stability Board and further regulation on non-bank financial institutions.<sup>3446</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “policy efforts...ensuring price and financial stability.”<sup>3447</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment has two dimensions, ensuring price stability and financial stability.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Policy efforts” refers to serious attempts to implement plans or ideas that support price and fiscal stability.<sup>3448</sup> In the context of this commitment, these efforts include both fiscal policy, which refers to the tax and spending strategies implemented by national governments, and the monetary policy implemented by independent central banks, as well as regulatory policies, supply-side policies, and exchange rate policies.

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<sup>3441</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>3442</sup> Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3443</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>3444</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>3445</sup> G7 Elmau Summit Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>3446</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Center (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 9 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>3447</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia). 14 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>3448</sup> Effort, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/effort>

“Ensuring” is understood to mean “to make sure, certain, or safe.”<sup>3449</sup>

“Stability” is understood to mean “the quality, state, or degree of being stable.”<sup>3450</sup>

“Price stability” refers to “a situation in which inflation is low enough that it no longer has a material effect on people’s economic decisions.”<sup>3451</sup> This means preserving a currency’s purchasing power and maintaining an inflation rate that remains “low, stable, and predictable” in line with central bank targets.<sup>3452</sup>

“Financial stability” refers to a financial system “capable of efficiently allocating resources, assessing and managing financial risks, maintaining employment levels close to the economy’s natural rate, and eliminating relative price movements of real or financial assets that will affect monetary stability or employment levels. A financial system is in a range of stability when it dissipates financial imbalances that arise endogenously or as a result of significant adverse and unforeseen events. In stability, the system will absorb the shocks primarily via self-corrective mechanisms, preventing adverse events from having a disruptive effect on the real economy or on other financial systems.”<sup>3453</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards both price stability and financial stability. Strong actions to advance price stability include but are not limited to monetary and fiscal policy levers such as increasing or maintaining the policy interest rate, selling government securities on the open market, maintaining stable exchange rates, increasing or maintaining the base rate, increasing reserve requirements for banks, reducing government borrowing, setting price ceilings on volatile and inflation-driving consumer goods, enforcing or enacting antitrust legislation that promotes competition and advantages consumers through lower prices and supply side measures that target supply-chain issues. While price stability forms an essential part of financial stability, for full compliance, G7 members must demonstrate strong actions towards advancing financial stability distinct from price stability. Strong actions to advance financial stability include but are not limited to reducing debt vulnerabilities and rebuilding fiscal buffers, financial asset and securities regulations, regulating non-bank entities, modifying capital requirements to better reflect underlying risk, frameworks, enforcement, and legislation that promote prudent management of credit risk, market risk, operational risk, and credit value adjustment risk. As well, policy interest rate adjustments, including reductions that reduce default risk, especially in the commercial and housing sectors, or that address rising unemployment and recession risk will contribute to compliance. In addition, actions that promote global financial stability and aim to prevent international shocks contribute to compliance.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action to ensure either price stability or financial stability, or take weak actions to promote both. Weak actions include introducing but not yet passing legislation towards the above actions, verbal or written signals that promote price or financial stability, committee explorations, forum attendance and organization relevant to the above, and diplomatic efforts.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned to G7 members that do not demonstrate action towards either price stability or financial stability or who demonstrate weak action towards only one dimension. Non-

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<sup>3449</sup> Ensuring, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ensuring>

<sup>3450</sup> Stability, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/stability>

<sup>3451</sup> Inflation and Price Stability, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) April 2012. Access Date: 14 Sep 2024. [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2017/banque-bank-canada/FB12-7-17-2012-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2017/banque-bank-canada/FB12-7-17-2012-eng.pdf)

<sup>3452</sup> Two per cent inflation target, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) n.d. Access Date: 14 Sep 2024.

<sup>3453</sup> Financial Stability, World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/gfdr/gfdr-2016/background/financial-stability>

compliance will also be assigned to G7 members whose policy efforts contradict price and financial stability goals.

France, Germany and Italy conduct monetary and economic policy through the European Central Bank (ECB). ECB decisions are made when consensus is achieved by the Governing Council.<sup>3454</sup> Since 13 December 2023 (renewed on 16 October 2024), France, Germany, and Italy have been represented on the Governing Council through Banque de France Governor François Villeroy de Galhau, Deutsche Bundesbank President Joachim Nagel and Banca d'Italia Governor Fabio Panetta.<sup>3455</sup> Because of this, and because of the consensus requirement, ECB decisions represent French, German and Italian government action.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken action to ensure price stability or financial stability, or the member has taken weak action towards only one dimension.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action to ensure either price stability or financial stability, or has taken weak action to promote both dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action to ensure both price stability and financial stability.

*Compliance Director: Rachel Strathdee*

*Lead Analyst: Jonathan Dong*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, the Fall Economic Statement Implementation Act 2023 received Royal Assent, operationalizing a set of measures intended to stabilize prices.<sup>3456</sup> These measures include the modernization of competition law, which will prevent anti-competitive behaviours, and increased support for housing accessibility.

On 20 June 2024, Bill C-69, the Budget Implementation Act, received Royal Assent, introducing measures that will support both price and financial stability in Canada.<sup>3457</sup> The legislation includes affordable housing policies and tax incentives, which target price stability by promoting economic fairness and affordability. The bill supports financial stability through consumer protections and improves access to financial services.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which Canada is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3458</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka's economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

<sup>3454</sup> Rotation of voting rights in the Governing Council, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 1 December 2014. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb-and-you/explainers/tell-me-more/html/voting-rotation.en.html>

<sup>3455</sup> Governing Council, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) n.d. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/decisions/govc/html/index.en.html>

<sup>3456</sup> Legislation to make life more affordable, build more homes, and strengthen economy for everyone receives Royal Assent, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024 <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2024/06/legislation-to-make-life-more-affordable-build-more-homes-and-strengthen-economy-for-everyone-receives-royal-assent.html>

<sup>3457</sup> Budget 2024: Legislation to ensure fairness for every generation receives Royal Assent Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<sup>3458</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>

On 12 July 2024, the Bank of Canada announced an increase in dealer and round limits for Overnight Repo (OR) operations, effective 15 July 2024. Dealer limits will rise to CAD3 billion per eligible participant, up from CAD1 billion, and the maximum aggregate cash value for each auction will increase to CAD8 billion from CAD5 billion.<sup>3459</sup> These adjustments aim to maintain OR effectiveness amid structural changes in the overnight funding market and bolster financial stability by enhancing liquidity management.

On 24 July 2024, the Bank of Canada reduced its policy interest rate by 25 basis points, bringing the rate to 4.5 per cent.<sup>3460</sup> This rate cut intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the bank's target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 4 September 2024, the Bank of Canada reduced its policy interest rate by 25 basis points, bringing the rate to 4.25 per cent.<sup>3461</sup> This rate cut intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the bank's target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 23 October 2024, the Bank of Canada reduced its policy interest rate by 50 basis points, bringing the rate to 3.75 per cent.<sup>3462</sup> This rate cut, the fourth of 2024, intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the bank's target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 11 December 2024, the Bank of Canada reduced its policy interest rate by 50 basis points, bringing the rate to 3.25 per cent.<sup>3463</sup> This rate cut, the fourth of 2024, intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the bank's target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 29 January 2025, the BoC reduced its policy interest rate by 25 basis points, bringing the rate to 3 per cent.<sup>3464</sup> This rate cut, the first of 2025, intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the BoC's target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 20 February 2025, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) launched a consultation period on capital adequacy requirements to enhance the resilience of the financial system and ensure long-term stability.<sup>3465</sup>

On 21 February 2025, Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem announced a review of the inflation-targeting framework.<sup>3466</sup> Governor Macklem confirmed that the two per cent inflation target would remain unchanged, with the review focusing on evaluating core inflation measures and the impact of housing costs on inflation data.

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<sup>3459</sup> Bank of Canada announces increases to the dealer and round limits for Overnight Repo operations, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/07/bank-canada-announces-increases-dealer-and-round-limits-overnight-repo-operations/>

<sup>3460</sup> Bank of Canada reduces policy rate by 25 basis points to 4½%, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/07/fad-press-release-2024-07-24/>

<sup>3461</sup> Bank of Canada reduces policy rate by 25 basis points to 4½% Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/09/fad-press-release-2024-09-04/>

<sup>3462</sup> Bank of Canada Reduces Policy Rate by 50 Basis Points to 3¾%, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 4 November 2024. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/10/fad-press-release-2024-10-23/>

<sup>3463</sup> Bank of Canada Reduces Policy Rate by 50 Basis Points to 3¾%, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 4 November 2024. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/12/fad-press-release-2024-12-11/>

<sup>3464</sup> Policy interest rate, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) n.d.. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/core-functions/monetary-policy/key-interest-rate/>

<sup>3465</sup> Consultation: Draft Capital Adequacy Requirements (CAR) Guideline, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (Ottawa) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 May 2025. <https://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/en/guidance/guidance-library/consultation-draft-capital-adequacy-requirements-car-guideline>

<sup>3466</sup> Financial Stability Report—2024, Bank of Canada (Ottawa), May 2024. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/2024/05/financial-stability-report-2024/>



On 6 March 2025, the OSFI published the 2025–2026 Annual Risk Outlook.<sup>3467</sup> The outlook identified vulnerabilities stemming from high debt levels and global economic headwinds, reinforcing Canada’s regulatory vigilance to maintain long-term financial stability under the G7 framework.

On 12 March 2025, the BoC reduced its policy interest rate by 25 basis points, bringing the rate to 2.75 per cent.<sup>3468</sup> This rate cut, the second of 2025, intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the BoC’s target range of one per cent to three per cent.

On 16 April 2025, the BoC maintained its policy interest rate at 3.25 per cent.<sup>3469</sup> Rather than cutting rates, this maintained rate intends to stimulate economic activity and maintain inflation within the BoC’s target range of one per cent to three per cent.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. Canada implemented strong actions to advance price and financial stability including the modification of competition law, debt restructuring for Sri Lanka, targeted financial stability measures, and interest rate changes. Canada has also actively monitored financial risks, particularly addressing high household debt and rising mortgage rates, as highlighted in its Financial Stability Report.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arushi Chbikara*

## France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which France is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund’s Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3470</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka’s economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, Minister of the Economy, Finance, Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Bruno Le Maire and the Eurogroup discussed key issues including the International Monetary Fund’s Article IV review, which highlighted the euro area’s economic resilience and the need for enhanced productivity and sustainable growth.<sup>3471,3472</sup> The Eurogroup also reviewed the international role of the euro, noting its stability and resilience despite global challenges, with an emphasis on maintaining its strategic importance. Though no policy introductions occurred, consensus emerged on the need for continued focus on sound fiscal policies, long-term growth, and strengthening financial infrastructure to support the euro’s international role and the EU’s strategic autonomy.

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<sup>3467</sup> Institutions, “OSFI’s Annual Risk Outlook – Fiscal Year 2025–2026.” Access Date: 16 April 2025.

<sup>3468</sup> Policy interest rate, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) n.d.. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/core-functions/monetary-policy/key-interest-rate/>

<sup>3469</sup> Policy interest rate, Bank of Canada (Ottawa) n.d.. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/core-functions/monetary-policy/key-interest-rate/>

<sup>3470</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>

<sup>3471</sup> Eurogroup meeting of 20 June 2024, Eurogroup (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/geojipdj/summing-up-letter-eurogroup-in-regular-format-20-june-2024.pdf>

<sup>3472</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/43vo4nr4/20240620-eurogroup-presslist.pdf>

On 28 June 2024, Bank of France Governor François Villeroy de Galhau and the European Central Bank Governing Council called on macroprudential authorities in member states to maintain capital buffer requirements and acknowledged support for members raising those requirements.<sup>3473</sup> The Governing Council recognized members' space to expand macroprudential measures to improve financial stability.

On 1 July 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Industry implemented new measures making it mandatory for retailers to inform consumers about price increases related to reduced quantities of products.<sup>3474</sup> The legislation requires a clear notice to be displayed in stores detailing the change in quantity and price and supports price stability by enhancing transparency in pricing practices.

On 12 July 2024, the Bank of France announced their decision to stabilize the Livret A rate at three per cent and set the base savings rate at four per cent.<sup>3475</sup> These decisions, with rates at above formula-derived levels, combat inflationary pressures.

On 15 July 2024, the Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE) imposed a fine of EUR6 million on electricity supplier Ohm Energie for abusive practices during the 2022 energy crisis.<sup>3476</sup> The CRE found that Ohm engaged in excessive demands for energy through the "Arenh" mechanism, which allowed Ohm to purchase nuclear production cheaply and resell this electricity at high market prices after terminating contracts with customers when prices peaked. The penalty intends to support fair market practices, price stability for electricity, and consumer protection.

On 15 July 2024, the Energy Regulatory Commission announced that they would not be going forward with an increase in electricity bills scheduled for 1 August 2024.<sup>3477</sup> If put into force, the tariff would have impacted 22 million households and businesses, increasing their electricity bills by roughly one per cent. The cancellation intends to promote price stability.

On 15 July 2024, Minister Le Maire and the Eurogroup committed to sustained fiscal consolidation and to implementing the reformed economic governance framework.<sup>3478,3479</sup> The deficit reduction they outline strengthens both price and financial stability.

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<sup>3473</sup> Governing Council statement on macroprudential policies, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/govcstatement/html/ecb.govcstatement202406~32c180b631.en.html>

<sup>3474</sup> Reduction: new obligations from July 1 to inform consumers, Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Industry (Paris) 4 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/reduflation-shrinkflation-nouvelles-obligations-information-consommateurs>

<sup>3475</sup> The Governor of the Bank of France proposes to set the LEP rate at 4%: the rates of the Livret A, the LDDS and especially the LEP are now well above inflation, Bank of France (Paris) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.banque-france.fr/fr/communiques-de-presse/le-gouverneur-de-la-banque-de-france-propose-de-fixer-le-taux-du-lep-4-les-taux-du-livret-du-ldds-et>

<sup>3476</sup> Electricity supplier Ohm Energie receives unprecedented fine of six million euros for abusive practices, Le Monde (Paris) 15 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2024/07/15/le-fournisseur-d-electricite-ohm-energie-se-voit-infliger-une-sanction-inedite-de-six-millions-d-euros-pour-pratique-abusive\\_6250250\\_3234.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2024/07/15/le-fournisseur-d-electricite-ohm-energie-se-voit-infliger-une-sanction-inedite-de-six-millions-d-euros-pour-pratique-abusive_6250250_3234.html)

<sup>3477</sup> Electricity: Government abandons tariff increase planned for August 1, Le Monde (Paris) 15 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2024/07/15/electricite-le-gouvernement-renonce-a-appliquer-une-augmentation-des-tarifs-prevue-pour-le-1er-aout\\_6250241\\_3234.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2024/07/15/electricite-le-gouvernement-renonce-a-appliquer-une-augmentation-des-tarifs-prevue-pour-le-1er-aout_6250241_3234.html)

<sup>3478</sup> Eurogroup statement on the fiscal stance for the euro area in 2025, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/eurogroup-statement-on-the-fiscal-stance-for-the-euro-area-in-2025/>

<sup>3479</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/xacnqii/20240715eurogroupepresslist.pdf>

On 7 October 2024, French customs announced a renewed strategy to combat “money laundering and financial terrorism.”<sup>3480</sup> The primary goal of the revised strategy is to improve cooperation between state authorities and partners. The strategy intends to improve financial stability through monitoring the movements of money used in the trafficking of narcotics, exotic species, and counterfeits.

On 18 November 2024, the Bank of France partnered with the European Investment Bank to facilitate a proposed a EUR500 million loan to finance the construction of approximately 3,470 affordable and energy-efficient housing units in urban areas with high rental tension.<sup>3481</sup> This loan, facilitated by Banque de France platforms, promotes price stability in the housing sector.

On 15 January 2025, the Minister of Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty presented a reduced Livret A rate, reduced from 3 per cent to 2.4 per cent.<sup>3482</sup> Initiatives such as social housing and urban policy are financed from the Livret A account; its rate also determines the price of real estate loans. This reduction aims to incentivize investment and increase the production of social housing.

On 27 January 2025, the Government of France announced a 15 per cent decrease in the price of household electricity for 24.4 million households who already benefit from regulated tariffs.<sup>3483</sup> This aims to moderate electricity price instability and thus contributes to price stability in France.

On 27 January 2025, the Government of France announced that the interest rate of Popular Savings Accounts will increase to 3.5 per cent.<sup>3484</sup> This measure aims to support those in the middle and working classes wishing to gain income through investment.

On 17 February 2025, the French government announced its 2025 budget with a target deficit of 5.4 per cent.<sup>3485</sup> This budget does not contain a general tax increase; wealthy companies and households will be expected to fulfill a temporary contribution request to unburden middle-class households from the growing cost of living. The budget also includes support for the justice, health, agricultural and essential services sectors to finance necessary projects and ensure economic stability.

On 17 February 2025, the Ministry of Economy and Energy published its report on the effectiveness of regulated electricity sales tariffs and recommended maintaining them.<sup>3486</sup> The report states that the tariffs benefit small businesses and both residential and rural-area consumers by maintaining price stability and security of supply.

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<sup>3480</sup> La douane française toujours plus stratégique dans sa lutte contre les flux financiers illicites, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (Paris) 7 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst Burcea. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/la-douane-francaise-toujours-plus-strategie-dans-sa-lutte-contre-les-flux-financiers>

<sup>3481</sup> CDC HABITAT LOGEMENTS INTERMEDIAIRES, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/investor-relations/press/all/fi-2024-13-eib-digital-bond-eurosystem-explanatory-work>

<sup>3482</sup> Épargne réglementée : baisse des taux du livret A et du LEP au 1er février 2025, Ministère de l'Économie des Finances et de la Souveraineté Industrielle et Numérique (Paris) 15 January 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/epargne-reglementee-baisse-des-taux-du-livret-et-du-lep-au-1er-fevrier-2025>

<sup>3483</sup> Ce qui change on février 2025, Gouvernement Français (Paris) 27 January 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/ce-qui-change-en-fevrier-2025>

<sup>3484</sup> Ce qui change on février 2025, Gouvernement Français (Paris) 27 January 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/ce-qui-change-en-fevrier-2025>

<sup>3485</sup> Budget 2025: une étape clé dans la gestion des finances publiques, Gouvernement Français (Paris) 18 February 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/actualite/budget-2025-une-etape-cle-dans-la-gestion-des-finances-publiques>

<sup>3486</sup> Publication du rapport d'évaluation sur les tarifs réglementés de vente d'électricité (TRVE) en France, Ministère de l'Économie des Finances et de la Souveraineté Industrielle et Numérique (Paris) 17 February 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/publication-du-rapport-devaluation-sur-les-tarifs-reglementes-de-vente-deelectricite-trve>

On 22 February 2025, President Emmanuel Macron confirmed his plan to ensure farmers are paid fairly and protected against excessive competition.<sup>3487</sup> This commitment aims to maintain stability in the farming and agriculture sectors in the face of rapidly lowering agricultural prices and ensure price stability of produce to keep farming financially sustainable.

On 4 April 2025, the Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forests, Sea and Fisheries announced the continuation of the Villages of the Future project.<sup>3488</sup> This project provides rural French municipalities with financial aid for identified projects that improve living environments, commerce and housing concerns.

On 14 April 2025, Minister of Finance Eric Lombard announced that he will move forward with plans to make the temporary tax on the wealthy permanent.<sup>3489</sup> The increased tax revenue will be part of a EUR40 billion budgetary support planned by the government to reduce the budgetary deficit.

France has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. France advanced strong action to advance price and financial stability by adopting a new framework for bank resolutions and derivatives market regulation, approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka and macro-financial assistance for Ukraine, by introducing price increase regulations and inflation-targeted rate decisions, and through the implementation of a national transition to renewable energy sources through investment and new bond packages.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maria Burcea*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, Minister for Finance Christian Lindner and the Eurogroup discussed key issues including the International Monetary Fund's Article IV review, which highlighted the euro area's economic resilience and the need for enhanced productivity and sustainable growth.<sup>3490,3491</sup> The Eurogroup also reviewed the international role of the euro, noting its stability and resilience despite global challenges, with an emphasis on maintaining its strategic importance. Though no policy introductions occurred, consensus emerged on the need for continued focus on sound fiscal policies, long-term growth, and strengthening financial infrastructure to support the euro's international role and the EU's strategic autonomy.

On 28 June 2024, German Federal Bank President Joachim Nagel and the European Central Bank Governing Council called on macroprudential authorities in member states to maintain capital buffer requirements and

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<sup>3487</sup> Pouvoir d'achat, libre échange : Macron promet de défendre les agriculteurs, La Tribune Dimanche (Paris) 22 February 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.latribune.fr/la-tribune-dimanche/politique/pouvoir-d-achat-libre-echange-macron-promet-de-defendre-les-agriculteurs-1018984.html>

<sup>3488</sup> Villages of the Future: One year later, 2,888 municipalities already supported, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forests, Sea and Fisheries (Paris) 4 April 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 15 April 2025. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/actualites/villages-davenir-apres-deja-2-888-communes-accompagnees>

<sup>3489</sup> French finance minister announces additional €40 billion 'effort' in 2026, Le Monde (Paris) 14 April 2025. Translation provided by Maria Burcea. Access Date: 15 April 2025. [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/politics/article/2025/04/14/french-finance-minister-announces-additional-40-billion-effort-in-2026\\_6740197\\_5.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/politics/article/2025/04/14/french-finance-minister-announces-additional-40-billion-effort-in-2026_6740197_5.html)

<sup>3490</sup> Eurogroup meeting of 20 June 2024, Eurogroup (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/geojipdj/summing-up-letter-eurogroup-in-regular-format-20-june-2024.pdf>

<sup>3491</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/43vo4nr4/20240620-eurogroup-presslist.pdf>

acknowledged support for members raising those requirements.<sup>3492</sup> The Council recognized members' space to expand macroprudential measures to improve financial stability.

On 15 July 2024, Minister Lindner and the Eurogroup committed to sustained fiscal consolidation and to implementing the reformed economic governance framework.<sup>3493,3494</sup> The deficit reduction they outline strengthens both price and financial stability.

On 17 July 2024, the Federal Cabinet adopted the 2025 draft budget and growth initiative alongside a detailed financial plan and 2024 supplementary budget.<sup>3495</sup> The draft budget supports investments in railway infrastructure, roads, public transport, digital infrastructure, and education with measures to increase employment and sustainable energy transition. It also aims to stimulate private investment through research and development projects, further enhancing economic stability. In addition to the plan, the government also provides for a total of EUR 23 billion in financial relief for citizens to increase price stability and economic resilience.

On 25 November 2024, Federal Finance Minister Christian Lindner launched the WIN initiative.<sup>3496</sup> The new initiative includes comprehensive measures to finance start-ups, promote medium-sized businesses and the investment of EUR 12 billion in the German venture capital ecosystem.

On 27 November 2024, the Federal Cabinet approved the draft of the second Future Financing Act to enhance Germany's financial market competitiveness.<sup>3497</sup> The law focuses on improving the tax framework for venture capital investments, making it easier for startups and growth-phase companies to access equity. It also removes barriers to investments in infrastructure and renewable energies by creating a legally secure framework under the Investment Tax Act and Capital Investment Code.

On 18 March 2025, the Bundestag approved a constitutional amendment to the debt brake.<sup>3498</sup> The amendment allows defense expenditures exceeding one per cent of GDP to be exempt from borrowing limits.<sup>3499</sup> The reform also established an EUR500 billion extrabudgetary fund dedicated to infrastructure investments over twelve years, with EUR100 billion specifically allocated for climate-related projects. Additionally, the amendment permits Germany's sixteen federal states to run structural deficits up to 0.35% of GDP, effectively doubling the previous national structural deficit limit to 0.7% of GDP. The relaxing of debt rules enhances Germany's long-term financial stability by allowing investment in underinvested risk areas.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. Germany advanced strong action to advance price and financial stability by adopting a

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<sup>3492</sup> Governing Council statement on macroprudential policies, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/govcstatement/html/ecb.govcstatement202406~32c180b631.en.html>

<sup>3493</sup> Eurogroup statement on the fiscal stance for the euro area in 2025, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/eurogroup-statement-on-the-fiscal-stance-for-the-euro-area-in-2025/>

<sup>3494</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/xacnqgii/20240715eurogroupepresslist.pdf>

<sup>3495</sup> Federal Cabinet adopts 2025 draft budget and growth initiative, German Federal Government (Berlin) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/2025-budget-growth-initiative-2299754>

<sup>3496</sup> WIN Initiative: Growth and Innovation Capital for Germany (Bundestag) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Schlaglichter/Start-ups/win-initiative.html>

<sup>3497</sup> Federal Cabinet approves draft of a second Future Financing Act (Bundestag) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2024/11/2024-11-27-zweites-zukunftsfinanzierungsgesetz.html>

<sup>3498</sup> Germany's Bundestag votes in favor of reforming 'debt brake', Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 9 May 2025. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-bundestag-votes-in-favor-of-reforming-debt-brake/live-71956815>

<sup>3499</sup> Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Grundgesetzes (Artikel 109, 115 und 143h), Deutscher Bundestag (Berlin) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 9 May 2025. <https://dserver.bundestag.de/btd/20/150/2015096.pdf>

new framework for bank resolutions and derivatives market regulation, and by approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka and macro-financial assistance for Ukraine.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jivika Bhat*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance Giancarlo Giorgetti and the Eurogroup discussed key issues including the International Monetary Fund's Article IV review, which highlighted the euro area's economic resilience and the need for enhanced productivity and sustainable growth.<sup>3500,3501</sup> The Eurogroup also reviewed the international role of the euro, noting its stability and resilience despite global challenges, with an emphasis on maintaining its strategic importance. Though no policy introductions occurred, consensus emerged on the need for continued focus on sound fiscal policies, long-term growth, and strengthening financial infrastructure to support the euro's international role and the EU's strategic autonomy.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which Italy is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3502</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka's economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

On 28 June 2024, Bank of Italy Director Fabio Panetta and the European Central Bank Governing Council called on macroprudential authorities in member states to maintain capital buffer requirements and acknowledged support for members raising those requirements.<sup>3503</sup> The Council recognized that members' space to expand macroprudential measures to improve financial stability.

On 5 July 2024, the Committee for Macprudential Policies held their first meeting, discussing systemic risks within the Italian financial system.<sup>3504</sup> Topics included vulnerabilities, such as economic uncertainties, housing market developments, investor behavior, and the Bank of Italy's implementation of macroprudential capital buffers, representing an effort to monitor and mitigate potential threats, and a commitment to prudent financial risk management.

On 15 July 2024, the Ministry of Economy and Finance revealed that it planned to hold a buyback of government bonds at the Bank of Italy, in order to help reduce and manage the national debt.<sup>3505</sup>

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<sup>3500</sup> Eurogroup meeting of 20 June 2024, Eurogroup (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/geojipdj/summing-up-letter-eurogroup-in-regular-format-20-june-2024.pdf>

<sup>3501</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/43vo4nr4/20240620-eurogroup-presslist.pdf>

<sup>3502</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024.

Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>

<sup>3503</sup> Governing Council statement on macroprudential policies, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/govcstatement/html/ecb.govcstatement202406~32c180b631.en.html>

<sup>3504</sup> First meeting of the Committee for Macprudential Policies, Bank of Italy (Rome) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://www.consob.it/documents/1912911/3990887/pr\\_20240705.pdf/44717ab4-45fd-c46f-309f-42ce724ac54c](https://www.consob.it/documents/1912911/3990887/pr_20240705.pdf/44717ab4-45fd-c46f-309f-42ce724ac54c)

<sup>3505</sup> Asta di riacquisto di titoli di Stato in Banca d'Italia, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 15 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/ufficio-stampa/comunicati/2024/Asta-di-riacquisto-di-titoli-di-Stato-in-Banca-dItalia-00012/>

On 15 July 2024, Minister Giorgetti and the Eurogroup committed to sustained fiscal consolidation and to implementing the reformed economic governance framework.<sup>3506,3507</sup> The deficit reduction they outline strengthens both price and financial stability.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Giorgetti announced that Italy's 2025 Structural Budget Plan had been made in agreement with the EU to reduce the budget deficit over the next seven years and had subsequently been sent to the European Commission and the Italian Parliament for review.<sup>3508</sup> The new budget outlines a plan to cut spending while raising nominal and real gross domestic product (GDP).<sup>3509</sup> The intended effect is to decrease the deficit to GDP and debt to GDP ratios in the long term.<sup>3510</sup>

On 21 October 2024, the Council of Ministers approved the Incentives Code and gave the government the authority to take standardized action.<sup>3511</sup> The code improves Italy's ability to use fiscal tools to improve price and financial stability.

On 13 November 2024, Minister of Economy and Finance Giancarlo Giorgetti announced a move away from emergency measures for small and medium-sized banks adopted during the Covid-19 crisis.<sup>3512</sup> This measure denotes a move back to normalcy in the regulation of credit.

On 21 November 2024, the Ministry of Business and Made in Italy held a commission to monitor price trends in the real estate market, analyzing reports that home costs no longer aligned with the level of average wages.<sup>3513</sup> The findings of this commission will support government responses to support price stability in housing.

On 18 December 2024, the Rapid Alert Commission for Price Surveillance met with the Ministry for Business and Made in Italy to discuss measures to combat shrinkflation and protect consumer purchasing power.<sup>3514</sup> The meeting emphasized that transparency in the information provided to consumers would be essential to lowering inflation and allowing consumers to make informed spending decisions.

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<sup>3506</sup> Eurogroup statement on the fiscal stance for the euro area in 2025, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/eurogroup-statement-on-the-fiscal-stance-for-the-euro-area-in-2025/>

<sup>3507</sup> Participants, Eurogroup (Luxembourg) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 3 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/xacnqgii/20240715eurogroupepresslist.pdf>

<sup>3508</sup> Giorgetti, accordo con Ue su rientro deficit a sette anni. Trasmessa al Parlamento appendice VI al Psb, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 16 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Giorgetti-accordo-con-Ue-su-rientro-deficit-a-sette-anni.-Trasmessa-al-Parlamento-appendice-VI-al-Psb/>

<sup>3509</sup> Giorgetti: Psb ambizioso ma realistico. Riduzione debito necessità ineludibile, taglieremo le spese, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Giorgetti-Psb-ambizioso-ma-realistico.-Riduzione-debito-necessita-ineludibile-taglieremo-le-spesse/>

<sup>3510</sup> Piano Strutturale di bilancio, Giorgetti: non lasciamo indietro nessuno, impegno per crescita sostenibile e competitività economia, Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Rome) 28 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Piano-Strutturale-di-bilancio-Giorgetti-non-lasciamo-indietro-nessuno-impegno-per-crescita-sostenibile-e-competitivita-economia/>

<sup>3511</sup> Cdm approva il Codice unico degli Incentivi, Urso: riforma storica, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 21 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/cdm-approva-il-codice-unico-degli-incentivi-urso-riforma-storica>

<sup>3512</sup> Giorgetti: disintossicazione da misure di emergenza anche per banche (Rome) 13 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Giorgetti-disintossicazione-da-misure-di-emergenza-anche-per-banche/>

<sup>3513</sup> Mercato immobiliare: riunita al Mimit Commissione Allerta Rapida su andamento prezzi (Rome) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 December 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/mercato-immobiliare-riunita-al-mimit-commissione-allerta-rapida-su-andamento-prezzi>

<sup>3514</sup> Contrasto alla shrinkflation: riunita al Mimit la Commissione allerta rapida (Rome) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/contrasto-alla-shrinkflation-riunita-al-mimit-la-commissione-allerta-rapida>

On 23 December 2024, the Minister of Enterprise and Made in Italy Adolfo Urso signed a decree providing EUR500 million in funding for promoting competition and resilience in supply chains designated as strategic to economic development.<sup>3515</sup> Requests for funding under the new program must concern either the promotion of industrial development or environmental sustainability within their respective supply chains.

On 28 December 2024, the Italian Council of Ministers approved both the budget for the financial year 2025 and the multi-year budget for 2025-2027, in a measure worth approximately EUR30 billion.<sup>3516</sup> The budget projects fiscal stability.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. Italy advanced strong action to advance price and financial stability by adopting a new framework for bank resolutions and derivatives market regulation, by approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka and macro-financial assistance for Ukraine, and by moderating its deficit. Italy has taken action to promote price stability by working to build domestic supply chains under its Made in Italy campaign. Italy has also worked with other countries and the European Union to promote macroeconomic financial stability.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Veronica Korolev*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 18 June 2024, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) set out a price stability target of 2 per cent and reaffirmed the Bank's commitment to maintaining this standard in their Semiannual Report on Currency and Monetary Control.<sup>3517</sup> The BOJ also acknowledged the potential for unstable financial and foreign exchange markets, and the Bank's decision to continue to monitor and confront these risks.

On 25 June 2024, Minister of Finance Shunichi Suzuki met with the Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance Sangmok Choi for the Ninth Korea-Japanese Finance Ministerial Dialogue.<sup>3518</sup> The discussion included talks of financial stability and prevention of volatility and unprecedented fluctuations in exchange rates.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which Japan is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3519</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka's economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

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<sup>3515</sup> Mimit: Urso firma decreto, 500 milioni di euro per automotive e filiere produttive strategiche (Rome) 23 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/mimit-urso-firma-decreto-500-milioni-di-euro-per-automotive-e-filiere-produttive-strategiche>

<sup>3516</sup> Legge di bilancio approvata dal Parlamento, Giorgetti: la prudenza è un valore (Rome) 28 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/Legge-di-bilancio-approvata-dal-Parlamento-Giorgetti-la-prudenza-e-un-valore/>

<sup>3517</sup> The Bank's Semiannual Report on Currency and Monetary Control, Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 18 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 November 2024. [https://www.boj.or.jp/en/mopo/diet/d\\_state/dst240618a.htm](https://www.boj.or.jp/en/mopo/diet/d_state/dst240618a.htm)

<sup>3518</sup> The Ninth Korea-Japan Finance Ministerial Dialogue, Ministry of Finance of Japan (Tokyo) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 5 November 2024. [https://www.mof.go.jp/policy/international\\_policy/convention/dialogue/20240625\\_1.pdf](https://www.mof.go.jp/policy/international_policy/convention/dialogue/20240625_1.pdf)

<sup>3519</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>



On 31 July 2024, the BOJ increased the short-term interest rate to approximately 0.25 per cent.<sup>3520</sup> The BOJ also declared that it would cut its monthly purchases of Japanese government bonds by around JPY400 billion per quarter until March 2026. This strategy seeks to modify the level of monetary supply to sustainably and steadily reach the two per cent inflation objective. By reducing its bond purchases, the BOJ signals its objective of effectively managing inflationary pressures and stabilizing the economy.

On 25 October 2024, BOJ Governor Kazuo Ueda highlighted the importance of improved communication with markets following the July interest rate hike.<sup>3521</sup> The BOJ seeks to improve openness in its monetary policy choices in order to decrease market volatility and maintain financial stability. This communication enhancement aligns with attempts to create a predictable economic environment.

On 18 November 2024, Japan's Cabinet Office released a comprehensive economic stabilization plan to address inflationary pressures and potential market volatility due to global uncertainties. The plan included fiscal measures such as direct household subsidies and support for businesses facing supply chain disruptions. These measures aim to stabilize consumer prices and protect the broader economy from excessive price volatility.

On 18 February 2025, the BOJ increased the policy rate by 25 basis points to 0.50 per cent.<sup>3522</sup> This marks the highest rate since 2008 and aims to combat rising inflationary pressures, signalling a shift from ultra-loose monetary policy.

On 5 March 2025, BOJ Deputy Governor Shinichi Uchida affirmed the central bank's commitment to continuing interest rate hikes.<sup>3523</sup> Uchida suggested that rate increases could align with market expectations, which foresee a potential rise in the BOJ policy rate to 0.75 per cent by July and to one per cent by early next year.

On 31 March 2025, the BOJ announced a reduction in its purchase of super-long Japanese Government bonds for the first time since initiating quantitative tightening.<sup>3524</sup> This step reflects the central bank's commitment to phasing out the stimulus programme introduced in 2013.

On 18 April 2025, Governor Ueda stated that the BOJ will continue to raise interest rates if underlying inflation progresses toward its two per cent target, as currently projected.<sup>3525</sup> He emphasized the importance of carefully assessing whether the economy aligns with its forecasts, particularly in light of uncertainties stemming from the potential impact of U.S. tariffs.

On 1 May 2025, the BOJ maintained its policy interest rate at 0.5 per cent.<sup>3526</sup> Governor Ueda, unanimously supported by, stated that current macroeconomic conditions were not conducive to a change in the policy interest rate.

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<sup>3520</sup> Change in the Guideline for Money Market Operations and Decision on the Plan for the Reduction of the Purchase Amount of Japanese Government Bonds, Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024.

[https://www.boj.or.jp/en/mopo/mpmdeci/mpr\\_2024/k240731a.pdf](https://www.boj.or.jp/en/mopo/mpmdeci/mpr_2024/k240731a.pdf)

<sup>3521</sup> Outlook for Economic Activity and Prices (July 2024) Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024.

<https://www.boj.or.jp/en/mopo/outlook/gor2407a.pdf>

<sup>3522</sup> BOJ May Raise Rates Twice More This Year, Underpin Yen, Says Ex-FX Diplomat Watanabe, Reuters (Tokyo) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/asia/boj-may-raise-rates-twice-more-this-year-underpin-yen-says-ex-fx-diplomat-2025-02-18/>

<sup>3523</sup> "BOJ Vows to Keep Raising Rates despite Trump Tariff Risks | Reuters." Access Date: 15 April 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/rates-bonds/boj-keep-raising-rates-if-its-forecasts-are-met-says-deputy-governor-uchida-2025-03-05/>

<sup>3524</sup> BOJ to Cut Buying of Super-Long Bonds for First Time in Taper Plan, Reuters (Shizuoka) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 16 April 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/business/finance/boj-cut-buying-super-long-bonds-first-time-taper-plan-2025-03-31/>

<sup>3525</sup> BOJ Will Keep Raising Rates If Inflation on Track, Governor Ueda Says, Reuters (Tokyo) 18 April 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/rates-bonds/boj-will-keep-raising-rates-if-inflation-track-governor-ueda-says-2025-04-18/>

<sup>3526</sup> BOJ keeps rates steady, cuts growth forecasts on US tariff hit, Reuters (Tokyo) 1 May 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/business/boj-keep-rates-steady-cut-growth-forecasts-2025-04-30/>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to ensure price and financial stability. advanced strong action to advance price and financial stability including through interest rate hikes and reducing bond purchases, releasing a comprehensive economic stabilization plan and approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arushi Chhikara*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee's announced their decision to maintain the Bank Rate at 5.25 per cent.<sup>3527</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which the United Kingdom is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3528</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka's economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

On 1 August 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee's announced their decision to reduce the Bank Rate to 5 per cent.<sup>3529</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 12 September 2024, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves delivered new rules for banks to ensure fiscal stability and promote investment, implementing the Basel 3 framework in response to the Global Financial Crisis.<sup>3530</sup> The rules, which come in to force in 2026, include lowering capital requirements for lending to small-to-medium businesses and infrastructure projects as well as streamlining mortgage lending to simplify residential property valuation.

On 19 September 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee's announced their decision to maintain the Bank Rate at 5 per cent.<sup>3531</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 30 October 2024, Chancellor Reeves introduced the Autumn Budget 2024.<sup>3532</sup> The budget includes new fiscal rules.<sup>3533</sup> The stability rule allows borrowing only for investments and requires that revenues cover

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<sup>3527</sup> Bank Rate maintained at 5.25% - June 2024, Bank of England (London) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2024/june-2024>

<sup>3528</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>

<sup>3529</sup> Bank Rate reduced to 5% - August 2024, Bank of England (London) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2024/august-2024>

<sup>3530</sup> New rules for banks to deliver financial stability and investment, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-rules-for-banks-to-deliver-financial-stability-and-investment>

<sup>3531</sup> Bank Rate Maintained at 5% - September 2024, Bank of England (London) 19 August 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2024/september-2024>

<sup>3532</sup> Chancellor Chooses a Budget to rebuild Britain, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-chooses-a-budget-to-rebuild-britain>

<sup>3533</sup> Autumn Budget 2024, His Majesty's Treasury (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn\\_Budget\\_2024\\_Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/672b9695fbd69e1861921c63/Autumn_Budget_2024_Accessible.pdf)

operational and program spending. The investment rule controls public sector net financial liabilities as a share of Gross Domestic Product. The budget instructs the Monetary Policy Committee to maintain its inflation target at 2 per cent. The budget proposes measures to ensure the reduction of net financial debt and enhance financial accountability through improved fiscal reporting and long-term investment strategies.

On 7 November 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee's announced their decision to reduce the Bank Rate to 4.75 per cent.<sup>3534</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 13 November 2024, the UK Government announced reforms to the pension system to consolidate local pension schemes and reduce system risks.<sup>3535</sup> The plan merges the Local Government Pension Scheme and contribution schemes into a single fund, and supports financial stability for pensioners.

On 28 November 2024, the UK Government announced GBP1.98 billion over three years to the International Development Association (IDA).<sup>3536</sup> The IDA provides low-interest loans to low-income countries enhancing their fiscal sustainability and bolstering the global financial system.

On 19 December 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee's announced their decision to maintain the Bank Rate at 4.75 per cent.<sup>3537</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 6 February 2024, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee announced its decision to reduce the Bank Rate to 4.5 per cent.<sup>3538</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 20 March 2025, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee announced its decision to maintain the Bank Rate at 4.5 per cent.<sup>3539</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

On 13 April 2025, Chancellor Reeves and Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds announced a temporary suspension of the UK Global Tariff on eighty-nine foreign products.<sup>3540</sup> Cheaper imports are predicted to save businesses GBP17 million as a part of the 'Plan for Change' program.

On 25 April 2025, the House of Commons passed the Bank Resolution Recapitalization bill, which has already been passed by the House of Lords.<sup>3541</sup> The bill aims to improve the Bank of England's ability to manage bank

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<sup>3534</sup> Bank Rate reduced to 4.75% - November 2024, Bank of England (London) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2024/november-2024>

<sup>3535</sup> Pension Megafunds could unlock 80 billion of investment as Chancellor takes radical action to drive economic growth, His Majesty's Treasury(London) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pension-megafunds-could-unlock-80-billion-of-investment-as-chancellor-takes-radical-action-to-drive-economic-growth>

<sup>3536</sup> New UK investment to unlock billions to tackle the root causes of irregular migration, climate change and growth crisis., Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-investment-to-unlock-billions-to-tackle-root-causes-of-irregular-migration-climate-change-and-growth-crises--2>

<sup>3537</sup> Bank Rate Maintained at 4.75% - December 2024, Bank of England (London) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2024/december-2024>

<sup>3538</sup> Bank Rate reduced to 4.5% - February 2025, Bank of England (London) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2025/february-2025>

<sup>3539</sup> Bank Rate maintained at 4.5% - March 2025, Bank of England (London) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2025/march-2025>

<sup>3540</sup> Government cuts price of everyday items and summer essentials (London) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-cuts-price-of-everyday-items-and-summer-essentials>

<sup>3541</sup> Bank Resolution (Recapitalisation) Bill [HL], UK Parliament (London) 2 May 2025. Access Date: 10 May 2025. <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3734>

failures and require compensation to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme to support the sustainable use of bank resolution mechanisms.

On 8 May 2025, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee announced its decision to reduce the Bank Rate to 4.25 per cent.<sup>3542</sup> This decision is intended to ensure inflation remains at the 2 per cent target sustainably, balancing efforts to limit inflation persistence with economic growth and employment.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. The United Kingdom advanced strong actions towards price and financial stability by introducing new banking rules, new fiscal rules and pension risk management reforms, by supporting low-interest loans to low-income countries, by approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka, and through rate decisions based on inflation targets.

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

*Analyst: Jivika Bhat*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 18 June 2024, the Federal Reserve Bank entered into a written agreement with Pedcor Financial and its subsidiaries, including United Fidelity Bank to address capital planning, risk management, and oversight issues.<sup>3543</sup> The agreement focuses on improving financial stability by enhancing board oversight, strengthening risk management, and requiring prior approval for capital distributions and debt transactions. These actions aim to ensure the bank's financial soundness and stability, in efforts to maintain its strength and safeguard against financial risks.

On 21 June 2024, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation approved deposit insurance for Thrivent Bank, a fully online institution merging Thrivent Federal Credit Union's assets and liabilities.<sup>3544</sup> The bank's diversified loan portfolio, funded by core deposits, aligns with financial stability goals. Approval followed an evaluation of capital adequacy, management quality, and potential risks to the Deposit Insurance Fund, ensuring compliance with stability-focused regulations.

On 21 June 2024, the Federal Reserve Board and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation announced that several weaknesses had been found in the resolution plans of eight large US banks.<sup>3545</sup> As a result, the agencies issued letters with proposed remedies for the outlined weaknesses that must be addressed by 2025.

On 24 June 2024, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency proposed revisions to its recovery planning guidelines for large insured national banks, federal savings associations, and federal branches.<sup>3546</sup> The proposal,

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<sup>3542</sup> Bank Rate reduced to 4.25% - May 2025, Bank of England (London) 8 May 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025.

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-summary-and-minutes/2025/may-2025>

<sup>3543</sup> Written Agreement by and between Pedcor Financial, LLC, Pedcor Financial Bancorp, Fidelity Financial Bancorp, and Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington D.C.) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/files/enf20240625a1.pdf>

<sup>3544</sup> FDIC Approves the Deposit Insurance and Merger Applications for Thrivent Bank, Salt Lake City, Utah, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.fdic.gov/news/press-releases/2024/fdic-approves-deposit-insurance-and-merger-applications-thrivent-bank-salt>

<sup>3545</sup> Agencies Announce Results of Resolution Plan Review for Largest and Most Complex Banks, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.fdic.gov/news/press-releases/2024/agencies-announce-results-resolution-plan-review-largest-and-most-complex>

<sup>3546</sup> OCC Requests Comments on Proposed Revisions to Its Recovery Planning Guidelines, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (Washington D.C.) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://occ.gov/news-issuances/news-releases/2024/nr-occ-2024-69.html>

aimed at ensuring banks are prepared for severe stress events, would expand guidelines to banks with at least USD100 billion in assets, introduce a testing standard for recovery plans, and clarify the role of non-financial risks, such as operational and strategic risk, in recovery planning.

On 26 June 2024, the Federal Reserve announced the results of its annual bank stress test.<sup>3547</sup> While the Federal Reserve announced all banks had remained above the minimum capital requirements, and that there would be no change to capital requirements, they noted banks had regressed from the previous year, due to a mixture of riskier portfolio holdings, higher expenses, and credit delinquency.

On 26 June 2024, the Paris Club Committee of Creditors, of which the United States is a member, reached an agreement with Sri Lanka supporting their financial stability by addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring alignment with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility parameters.<sup>3548</sup> The agreement helps rebuild fiscal buffers and manage risks associated with Sri Lanka's economic recovery. These efforts align with the guidelines by demonstrating actions to reduce debt vulnerabilities, promote prudent fiscal management, and contribute to global financial stability.

On 27 June 2024, the Government National Mortgage Association proposed a new Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Mortgage-Backed Securities (HMBS) 2.0 program aimed at improving liquidity for HMBS issuers.<sup>3549</sup> This initiative would allow the re-pooling of active and non-active buyouts into custom, single-issuer pools. The program seeks to address liquidity constraints in the reverse mortgage market while ensuring taxpayer protection and is designed to enhance market stability.

On 1 July 2024, the 2024 Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Supervisory Stress Test report asserted that derivatives clearing organizations (DCOs) are well-equipped to handle extreme market shocks and multiple defaults without posing a threat to financial stability.<sup>3550</sup> The analysis shows that DCOs have adequate resources to absorb significant price fluctuations and the default of clearing members, with minimal impact on non-defaulting members. The stress test illustrates the CFTC's commitment to monitoring and promoting financial stability.

On 2 July 2024, the Department of the Treasury and European Commission hosted the EU-US Joint Financial Regulatory Forum, where participants discussed six themes, including market development and financial stability, regulatory developments in banking and insurance, sustainable finance, and regulatory and supervisory cooperation in capital markets.<sup>3551</sup>

On 9 July 2024, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau fined Fifth Third Bank USD20 million for illegal practices, including charging borrowers for unnecessary auto insurance and creating fake accounts.<sup>3552</sup> The bank must also provide redress to approximately 35,000 affected consumers. The penalties include a USD5 million

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<sup>3547</sup> Federal Reserve Board annual bank stress test showed that while large banks would endure greater losses than last year's test, they are well positioned to weather a severe recession and stay above minimum capital requirements, Federal Reserve (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024.

<https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/bcreg20240626a.htm>

<sup>3548</sup> Agreement on Debt Restructuring Between the Official Creditor Committee and Sri Lanka, Paris Club (Paris) 26 June 2024.

Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://clubdeparis.org/en/communications/press-release/agreement-on-a-debt-restructuring-between-the-official-creditor>

<sup>3549</sup> Ginnie Mae Releases Proposed HMBS 2.0 Term Sheet for Public Comment, Ginnie Mae (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024.

Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.ginniemae.gov/newsroom/Pages/PressReleaseDispPage.aspx?ParamID=333>

<sup>3550</sup> CFTC Announces Supervisory Stress Test Results, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (Washington D.C.) 1 July 2024.

Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/8929-24>

<sup>3551</sup> Joint Statement on the EU-U.S. Financial Regulatory Forum, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2443>

<sup>3552</sup> CFPB Takes Action Against Fifth Third for Wrongfully Triggering Auto Repossessions and Opening Fake Bank Accounts, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/cfpb-takes-action-against-fifth-third-for-wrongfully-triggering-auto-repossessions-and-opening-fake-bank-accounts/>

fine for forcing vehicle insurance onto borrowers who already had coverage and a proposed USD15 million fine for opening unauthorized accounts. Additionally, the bank is banned from setting sales goals that incentivize fraudulent activity. These actions aim to protect consumers from unfair practices and promote financial stability.

On 9 July 2024, the Department of the Treasury announced that they would require entities with large positions of Treasury Bonds to submit Large Position Reports by 15 July 2024.<sup>3553</sup> The reports must include detailed position data and administrative information and aim to enhance transparency and stability in US financial markets.

On 10 July 2024, the Federal Reserve Board fined Citigroup USD60.6 million for failing to meet the requirements of its 2020 enforcement action, citing inadequate progress in addressing data quality management issues and a lack of compensating controls.<sup>3554</sup> This action, coordinated with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, brings the total penalties to approximately USD135.6 million. The Federal Reserve continues to oversee Citigroup's compliance efforts to mitigate ongoing risks and ensure financial stability.

On 12 July 2024, the Federal Financial Institutions Regulation Council announced the release of the 2024 list of distressed or underserved nonmetropolitan middle-income areas eligible for Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit.<sup>3555</sup> These areas, based on local economic conditions such as unemployment and poverty, are identified for revitalization or stabilization activities. Such efforts can receive CRA consideration for twelve months, supporting financial stability and promoting equitable access to banking services.

On 15 July 2024, the Department of the Treasury participated in the Pacific Banking Forum, held in Brisbane, addressing the decline of correspondent banking relationships in the Pacific.<sup>3556</sup> The event brought together international stakeholders to explore solutions, including strengthening anti-money laundering frameworks and promoting digital banking to support financial inclusion. The Forum's commitments aim to improve the region's financial infrastructure and reduce risks tied to de-risking, helping ensure more stable and accessible banking systems.

On 19 September 2024, the Federal Reserve lowered the federal benchmark policy interest rate by 50 basis points, bringing the target range between four-and-three-quarters and five per cent.<sup>3557</sup> The goal of this cut is to maintain financial stability and to ensure compliance with inflation targets.

On 7 November 2024, the Federal Reserve lowered the federal funds rate by 25 basis points bringing the rate target range to between four-and-a-half and four-and-three-quarter per cent.<sup>3558</sup> The Federal Reserve emphasized its goal to maximize employment and bring inflation to a long-run rate of two percent while being mindful of the risks involved.

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<sup>3553</sup> Treasury Calls for Large Position Reports, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2452>

<sup>3554</sup> Federal Reserve Board fines Citigroup \$60.6 million for violating the Board's 2020 enforcement action, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Accessed 31 October 2024. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/enforcement20240710a.htm>

<sup>3555</sup> Agencies Release List of Distressed or Underserved Nonmetropolitan Middle-Income Geographies, Federal Financial Institutions Regulation Council (Washington D.C.) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.ffiec.gov/press/pr071224.htm>

<sup>3556</sup> Outcomes Statement of the Pacific Banking Forum, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2463>

<sup>3557</sup> Fed unveils oversized rate cut as it gains 'greater confidence' about inflation, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 19 September 2024. Access date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/rates-bonds/with-feds-rate-cut-hand-debate-swirls-over-how-big-move-2024-09-18/>

<sup>3558</sup> Federal Reserve Issues FOMC Statement, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington D.C.) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/monetary20241107a.htm>

On 21 November 2024, CFTC Global Markets Advisory Committee promoted a recommendation to expand the usage of non-cash collateral in accordance with global trends on the usage of digital assets.<sup>3559</sup> This recommendation aims to support financial stability.

On 21 November 2024, the National Credit Union Administration Board approved the Central Liquidity Facility's budget for 2025-2026, providing small and mid-sized credit unions with greater access to liquidity risk management in times of financial stress and market difficulties.<sup>3560</sup>

On 19 December 2024, the Federal Reserve lowered the federal funds rate by 25 basis points bringing the rate target range to between four-and-one-quarter and four-and-a-half per cent.<sup>3561</sup>

On 12 December 2024, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau closed an overdraft loophole in an action expected to save consumers up to USD5 billion in annual overdraft fee payments.<sup>3562</sup> The loophole exempted overdraft loans from otherwise applicable lending laws and its closure comes as part of a broader crackdown on junk fees harming consumers and benefiting large banks.

On 17 December 2024, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau finalized a congressionally mandated rule applying residential mortgage protections to Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) loans, which had formerly left homeowners at risk of losing their homes.<sup>3563</sup> The new regulation enables borrowers to compare the cost of PACE loans with other types of financing and places the burden upon the lender to ensure the loan's affordability.

On 17 December 2024, the National Credit Union Administration Board approved their 2025-2026 budget and adopted a final rule regarding succession planning.<sup>3564</sup> The budget plan was intended to allow the agency to focus on and execute consumer financial protection and its other responsibilities. The succession planning rule targets credit unions supporting under-resourced, low-income and minority communities, and was intended to reduce unplanned mergers by requiring federally insured credit unions to have succession plans in place for key positions on their boards.

On 7 January 2025, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau finalized a rule to remove USD49 billion in medical bills from credit reports used by lenders, affecting an estimated fifteen million Americans.<sup>3565</sup> The new rule prohibits lenders from using medical information when making lending decisions and bans reporting

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<sup>3559</sup> CFTC's Global Markets Advisory Committee Advances Recommendation on Tokenized Non-Cash Collateral, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (Washington D.C.) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/9009-24>

<sup>3560</sup> NCUA Board Approves Central Liquidity Facility Budget for 2025-2026, National Credit Union Administration (Alexandria) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 06 December 2024. <https://ncua.gov/newsroom/press-release/2024/ncua-board-approves-central-liquidity-facility-budget-2025-2026>

<sup>3561</sup> Fed lowers rates but sees fewer cuts next year due to stubbornly high inflation, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/us/fed-expected-combine-interest-rate-cut-with-hawkish-2025-outlook-2024-12-18/>

<sup>3562</sup> CFPB Closes Overdraft Loophole to Save Americans Billions in Fees, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/cfpb-closes-overdraft-loophole-to-save-americans-billions-in-fees/>

<sup>3563</sup> CFPB Finalizes Rule to Protect Homeowners on Solar Panel Loans and Other Home Improvement Loans Paid Back Through Property Taxes, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/cfpb-finalizes-rule-to-protect-homeowners-on-solar-panel-loans-and-other-home-improvement-loans-paid-back-through-property-taxes/>

<sup>3564</sup> NCUA Board Approves 2025—2026 Budget; Succession Planning Final Rule, National Credit Union Administration (Alexandria) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://ncua.gov/newsroom/press-release/2024/ncua-board-approves-2025-2026-budget-succession-planning-final-rule>

<sup>3565</sup> CFPB Finalizes Rule to Remove Medical Bills from Credit Reports, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Washington D.C.) 7 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/cfpb-finalizes-rule-to-remove-medical-bills-from-credit-reports/>

agencies from including medical bills on credit reports and in credit scores. This rule comes as part of a broader move towards protecting consumers from harmful debt collection practices.

On 14 January 2025, the Federal Reserve announced that federal and Californian financial regulatory agencies had issued a joint statement providing regulatory assistance and encouragement for institutions affected by Californian wildfires to continue providing financial services to their communities.<sup>3566</sup> The regulatory guidance included consideration for stabilizing loans and services under the Community Reinvestment Act, looser publishing and regulatory reporting requirements and guidance on changes in lending practices and adoption of temporary facilities.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump issued a statement which ordered all executive departments and agencies to deliver emergency price relief to restore purchasing power and improve the quality of life for the American people.<sup>3567</sup> The economic goals detailed in the order include lowering the cost of housing, addressing an increase in healthcare costs, creating employment opportunities and targeting increases in food and fuel prices.

On 20 January 2025, President Trump issued an Executive Order detailing an America-centric trade policy and the roles each Cabinet member would play in furthering that policy.<sup>3568</sup> The actions included in the order involved reassessing existing trade agreements and practices to counter currency manipulation, obtaining broader export market access for American products and businesses and assessing the effects of potential tariffs on the People's Republic of China, among other policies intended to prioritize American economic security.

On 3 February 2025, President Trump issued an Executive order outlining the establishment of a sovereign wealth fund.<sup>3569</sup> The fund aims to maintain fiscal stability and lower the burden of price instability on American consumers.

On 5 February 2025, the Federal Reserve Board released the hypothetical scenarios to be used in its annual stress test.<sup>3570</sup> These scenarios, intended to gauge the resilience of large banks' lending capabilities amidst a recession, include both credit and liquidity shocks and a broader market shock.

On 13 February 2025, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) released its economic and financial market scenarios for use in the periodic stress tests mandated by the Dodd-Frank Act.<sup>3571</sup> The tests are meant to produce guidance to assist the OCC in risk assessment and bank supervision.

On 21 March 2025, President Trump announced actions to promote American investment and increase domestic economic security.<sup>3572</sup> Such actions included implementing increased reviews on investment processes

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<sup>3566</sup> Federal and State Financial Regulatory Agencies Issue Interagency Statement on Supervisory Practices Regarding Financial Institutions Affected by the California Wildfires and Straight-Line Winds, United States Federal Reserve (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/other20250114a.htm>

<sup>3567</sup> Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and Defeating the Cost-of-Living Crisis, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/delivering-emergency-price-relief-for-american-families-and-defeating-the-cost-of-living-crisis/>

<sup>3568</sup> America First Trade policy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/america-first-trade-policy/>

<sup>3569</sup> A Plan for Establishing a United States Sovereign Wealth fund, The White House (Washington D.C.) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/a-plan-for-establishing-a-united-states-sovereign-wealth-fund/>

<sup>3570</sup> Federal Reserve Board releases the hypothetical scenarios for its annual stress test, The Federal Reserve (Washington D.C.) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/bcreg20250205a.htm>

<sup>3571</sup> OCC Releases Dodd-Frank Act Stress Test Scenarios for 2025, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://occ.gov/news-issuances/news-releases/2025/nr-occ-2025-11.html>

<sup>3572</sup> America First Investment Policy, The White House (Washington D.C.) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/america-first-investment-policy/>



to reduce investor uncertainty, create expedited investment pathways for certain businesses and review certain agreements seen as excessively cumbersome to potential investments.

On 28 March 2025, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau announced that it would redirect its enforcement capabilities towards protecting consumers rather than pressing supervision actions on certain provisions.<sup>3573</sup> The move aims to focus resources on protecting taxpayers and provide relief for providers of small loans.

On 2 April 2025, President Trump signed an executive order imposing “reciprocal tariffs” ranging from 10 per cent to 50 per cent on 185 jurisdictions.<sup>3574</sup> This action is antithetical to the United States commitment to price and financial stability, as tariffs will increase domestic consumer prices.

On 9 April 2025, the Federal Reserve intervened to buy bonds and stabilize the financial market after “reciprocal tariffs” came into effect.<sup>3575</sup> The Trump Administration subsequently paused these tariffs for 90 days. Uncertainty in the market indicates that the tariff policy is antithetical to the commitment.

On 9 April 2025, President Trump issued an executive order instructing heads of federal agencies, jointly with the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission and the Attorney General, to review all regulations under their agencies and identify those that promoted anti-competitive practices.<sup>3577</sup> The order aims to reduce anti-competitive regulatory barriers and promote competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation for the purpose of protecting American consumers.

On 17 April 2025, the Federal Reserve Board put out a request for public comment on a proposal regarding the reduction of capital requirement volatility from its annual stress test results.<sup>3578</sup> The proposal aims to reduce volatility by giving banks additional time to adjust to new requirements, and the request for comment aims to introduce transparency into the process.

On 7 May 2025, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System announced its decision to maintain the federal funds target rate between four-and-one-quarter and four-and-a-half per cent.<sup>3579</sup> The board made its decision in response to recently changed economic indicators and according to its goals of maximum employment and 2 per cent inflation over the long run. The Federal Funds Rate has been maintained at this level since December 2024.<sup>3580</sup>

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<sup>3573</sup> CFPB Offers Regulatory Relief for Small Loan Providers, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/cfpb-offers-regulatory-relief-for-small-loan-providers/>

<sup>3574</sup> Regulating Imports with a Reciprocal Tariff to Rectify Trade Practices that Contribute to Large and Persistent Annual United States Goods Trade Deficits (Washington D.C.) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/regulating-imports-with-a-reciprocal-tariff-to-rectify-trade-practices-that-contribute-to-large-and-persistent-annual-united-states-goods-trade-deficits/>

<sup>3575</sup> How Trump was forced to bow to reality of markets meltdown, The Telegraph (London) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 10 May 2025. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2025/04/09/fears-market-armageddon-forced-trump-truss-climbdown/>

<sup>3576</sup> Why did Trump pause the tariffs? The bond market rebelled — here's what that means., CBS News (New York) 10 April 2025. Access Date: 10 May 2025. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-tariff-pause-bond-market-bond-yield-treasury-bill/>

<sup>3577</sup> Reducing Anti-Competitive Regulatory Barriers, The White House (Washington D.C.) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/reducing-anti-competitive-regulatory-barriers/>

<sup>3578</sup> Federal Reserve Board requests comment on a proposal to reduce the volatility of the capital requirements stemming from the Board’s annual stress test results, United States Federal Reserve (Washington D.C.) 17 April 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/bcreg20250417a.htm>

<sup>3579</sup> Federal Reserve issues FOMC statement, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington, D.C.) 7 May 2025. Access date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/monetary20250507a.htm>

<sup>3580</sup> Economy at a Glance - Policy Rate, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington, D.C.) n.d. Access date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/economy-at-a-glance-policy-rate.htm>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. The United States advanced strong actions towards price and financial stability by pursuing risk management actions with financial institutions, revising recovery planning guidelines with nationally insured banks, by protecting the financial system from money laundering, amending collateral requirements, approving debt restructuring for Sri Lanka, and through rate decisions based on inflation targets. However, the uncertainty and bond market turmoil induced by the United States' tariff policy and the potential for widespread price effects sufficiently contradicts the United States' commitment to price and financial stability to make compliance partial.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Veronica Korolev*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability.

On 18 June 2024, Vice-President of the European Central Bank (ECB) Luis de Guindos gave a speech at the Joint Conference of the European Commission and the ECB on European Financial Integration.<sup>3581</sup> This speech emphasized the urgent need for greater financial integration within the EU, focusing on completing the Banking Union, advancing the Capital Markets Union and fostering private sector risk-sharing to support the EU's resilience.

On 19 June 2024, the Council of the European Union agreed to a new mandate for negotiations related to the Crisis Management and Deposit Insurance (CMDI) Framework review proposed by the Commission.<sup>3582</sup> The review intends to strengthen the framework supporting bank resolution procedures. The Council mandate includes provisions for the public interest assessment needed to begin the resolution process, requirements for using institutional resolution and guarantee funds, and claims preferences for depositors. The CMDI reduces risks and enhances financial stability.

On 20 June 2024, the Eurogroup discussed key issues including the International Monetary Fund's Article IV review, which highlighted the euro area's economic resilience and the need for enhanced productivity and sustainable growth.<sup>3583</sup> The Eurogroup also reviewed the international role of the euro, noting its stability and resilience despite global challenges, with an emphasis on maintaining its strategic importance. Though no policy introductions occurred, consensus emerged on the need for continued focus on sound fiscal policies, long-term growth, and strengthening financial infrastructure to support the euro's international role and the EU's strategic autonomy.

On 27 June 2024, the ECB supported the European Commission's proposed regulation to streamline financial reporting, reduce administrative burdens, and enhance supervisory data sharing among European authorities, such as the European Supervisory Authorities and the European Systemic Risk Board.<sup>3584</sup> The ECB emphasized that these measures improve the consistency, accuracy, and timeliness of data essential for informed monetary

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<sup>3581</sup> Strengthening European financial markets to ensure a more resilient future, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2024/html/ecb.sp240618~4d5f03fd1b.en.html>

<sup>3582</sup> Bank crisis management and deposit insurance framework: Council agrees on its position, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/19/bank-crisis-management-and-deposit-insurance-framework-council-agrees-on-its-position/>

<sup>3583</sup> Eurogroup meeting of 20 June 2024, Eurogroup (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/geojipdj/summing-up-letter-eurogroup-in-regular-format-20-june-2024.pdf>

<sup>3584</sup> Opinion of The European Central Bank of 21 June 2024 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards certain reporting requirements in the fields of financial services and investment support, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CONSIL:ST\\_11621\\_2024\\_INIT](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CONSIL:ST_11621_2024_INIT)

policy and effective oversight of financial institutions, contributing to price and financial stability. The ECB highlighted initiatives such as the Joint Banking Reporting Committee and Integrated Reporting Framework, which promote harmonized data flows and reduce redundancies, bolstering financial system resilience. Notably, the ECB supported the European Parliament's proposal to expand the regulation's scope, including a Single Integrated Reporting System.

On 27 June 2024, the ECB stated its opinion on the Financial Services (Provisions of Access to Cash Services) Bill 2024, discussing the bill's role in ensuring access to cash infrastructure across Ireland.<sup>3585</sup> By mandating regional cash availability criteria and extending the Central Bank of Ireland's regulatory oversight to automated teller machines, operators and cash-in-transit providers, the bill seeks to safeguard cash access for individuals and small and medium sized enterprises. The ECB supported the bill, and thus supported financial stability, by promoting policy that suggests trust in cash as a secure payment method and mitigates risks to monetary circulation.

On 28 June 2024, the European Central Bank Governing Council called on macroprudential authorities in member states to maintain capital buffer requirements and acknowledged support for members raising those requirements.<sup>3586</sup> The Council recognized members' space to expand macroprudential measures to improve financial stability.

On 2 July 2024, the European Commission and the US Department of the Treasury hosted the EU-US Joint Financial Regulatory Forum.<sup>3587</sup> At the forum, participants discussed six themes, including market development and financial stability, regulatory developments in banking and insurance, sustainable finance, and regulatory and supervisory cooperation in capital markets.

On 9 July 2024, the European Banking Authority (EBA) updated its supervisory reporting framework with new implementing technical standards to align with the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR3) and Basel III reforms, reinforcing financial stability.<sup>3588</sup> These standards enable enhanced supervision by ensuring institutions provide comparable data on key risks, including credit, market, operational, and crypto-asset exposures. By improving transparency and monitoring compliance with CRR3, the standards address systemic vulnerabilities, promoting consistent oversight and supporting market confidence.

On 12 July 2024, the European Supervisory Authorities announced a consultation on Markets in Crypto-assets Regulation (MiCAR) to standardize the classification of crypto-assets, a step intended to support financial stability and effective market oversight.<sup>3589</sup> The guidelines require issuers of Asset-Referenced Tokens (ARTs) and other crypto-assets to provide standardized legal opinions and classification explanations and are intended to promote transparency and consistent regulatory treatment. By mitigating risks of misclassification, reducing regulatory arbitrage, and enabling supervisors to better monitor systemic risks posed by crypto-assets, the guidelines are meant to strengthen the stability and integrity of financial markets.

On 15 July 2024, the ECB released their opinion on the draft law amending the Law on De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB) focusing on the significance of the proposed mandatory reporting of granular mortgage data by

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<sup>3585</sup> Opinion of the European Central Bank of 27 June 2024 on access to cash, European Central Bank (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52024AB0022>

<sup>3586</sup> Governing Council statement on macroprudential policies, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/govcstatement/html/ecb.govcstatement202406~32c180b631.en.html>

<sup>3587</sup> Joint Statement on the EU-U.S. Financial Regulatory Forum, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2443>

<sup>3588</sup> The EBA updates the supervisory reporting framework, European Banking Authority (Paris) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.eba.europa.eu/publications-and-media/press-releases/eba-updates-supervisory-reporting-framework>

<sup>3589</sup> ESAs consult on Guidelines under the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation, European Banking Authority (Paris) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.eba.europa.eu/publications-and-media/press-releases/esas-consult-guidelines-under-markets-crypto-assets-regulation>

financial institutions to DNB.<sup>3590</sup> The ECB supported the law, which is intended to facilitate access to detailed, pseudonymized loan-level information on borrowers, collateral, and risk characteristics, enhancing DNB's capacity to monitor financial stability and improve statistical accuracy. The ECB's memo emphasized the role of this policy in promoting sound macroprudential oversight and effective monetary policy implementation.

On 15 July 2024, the EBA initiated a consultation on draft guidelines under MiCAR to address data gaps in supervisory reporting.<sup>3591</sup> These guidelines aim to provide competent authorities and the EBA with standardized, comparable information to ensure issuers of ARTs and certain e-money tokens comply with MiCAR requirements and to support the EBA's significance assessments, and thus financial stability.

On 15 July 2024, the Eurogroup committed to sustained fiscal consolidation and to implementing the reformed economic governance framework.<sup>3592</sup> The deficit reduction they outline strengthens both price and financial stability.

On 26 July 2024, the Council of the European Union announced corrective deficit procedures that member states must follow to address their deficits within a specified timeframe.<sup>3593</sup> The procedures promote financial stability by ensuring member states exercise discipline with government spending and do not exceed a deficit of three per cent.

On 11 September 2024, the European Commission committed to ensuring renewable energy sources will be reliable and affordable for consumers.<sup>3594</sup> This new legislation aims to maintain price stability in the face of a potential natural gas crisis, ensuring consumers have access to affordable energy.

On 12 September 2024, the ECB decreased the "three key interest rates" by 25 basis points.<sup>3595</sup> The ECB made this decision in line with its most recent assessment of inflation and other macroeconomic indicators in the Eurozone.

On 17 October 2024, the ECB decreased the "three key interest rates" by 25 basis points.<sup>3596</sup> The ECB took this action in line with its most recent assessment of inflation and other macroeconomic indicators in the Eurozone.

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<sup>3590</sup> Opinion of the European Central Bank of 15 July 2024 on the introduction of a reporting obligation in respect of mortgage-related data, European Central Bank (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52024AB0025>

<sup>3591</sup> The EBA consults on guidelines on reporting of data to assist authorities in their supervisory duties and significance assessment under MiCAR, European Banking Authority (Paris) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.eba.europa.eu/publications-and-media/press-releases/eba-consults-guidelines-reporting-data-assist-authorities-their-supervisory-duties-and-significance>

<sup>3592</sup> Eurogroup statement on the fiscal stance for the euro area in 2025, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/eurogroup-statement-on-the-fiscal-stance-for-the-euro-area-in-2025/>

<sup>3593</sup> Stability and growth pact: Council launches excessive deficit procedures against seven member states, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/26/stability-and-growth-pact-council-launches-excessive-deficit-procedures-against-seven-member-states/>

<sup>3594</sup> EU makes progress in ensuring secure and affordable energy for all, European Commission (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/news/eu-makes-progress-ensuring-secure-and-affordable-energy-all-2024-09-11\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/eu-makes-progress-ensuring-secure-and-affordable-energy-all-2024-09-11_en)

<sup>3595</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2024/html/ecb.mp240912~67cb23badb.en.html>

<sup>3596</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2024/html/ecb.mp241017~aa366eaf20.en.html>

On 23 October 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted a EUR35 billion aid package for Ukraine, targeted at providing macro-financial assistance to Ukraine.<sup>3597</sup> The funding, part of a G7 loan of EUR45 billion, aims to support financial stability in Ukraine and reduce exogenous financial hardships the country faces because of the Russian invasion.

On 19 November 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted new regulations that open the EU derivatives market and make the “EU clearing landscape more attractive” by streamlining procedures and improving trading supervision.<sup>3598</sup> The new rules advance the EU’s financial stability by managing risks while opening markets and increasing trading.

On 25 November 2024, the European Commission announced a “new economic governance framework” to ensure secure public finances along with open markets and transparent investments.<sup>3599</sup> This step is aimed at making the EU’s economy more secure and competitive while generating sustainable and stable macroeconomic growth.

On 4 December 2024, the Council of the European Union agreed on a Financial Data Access framework to improve the accessibility of consumer data between different financial institutions.<sup>3600</sup> The new framework would allow consumers to receive more personalized services while also allowing customers to retain control over their data.

On 10 December 2024, the European Commission announced its intent to issue EUR90 billion in long-term EU bonds in the first half of 2025.<sup>3601</sup> These actions are intended to strengthen the market for EU bonds while also generating funds to support initiatives, such as strengthening its economic resilience and supporting EU neighbours.

On 12 December 2024, the ECB decreased the “three key interest rates” by 25 basis points.<sup>3602</sup> This action was taken in line with inflation reduction goals and according to new analysis by the ECB on inflation in the Eurozone.

On 12 December 2024, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament reached a provisional deal to streamline financial benchmarks and registration requirements.<sup>3603</sup> This provisional deal would reduce regulatory burdens on administrators and financial burdens on companies.

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<sup>3597</sup> Immobilised assets: Council greenlights up to €35 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine and new loan mechanism implementing G7 commitment, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/23/immobilised-assets-council-greenlights-up-to-35-billion-in-macro-financial-assistance-to-ukraine-and-new-loan-mechanism-implementing-g7-commitment/>

<sup>3598</sup> Capital markets union: Council adopts revamped rules for EU clearing services, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/19/capital-markets-union-council-adopts-revamped-rules-for-eu-clearing-services/>

<sup>3599</sup> First European Semester Autumn Package under new economic governance framework sets out path for sound public finances and sustainable and inclusive growth, European Commission (Brussels) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_592](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_592)

<sup>3600</sup> Capital markets Union: Council agrees to make consumers’ financial data more accessible, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/04/capital-markets-union-council-agrees-to-make-consumers-financial-data-more-accessible/>

<sup>3601</sup> European Commission to issue €90 billion in long-term EU-Bonds in the first half of 2025, European Commission (Brussels) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6346](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6346)

<sup>3602</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2024/html/ecb.mp241212~2acab6e51e.en.html>

<sup>3603</sup> Council and Parliament reach deal on financial benchmarks, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/12/council-and-parliament-reach-deal-on-financial-benchmarks/>

On 13 December 2024, the Council of the European Union adopted a generalized position on its insolvency law harmonization in working towards the Capital Market Union.<sup>3604</sup> The motion aims to provide for the tracing of national centralized bank account registers for insolvent assets and the aligning of rules across the European Union for the standard procedure in case of insolvency.

On 21 January 2025, the European Council approved submitted requests by Greece, Cyprus and Spain for funding from the recovery and resilience fund.<sup>3605</sup> The plans are now worth EUR36.6 billion, EUR1.2 billion and EUR163 billion, respectively. These plans aim to support financial stability and overcome challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic faced by these countries.

On 21 January 2025, the Council of the European Union laid out recommendations for the fiscal expenditure paths of 21 of its member states.<sup>3606</sup> The plans place the medium-term fiscal-structural plans of member states at the heart of the European Union's economic governance and aim to reduce or maintain current levels of government debt.

On 30 January 2025, the ECB decreased the “three key interest rates” by 25 basis points.<sup>3607</sup> This action was taken in line with inflation reduction goals and according to new analysis by the ECB on inflation in the Eurozone.

On 13 February 2025, the European Commission reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining low tariffs and transparent trade policies.<sup>3608</sup> The Commission also committed to defending European businesses if faced with US tariffs.

On 18 February 2025, the European Council announced the creation of a “fiscal expenditure path” for Hungary to aid in alleviating its excessive deficit.<sup>3609</sup> The plan aligns with the EU's new economic governance framework that holds member states accountable for economic changes by asking them to submit national medium-term fiscal security plans.

On 18 February 2025, the European Commission announced its plan to strengthen the farming and agriculture sectors of EU countries.<sup>3610</sup> The strategy focuses on promoting price stability, innovation, improved working conditions and sustainability goals through measures such as implementing food safety standards, developing a Water Resilience Strategy and preventing farmers from selling below production costs.

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<sup>3604</sup> Insolvency law: Council settles on position for core capital markets union legislation, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/13/insolvency-law-council-settles-on-position-for-core-capital-markets-union-legislation/>

<sup>3605</sup> Recovery and resilience fund: Council greenlights the amended plans of Greece, Cyprus and Spain, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/01/21/recovery-and-resilience-fund-council-greenlights-the-amended-plans-of-greece-cyprus-and-spain/>

<sup>3606</sup> Economic governance framework: Council sets fiscal expenditure paths for 21 member states, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/01/21/economic-governance-framework-council-sets-fiscal-expenditure-paths-for-21-member-states/>

<sup>3607</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2024/html/ecb.mp241212~2acab6e51e.en.html>

<sup>3608</sup> Statement on the US reciprocal tariff policy, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement\\_25\\_515](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_25_515)

<sup>3609</sup> Council sets fiscal expenditure path for Hungary and adopts recommendations to correct its excessive deficit situation, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/02/18/council-sets-fiscal-expenditure-path-for-hungary-and-adopts-recommendation-to-correct-its-excessive-deficit-situation/>

<sup>3610</sup> Commission presents its roadmap for a thriving EU farming and agri-food sector, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_530](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_530)

On 18 February 2025, the Council of the European Union set guidelines for the 2026 EU budget.<sup>3611</sup> These guidelines stressed the importance of maintaining a realistic budget while providing enough resources to reach targets and implement initiatives.

On 19 February 2025, the European Council and Parliament announced their support for the creation of the “Reform and Growth Facility for the Republic of Moldova.”<sup>3612</sup> This EUR2 billion in macro-financial assistance will allow Moldova to continue its EU-related reforms, fostering economic growth and helping it build energy independence.

On 25 February 2025, the European Commission announced an overarching plan to reduce energy costs, increase investment and build energy security called the Action Plan.<sup>3613</sup> The plan is intended to save consumers EUR260 billion annually by 2040 and directly confront issues that are causing unstable, fluctuating energy costs in the EU.

On 6 March 2025, the ECB decreased the “three key interest rates” by 25 basis points.<sup>3614</sup> This action was taken in line with inflation reduction goals and according to new analysis by the ECB on inflation in the Eurozone.

On 11 March 2025, the Council of the European Union gave final approval to new laws modernizing the European Union’s Value Added Tax (VAT) rules.<sup>3615</sup> The rules aim to digitize VAT reporting, charge value added tax on online platforms for short-term rentals and transport services and streamline value added tax registrations. The new regulations are meant to reduce fraud, bolster competitiveness of European industry and ease the regulatory burden on businesses.

On 14 April 2025, the European Council approved new rules to simplify discussion and information sharing for corporate taxation.<sup>3616</sup> The new rules will ensure that profits are correctly taxed and that European corporations pay taxes based on the global minimum rate of corporate tax.

On 17 April 2025, the ECB decreased the “three key interest rates” by 25 basis points.<sup>3617</sup> This action was taken in line with inflation reduction goals and according to new analysis by the ECB on inflation in the Eurozone.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment that its policy efforts will continue to focus on ensuring price and financial stability. The European Union advanced strong action to advance price and financial stability through adopting a new framework for bank resolutions and derivatives market regulation,

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<sup>3611</sup> EU annual budget 2026: Council sets guidelines for next year’s EU budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/02/18/eu-annual-budget-2026-council-sets-guidelines-for-next-year-s-eu-budget/>

<sup>3612</sup> Moldova: Council and European Parliament agree to support reforms and economic growth with almost €2 billion, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/02/19/moldova-council-and-european-parliament-agree-to-support-reforms-and-economic-growth-with-almost-2-bn/>

<sup>3613</sup> Commission brings relief to European consumers and businesses with Action Plan to save €260 billion annually by 2040, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 15 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_570](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_570)

<sup>3614</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2025/html/ecb.mp250306~d4340800b3.en.html>

<sup>3615</sup> Taxation: Council adopts VAT in the digital age package, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11 March 2025. Access Date: 18 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/11/taxation-council-adopts-vat-in-the-digital-age-package/>

<sup>3616</sup> Council adopts rules to extend cooperation and information exchange between tax authorities to minimum effective corporate taxation, European Council (Brussels) 14 April 2025. Access Date: 15 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/04/14/council-adopts-rules-to-extend-cooperation-and-information-exchange-between-tax-authorities-to-minimum-effective-corporate-taxation/>

<sup>3617</sup> Monetary policy decisions, European Central Bank (Frankfurt) 17 April 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/date/2025/html/ecb.mp250417~42727d0735.en.html>

rate decisions to target inflation, through corrective deficit procedures for member states, new financial requirements, a new economic governance framework and through providing macro-financial assistance for Ukraine.

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

*Analyst: Maria Burcea*



## 16. Trade: Resilient Supply Chains

“In particular, we are building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring our toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose, and safeguarding critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

### Background

G7 leaders consistently prioritize international trade, and it forms part of the G7's initial mission. At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit members also emphasized resilience in the face of “natural disasters, pandemics, geopolitical tensions and coercion.”<sup>3618</sup> With multilateral trade disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic, trade resilience was a point of focus of the 2020 United States G7 Summit, though overall discussions regarding trade resilience have increased since the 1975 Rambouillet Summit.<sup>3619</sup> Additionally, at the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, leaders made a reference to the 2022 Elmau Summit, at which plans for “strategic coordination” were discussed as a factor to reduce potential threats and vulnerabilities. The 2023 Hiroshima Summit strategized “sustainability” as a method for achieving resilient supply and value chains. During the 2024 Apulia Summit, members re-evaluated strategies for promoting supply chain resilience through a refocus on economic coercion and non-market policies that contribute to saturation of international supply chains.<sup>3620</sup> Through the Platform on Economic Coercion, member countries aim to improve “assessment, preparedness, deterrence and response” to economic coercion affecting supply chains.

At the 1975 Rambouillet Summit, G7 leaders discussed the importance of sustainable economic trade through establishing market stability. G7 leaders discussed multilateral assistance of progress in developing countries through the International Monetary Fund.<sup>3621</sup>

At the 1978 Bonn Summit, trade became a significant point of focus in the Communiqué. G7 leaders expressed support for the Tokyo Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations with the objective of advancing trade liberalization.<sup>3622</sup>

<sup>3618</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on Economic Resilience and Economic Security, G7 Information Centre (Hiroshima) 20 May 2023.

Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-economy.html>

<sup>3619</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

<sup>3620</sup> Addressing Global Challenges, Fostering Partnerships, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 April 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240419-global-challenges.html>

<sup>3621</sup> Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>

<sup>3622</sup> Declaration of Bonn, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1978. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1978bonn/communique.html>

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders highlighted trade liberalization, with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade as a driving factor.<sup>3623</sup>

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 members concluded the Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations which included increased consumer and supplier protections, stronger debt strategies, and the integration of more countries into international trade systems.<sup>3624</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, critical minerals were amplified as a focal point in sustainable trade discussions. Harvesting of primary and secondary minerals were encouraged to align with sustainable development objectives. “Pirated and counterfeit goods” in global supply chains was also discussed.<sup>3625</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members reinforced commitment to objectives from the G20 Hamburg Summit, which focused on international trade and denounced protectionism. Leaders recommitted to continuing multilateral trade agreements with the World Trade Organization to increase transparency and partnership strength.<sup>3626</sup>

At the 2020 United States Summit, G7 members addressed strategies to coordinate “disturbances to international supply chains.”<sup>3627</sup> Further, members recommitted to partnerships with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group to mobilize strengthened financing.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 members mobilized increased financing to the standing recovery plan of USD12 trillion, as planned in 2020. Members recommitted to multilateral support to developing countries.<sup>3628</sup>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 members recommitted to strengthen supply chain resilience through fair trade. This included re-evaluation of the multilateral trade system and restructuring to reduce the development gap.<sup>3629</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 members emphasized economic coercion as a threat objective for strategy on supply chain resilience. This included “illegitimate influence, espionage, illicit knowledge leakage and sabotage in the digital sphere.”<sup>3630</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 members reemphasized the concern of supply chain vulnerabilities with a focus on “exposure to economic coercion.” Members strategized to de-risk and diversify global supply chains to mitigate this risk.<sup>3631</sup>

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<sup>3623</sup> The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

<sup>3624</sup> Economic Declaration: A Strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6-9 July 1993. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/communique/index.html>

<sup>3625</sup> Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

<sup>3626</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>3627</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

<sup>3628</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>3629</sup> G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique-summary.html>

<sup>3630</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>3631</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

## Commitment Features

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring our toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose, and safeguarding critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.”<sup>3632</sup> This commitment lists three dimensions needed for compliance: 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices and 3) safeguarding critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

## Definitions and Concepts

“Building” is understood to mean “to increase, enlarge, or construct.”<sup>3633</sup>

“Resilient economies and supply chains” refer to “the system[s] of trade and industry by which the wealth of a country is made and used”<sup>3634</sup> and “the system[s] of people and organizations that are involved in getting a product from the place where it is made to customers”<sup>3635</sup> that “can easily adapt, rebound, or recover when faced with ... shocks that are either idiosyncratic ... or systemic.”<sup>3636</sup>

“Ensuring” is understood to mean “to make sure, certain, or safe.”<sup>3637</sup>

“Toolkit” is understood to mean “a set of tools.”<sup>3638</sup>

“Fit for purpose” is understood to mean “suitable and good enough to do what it is intended to do.”<sup>3639</sup>

“Harmful practices” are those that adversely impact the stability and resilience of economies and supply chains, and may include damaging industrial subsidies, forced technology transfers, distortive practices by state-owned enterprises (SOEs), and other policies or practices that do not align with market standards.<sup>3640</sup>

“Safeguarding” is understood to mean “to provide a safeguard for,” with “safeguard” understood to mean “a precautionary measure, stipulation, or device.”<sup>3641</sup>

“Critical and emerging technology” refers to a subset of advanced technologies that are potentially significant to national security.<sup>3642</sup> They include: “Advanced Computing, Advanced Engineering Materials, Advanced Gas Turbine Engine Technologies, Advanced and Networked Sensing and Signature Management, Advanced

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<sup>3632</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 15 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>3633</sup> Build, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/build>

<sup>3634</sup> Supply chain, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/supply-chain>

<sup>3635</sup> Economy, (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/economy>

<sup>3636</sup> Issue Brief: Supply Chain Resilience, The White House (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2023. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/written-materials/2023/11/30/issue-brief-supply-chain-resilience/>

<sup>3637</sup> Ensuring, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ensuring>

<sup>3638</sup> Toolkit, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/toolkit>

<sup>3639</sup> Fit for purpose, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/fit-for-purpose>

<sup>3640</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 15 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>3641</sup> Safeguard, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/safeguard>

<sup>3642</sup> CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES LIST UPDATE, The White House (Washington D.C.) February 2024. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Critical-and-Emerging-Technologies-List-2024-Update.pdf>

Manufacturing, Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnologies, Clean Energy Generation and Storage, Data Privacy, Data Security, and Cybersecurity Technologies, Directed Energy, Highly Automated, Autonomous, and Uncrewed Systems, Robotics, Human-Machine Interfaces, Hypersonics, Integrated Communication and Networking Technologies, Positioning, Navigation, and Timing Technologies, Quantum Information and Enabling Technologies, Semiconductors and Microelectronics, and Space Technologies and Systems.”

“International peace and security” refers to the legally binding term and first purpose of the United Nations (UN) as stated in the UN Charter.<sup>3643</sup> Promoting international peace and security includes “prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace.”

“Threaten” is understood to mean “to be likely to cause harm or damage to something.”<sup>3644</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that advance strong action towards all three commitment dimensions: 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose and 3) safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. Strong actions to ensure toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose include but are not limited to: legislation that empowers governments to better combat harmful practices from the creation of tools and entities to better resourcing trade remedy bodies, ameliorating harmful trade practices through diplomatic channels, pursuing action or arbitration through the World Trade Organization or other relevant international bodies, expanding the definition of SOEs, signing free trade agreements that prevent forms of harmful practices, and cooperating to combat duty evasion including through sharing customs information. Strong actions to safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security include but are not limited to: legislation and funding that empowers intellectual property bodies and enforcement from those bodies, incentives or procurement strategies that reduce critical dependencies and limit supply-chain risk in critical and emerging areas, strengthening research security, export controls, actions that secure supply chains, policies that promotes data free flow with trust and that support the efficacy of investment screenings, and regulations relating to critical and emerging technologies. As the largest category, the above examples also constitute strong actions to build resilient economies and supply chains. In addition, strong actions exclusively related to building resilient economies and supply chains include but are not limited to: policies that increases the stability of the domestic economy of a member, or foreign policy that supports the economic resilience of other countries from macro-economic policies to diversification, policies intended to counteract overcapacity, formal agreements between members, states, international bodies or with private entities centered around enhancing resilience, legislation aimed at resilience and shock-impact reduction, and initiatives supporting the participation of low- and middle-income countries in global supply chains.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action towards one or two of 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose and 3) safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security or members that take action in all three dimensions. Weak actions include but are not limited to relevant speeches that do not announce strong actions, participation in relevant dialogues, and legislation introduced but not yet passed.

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<sup>3643</sup> United Nations Charter (full text), United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.  
<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text>

<sup>3644</sup> Threaten, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/threaten>

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned to G7 members that advance only weak action towards less than three commitment dimensions. Members that participate in practices or policies adversely impacting economic stability and supply chain functioning will negatively impact compliance.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has taken only weak action towards fewer than three of 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose or 3) safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action towards one to two of 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose or 3) safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security or has taken action in all three dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards all three of 1) building resilient economies and supply chains, 2) ensuring toolkits to respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose and 3) safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

*Compliance Director: Rachel Strathdee  
Lead Analyst: Parami Epaarachchi*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 20 June 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced Canada's allocation of CAD85 million to the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA).<sup>3645</sup> This initiative aims to enhance health security and equitable vaccine access across Africa and will provide financial incentives to boost production capacity and sustainability among African manufacturers.

On 1 July 2024, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade, and Economic Development Mary Ng announced the official entry into force of the modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA).<sup>3646</sup> The updated Agreement strengthens the Canada-Ukraine bilateral relationship by enhancing trade, increasing economic cooperation, and supporting Ukraine's financial reforms amid recovery efforts following Russia's invasion.

On 2 July 2024, the Department of Finance announced a 30-day consultation period aimed at addressing unfair competition faced by the auto sector, particularly in the electric vehicle (EV) industry.<sup>3647</sup> The consultation is intended to produce policy responses to China's state-directed overcapacity and lax labor and environmental standards, and to promote supply chain resilience by combating unfair competitive practices.

<sup>3645</sup> Canada announces support for vaccine manufacturing in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa), 20 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-announces-support-for-vaccine-manufacturing-in-africa.html>

<sup>3646</sup> Modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement enters into force, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa), 1 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/modernized-canada-ukraine-free-trade-agreement-enters-into-force.html>

<sup>3647</sup> Canada launches consultation to protect Canadian workers and electric vehicle supply chains from unfair Chinese trade practices, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa), 2 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/07/canada-launches-consultation-to-protect-canadian-workers-and-electric-vehicle-supply-chains-from-unfair-chinese-trade-practices.html>

On 4 July 2024, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne announced a CAD120 million investment in CMC Microsystems to establish a pan-Canadian semiconductor network.<sup>3648</sup> This initiative, part of a CAD220 million project funded through the Strategic Innovation Fund, aims to enhance Canada's position as a global semiconductor supplier. The investment and subsequent initiatives are intended to strengthen domestic production of a critical technology and improve supply chain resilience.

On 4 July 2024, the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Industry released a statement emphasizing the need for clarity regarding foreign investment in the Canadian mining sector, especially concerning major firms involved in critical minerals operations.<sup>3649</sup> The statement acknowledged the geopolitical competition surrounding critical minerals, and the Ministry responsible for the announced that Net Benefit reviews for significant transactions involving critical minerals will now face a high threshold for approval, reflecting the sector's strategic importance and the necessity for decisive protective measures and careful management.

On 17 July 2024, Minister Ng met with the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for Business and Trade and President of the Board of Trade, Jonathan Reynolds, at the G7 Ministerial meeting.<sup>3650</sup> Minister Ng expressed bilateral preparations to cooperate on the safeguarding of supply chains against discriminatory trade practice.

On 17 July 2024, Minister Ng met with Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Antonio Tajani, during the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Trade.<sup>3651</sup> The ministers discussed the Italy-Canada Road Map for enhanced cooperation which called for the exploration of trade and increased bilateral investment.

On 18 July 2024, Minister Ng met with Germany's Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck during the G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3652</sup> Minister Ng and Minister Habeck recommitted to bilateral cooperation regarding supply chain resilience, economic security issues and multilateral Trading Systems.

On 18 July 2024, Minister Ng met with Japan's minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ken Saito, at the G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3653</sup> The Ministers engaged in bilateral dialogue on the importance of protecting supply chains from unfair trade practices and reiterated bilateral economic cooperative potential due to Japanese investments in Canadian critical minerals.

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<sup>3648</sup> Government of Canada supporting manufacturing and commercialization of semiconductors, Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa), 4 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/government-of-canada-supporting-manufacturing-and-commercialization-of-semiconductors.html>

<sup>3649</sup> Ministerial Statement on Net Benefit Reviews of Canadian Critical Minerals Companies, Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa), 4 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/ministerial-statement-on-net-benefit-reviews-of-canadian-critical-minerals-companies.html>

<sup>3650</sup> Minister Ng meets Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry at G7 trade minister's meeting, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 18 July 2024. Access Date: October 29 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-japans-minister-of-economy-trade-and-industry-at-g7-trade-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>3651</sup> Minister Ng meets Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 17 July 2024. Access Date: October 28 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-italys-deputy-prime-minister-and-minister-of-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation.html>

<sup>3652</sup> Minister Ng meets with Germany's Vice chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action. Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa) July 18 2024. Access Date: October 31 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-with-germanys-vice-chancellor-and-federal-minister-for-economic-affairs-and-climate-action.html>

<sup>3653</sup> Minister Ng meets Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry at G7 trade ministers' meeting, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 18 July 2024. Access Date: October 30 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-japans-minister-of-economy-trade-and-industry-at-g7-trade-ministers-meeting.html>

On 29 August 2024, Minister Ng met with the United States' Trade Representative, Katherine Tai. The ministers engaged in bilateral dialogue regarding bilateral collaboration for enhanced supply chain resilience.<sup>3654</sup> Minister Ng reiterated the impact of American duties on Canadian lumber products for supply chain resilience.

On 31 October 2024, the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) hosted the annual CIPO-WIPO Executive Program and introduced a roundtable on IP Offices as catalysts for Innovation.<sup>3655</sup> The program aims to support emerging economies maintain supply chain resilience.

On 12 November 2024, Minister Champagne announced the launch of the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute (CAISI) to support Canada's global capacity to lead safe and responsible development of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies.<sup>3656</sup> The Institute will advance research and understanding of the risks of AI through an investment of CAD2.4 billion to secure AI development technology.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau participated in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' Meeting.<sup>3657</sup> This multilateral meeting aimed to deepen opportunities for cooperation regarding Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy to strengthen supply chain resilience.

On 25 November 2024, Minister Joly attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3658</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

On 4 December 2024, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mary Ng initiated a Team Canada Trade Mission in the Philippines to strengthen bilateral trade relations.<sup>3659</sup> During the mission, Canada and the Philippines signed an Administrative Agreement and launched several initiatives to facilitate the operation of supply chains of Canadian enterprises in the Philippines.

On 5 December 2024, representatives from Global Affairs Canada and Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs met for the Taiwan-Canada Supply Chain Partnership Networking Reception.<sup>3660</sup> Both countries were joined by private sector partners to strengthen bilateral supply chains. The meeting concluded with the joint adoption of the "Collaborative Framework on Supply Chains Resilience."

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<sup>3654</sup> Minister Ng meets with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai in Washington D.C., Global Affairs Canada (Washington). August 29, 2024. Access Date: October 31 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/08/minister-ng-meets-with-united-states-trade-representative-katherine-tai-in-washington-dc.html>

<sup>3655</sup> CIPO Hosts 26th Annual CIPO-WIPO Executive Program, Canadian Intellectual Property Office (Quebec) October 31 2024. Access Date: October 31 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/intellectual-property-office/news/2024/10/cipo-hosts-26th-annual-cipo-wipo-executive-program.html>

<sup>3656</sup> Canada launches Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Montréal) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/canada-launches-canadian-artificial-intelligence-safety-institute.html>

<sup>3657</sup> Prime Minister to participate in the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting and the G20 Leaders' Summit, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 10 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2024/11/10/prime-minister-participate-apec-economic-leaders-meeting-and-g20>

<sup>3658</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3659</sup> In Manila, Philippines, Minister Ng concludes Canada's largest Team Canada Trade Mission, Global Affairs Canada (Manila). 6 December 2024. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/12/in-manila-philippines-minister-ng-concludes-canadas-largest-team-canada-trade-mission.html>

<sup>3660</sup> Taiwan-Canada Supply Chain Partnership Networking Reception Was Held on December 5, Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association, Taiwan (Taipei). 5 December 2024. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.cieca.org.tw/en/news-51444/Taiwan-Canada-Supply-Chain-Partnership-Networking-Reception-Was-Held-on-December-5.html>

On 18 December 2024, Minister Ng issued a statement regarding the new measures to combat forced labour in Canada's 2024 Fall Economic Statement.<sup>3661</sup> Minister Ng emphasized the government's commitment to eradicating forced labour from global and Canadian supply chains and to provide fit-for-purpose toolkits to prevent harmful practices.

On 5 February 2025, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced more than CAD87 million in development assistance funding to support international supply chains impacted by climate change.<sup>3662</sup> The funding will back initiatives across Asia and Africa, focusing on mitigating harmful practices and developing bilateral supply chains with Canada.

On 6 February 2025, Ambassador of Canada to Japan and Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific Ian McKay and Japan's Ambassador to Canada Kanji Yamanouchi attended the Japan-Canada Chambers Council 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.<sup>3663</sup> The bilateral meeting included dialogue for strategizing the securement of critical supply chains amidst geopolitical threats.

On 12 February 2025, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met with the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Antonio Costa at the Canada-European Union Leaders' Meeting.<sup>3664</sup> The leaders' bilateral dialogues reinforced bilateral partnerships to promote the development of critical technologies for supply chain resilience and resilience amidst climate change-related threats.

On 18 February 2025, Ambassador to Jordan Tarik Khan joined Jordanian government partners and the United Nations Development Programme on a field visit.<sup>3665</sup> This field visit aimed to improve the bilateral economic partnership between Canada and Jordan to improve private-sector innovation for supply chain resilience.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of Canada attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3666</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 6 March 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly, Minister Ng and Minister Hussen launched the first global strategy to strengthen economic security and supply chain resilience between Canada and Africa.<sup>3667</sup> Canada's Africa Strategy will invest approximately CAD4.5 billion over five years in bilateral international assistance across Africa.

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<sup>3661</sup> Statement by Minister Ng on Forced labour measures in 2024 Fall Economic Statement, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 18 December 2024. Access Date: 25 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/12/statement-by-minister-ng-on-forced-labour-measures-in-2024-fall-economic-statement.html>

<sup>3662</sup> Canada announces new funding during International Development Week to strengthen climate action and economies, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa). 5 February 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/02/canada-announces-new-funding-during-international-development-week-to-strengthen-climate-action-and-economies.html>

<sup>3663</sup> Friends and Partners: Japan-Canada Chambers Council 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Recap Blog, Canadian Chamber of Commerce (Ottawa). 11 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://chamber.ca/friends-and-partners-japan-canada-chambers-council-8th-meeting-recap-blog/>

<sup>3664</sup> Strengthening transatlantic partnerships and securing Canada's AI advantage, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa). 12 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2025/02/12/strengthening-transatlantic-partnerships-and-securing-canadas-ai>

<sup>3665</sup> UNDP and Global Affairs Canada Transforming Waste Management into Opportunities, United Nations Development Programme (Amman). 19 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.undp.org/jordan/press-releases/undp-and-global-affairs-canada-transforming-waste-management-opportunities>

<sup>3666</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3667</sup> Canada launches its first global Africa Strategy: A partnership for shared prosperity and security, Global Affairs Canada (Toronto) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-launches-its-first-global-africa-strategy-a-partnership-for-shared-prosperity-and-security.html>



On 14 March 2025, Minister Joly met with the G7 Foreign Ministers in Charlevoix, which yielded a joint release on Maritime Security and Prosperity.<sup>3668</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to foster maritime supply chain resistance and stability through international collaboration between the Ministers.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit-for-purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. Canada has led trade missions, invested in the security of international supply chains and acted in support of resilient supply chains through its bilateral initiatives with Asia and Africa. Canada has pursued measures to safeguard international economies and ensure fit-for-purpose toolkits to address harmful practices like forced labour.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ava Reitmaier Stone*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 10 July 2024, President Emmanuel Macron attended the Washington Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.<sup>3669</sup> This multilateral engagement concluded with recommitment to protective strategies to fortify global supply chains. This included the development of capabilities to respond to malicious activities that threaten integrity of supply chains.

On 16 July 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and La Banque Postale renewed a EUR600 million partnership to support energy transition and sustainable mobility projects, allocating EUR400 million to wind and solar projects and EUR200 million to rail and urban mobility.<sup>3670</sup> The projects funded under this partnership aim to diversify energy sources and reduce carbon emissions by fostering renewable energy supply chains.

On 24 October 2024, the Agence Française de Développement joined the G7's Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems initiative, led by Italy's Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo.<sup>3671</sup> This project aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of "Zero Hunger," and supports multilateral cooperation on supply chain resilience for sustainable agriculture.

On 15 November 2024, the Banque de France facilitated the issuance of a EUR100 million digital bond by the European Investment Bank.<sup>3672</sup> This initiative utilizes distributed ledger technology to enhance security in financial transactions by supporting modernization of capital markets.

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<sup>3668</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>3669</sup> Washington Summit Declaration, Élysée (Paris). 10 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2024/07/10/washington-summit-declaration>

<sup>3670</sup> EIB and La Banque Postale sign new partnership including a €600 million refinancing package 16 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-282-france-eib-and-la-banque-postale-sign-new-partnership-including-a-eur600-million-refinancing-package>

<sup>3671</sup> G7 financial institutions team up for sustainable food systems, European Investment Bank 24 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-390-g7-financial-institutions-team-up-for-sustainable-food-systems>

<sup>3672</sup> EIB launches new digital bond as part of the Eurosystem Exploratory Work, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/investor-relations/press/all/fi-2024-13-eib-digital-bond-eurosystem-explanatory-work>

On 25 November 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3673</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

On 10 February 2025, President Emmanuel Macron met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit.<sup>3674</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to reinforce collaboration on strategic efforts regarding supply chain resilience and critical technologies.

On 12 February 2025, the Deposits and Consignments Fund and the European Investment Bank strengthened their partnership by launching new credit lines to support affordable housing and the green transition.<sup>3675</sup> This includes a EUR500 million loan to fund the construction of 3,500 intermediate housing units and an additional EUR500 million financing agreement with Bpifrance to support renewable energy projects in France and Europe. These investments enhance supply chain resilience by expanding renewable energy production and infrastructure while addressing critical housing shortages.

On 13 February 2025, the Government of France, in collaboration with the European Investment Bank, secured EUR12.6 billion in investments to strengthen its supply chain resilience.<sup>3676</sup> This included EUR334 million for Verkor's battery giga-factory in Dunkirk, EUR500 million for Enedis to modernize its energy grid for renewable integration and funding for high-voltage cable production at Prysmian's factory in Gron. Additionally, the partners have sourced EUR3.9 billion in funding to reduce fossil fuel reliance and enhance supply security for clean energy infrastructure.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of France attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3677</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot attended the G7 Ministerial Meeting in Charlevoix.<sup>3678</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to foster maritime supply chain resistance and stability through international collaboration between the Ministers.

On 27 March 2025, Minister Delegate Thani Mohamed-Soilihi hosted the Nutrition for Growth Summit, pledging EUR750 million by 2030 to support nutrition and food aid through the French Development Agency and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.<sup>3679</sup> This funding supports public-private partnerships to

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<sup>3673</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3674</sup> Prime Minister's Departure statement ahead of his visit to France and USA, Prime Minister's Office (New Delhi). 10 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2101222>

<sup>3675</sup> France: The Caisse des Dépôts Group and the EIB Group strengthen their partnership to address two of Europe's priorities: affordable housing and supporting the green transition to boost competitiveness, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-085-les-groupes-caisse-des-depots-et-bei-renforcent-leur-cooperation-en-faveur-du-logement-abordable-et-de-la-transition-verte-au-service-de-la-competitivite-deux-priorites-europeennes>

<sup>3676</sup> EIB Group invests €12.6 billion to back growth, the green transition and innovation in France in 2024, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-088-le-groupe-bei-a-investi-126-milliards-d-euros-en-france-en-2024-en-faveur-de-la-croissance-de-la-transition-verte-et-de-l-innovation>

<sup>3677</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3678</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto), 14 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>3679</sup> The Nutrition for Growth Summit mobilizes over US\$27 billion to reach nutrition-related Sustainable Development Goals, France Diplomacy (Paris) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/other-major-sectors/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-mobilizes-over-us-27-billion-to-reach-nutrition?xtor=RSS-1>

improve food system resilience and multilateral cooperation for critical supply chain stability in vulnerable regions.

France has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains while ensuring mechanisms are in place to respond to harmful practices and safeguard critical and emerging technology. France has taken significant action across various sectors, including renewable energy, defense and food systems. France has also implemented initiatives to enhance supply chain resilience in energy, manufacturing and market modernization. Through partnerships and financing packages, France has demonstrated a consistent focus on strengthening and modernizing its supply chains in alignment with global and national sustainability goals.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Iva Zivaljevic*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 7 June 2024, the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency published the plan for an offshore wind energy project.<sup>3680</sup> This project aimed to contribute to the energy system and develop sustainable supply chains as a part of the European Union Renewable Energy Directive.

On 26 June 2024, Minister for Digital and Transport Volker Wissing and State Secretary Stefan Schnorr attended the trade fair Transport Logistic China.<sup>3681</sup> This visit intended to consolidate public-private partnerships and ideas on supply chain management through increased bilateral mobility and information technology.

On 2 July 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz attended the 16th German-Polish intergovernmental consultations.<sup>3682</sup> This bilateral engagement included dialogue on enhancement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization fuel supply chains to fortify European strategic partnerships.

On 12 July 2024, Chancellor Scholz met with Japan's Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida.<sup>3683</sup> This bilateral engagement included dialogue on mineral and semiconductor supply chain resilience utilizing emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence.

On 16 July 2024, Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck attended the meeting of trade ministers of the G7 countries.<sup>3684</sup> This multilateral dialogue included discussions regarding supply chain resilience and economic security.

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<sup>3680</sup> 60 Gigawatt Offshore-Windenergie bis 2037, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin). 7 June 2024.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024.

<https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/06/20240607-60-gigawatt-offshore-windenergie-bis-2037.html>

<sup>3681</sup> Wissing und Schnorr in China, Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr (Berlin). 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/wissing-und-schnorr-in-china.html>

<sup>3682</sup> "Good neighbours, close partners and reliable friends", Die Bundesregierung (Berlin). 2 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/german-polish-intergovernmental-consultations-2024-2295552>

<sup>3683</sup> Japan-Germany Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 12 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c\\_see/de/pageite\\_000001\\_00455.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c_see/de/pageite_000001_00455.html)

<sup>3684</sup> Bundesminister Habeck nimmt am G7-Treffen der Handelsminister in Italien teil, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin). 16 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/07/20240716-g7-treffen-handelsminister-italien.html>

On 18 July 2024, Vice-Chancellor Habeck met with Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International trade and Economic Development Mary Ng during the G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3685</sup> Minister Ng and Vice-Chancellor Habeck recommitted to bilateral cooperation regarding supply chain resilience, economic security issues and multilateral Trading Systems.

On 13 September 2024, Chancellor Scholz met with Kenya's President, William Samoei Ruto.<sup>3686</sup> The bilateral meeting concluded with the signing of an agreement with the Government of Kenya which affirmed the "integrating [of] Kenyan Businesses into fair and sustainable supply chains."<sup>3687</sup>

On 13 September, 2024, State Secretary for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Anja Hajduk and Australia's Minister for Climate and Energy, Chris Bowen, signed an agreement to enhance supply chain resilience, as part of the shared Energy and Climate Partnership.<sup>3688</sup> This bilateral agreement affirmed the intent of investing EUR400 million through H2Global, a German initiative to strengthen green hydrogen supply chains by the procurement by European buyers of Australian renewable hydrogen producers.

On 17 September 2024, Chancellor Scholz met with Kazakhstan's President, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Kyrgyzstan's President, Sadyr Zhaparov, Tajikistan's President, Emomali Rahmon, Turkmenistan's President, Serdar Berdimuhamedov and Uzbekistan's President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev for the second meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia and the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.<sup>3689</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strengthen strategies regarding supply chain resilience, including increased energy cooperation and fortifying the security of supply chain systems.

On 8 October 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) partnered with the United Nations Development Programme and the Michael Otto Foundation to host the first Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC).<sup>3690</sup> The HSC aimed to forge public-private partnerships to enhance global supply chain resilience. The HSC concluded a multilateral agreement under the Global Battery Alliance to secure sustainable battery supply chains which included the BMZ, the Serbian Ministry of Economy, Zambian government and companies Volkswagen, BMW, Baden Aniline and Soda Factory, and Henkel and Siemens.

On 22 October 2024, Head of the Directorate-General for Equipment within the Federal Ministry of Defence Vice Admiral Carsten Stawitzki met with the United States' Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment William LaPlante.<sup>3691</sup> This bilateral meeting concluded the signing of a joint defence agreement

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<sup>3685</sup> Minister Ng meets with Germany's Vice chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action. Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa) July 18 2024. Access Date: October 31 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-with-germanys-vice-chancellor-and-federal-minister-for-economic-affairs-and-climate-action.html>

<sup>3686</sup> Closer cooperation in the area of migration, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/scholz-meets-ruto-2308664>

<sup>3687</sup> Closer cooperation in the area of migration, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/scholz-meets-ruto-2308664>

<sup>3688</sup> Zusammenarbeit zwischen Australien und Deutschland in den Bereichen Energie und Klima wird ausgebaut, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/09/20240913-zusammenarbeit-australien-deutschland-energie-und-klima.html>

<sup>3689</sup> Joint Declaration by the Heads of State of Central Asia and the Federal Chancellor of Germany, Presse-und Informationsamt der Bundesregierung (Berlin) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/resource/blob/992814/2308804/614220cef74643ffb42df3d675e9a252/2024-09-17-joint-statement-deu-z5-data.pdf>

<sup>3690</sup> First Hamburg Sustainability Conference: More than 15 agreements for a sustainable future, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hsc-more-than-15-agreements-for-a-sustainable-future-230740>

<sup>3691</sup> DOD, Germany Ministry of Defence Enter into Security of Supply Arrangement, United States Department of Defense (Washington) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3942126/dod-german-ministry-of-defence-enter-into-security-of-supply-arrangement/>

titled the Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA). SOSA aims to enable the procurement industrial resources for the strengthening of the defence capacities of supply chains and fortified global supply chains

On 25 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz met the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi to co-chair the seventh round of the India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations.<sup>3692</sup> The conference reaffirmed both countries' commitment to diversification of international supply chains through joint initiative, RE-INVEST. This platform aims to increase green financing and technology opportunities for supply chain resilience.

On 11 November 2024, the BMZ and Serbia's Ministry of Economy attended the Hamburg Sustainability Conference and pledged to join the Global Battery Alliance.<sup>3693</sup> This alliance seeks to create a more sustainable battery supply chain.

On 11 November 2024, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Udo Philipp met with Taiwan's Bureau of Foreign Trade, Chamber of Commerce and the Committee of the German Economy for the German-Taiwanese Joint Business Council to discuss economic cooperation in the semiconductor industry.<sup>3694</sup> Secretary Philipp pledged to strengthen both nations' supply chain resilience through this increased economic cooperation.

On 21 November 2024, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action and the Federal Foreign Office joined Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry at the first meeting of the Japan-Germany Economic Security Consultations.<sup>3695</sup> This bilateral dialogue aimed to establish increased cooperation regarding advanced technological capacities to strengthen supply chain resilience, strategizing for non-market policies and secure critical and emerging technology.

On 25 November 2024, Foreign Minister Anna Baerbock attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3696</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

On 4 December 2024, the Federal Cabinet approved The National Security and Defence Industry Strategy.<sup>3697</sup> The Strategy outlined a series of measures intended to protect and support supply chain resilience and promote security and defense technologies.

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<sup>3692</sup> Joint Statement: 7<sup>th</sup> India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (IGC), Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2681720>

<sup>3693</sup> Selected outcomes of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) 2024, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/resource/blob/234520/bmz-info-hsc-2024-outcomes.pdf>

<sup>3694</sup> Staatssekretär Udo Philipp am 11. und 12. November 2024 zu wirtschaftspolitischem Austausch in Taiwan, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 11 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/11/20241111-staatssekretaer-udo-philipp-zu-wirtschaftspolitischem-austausch-in-taiwan.html> <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/11/20241111-staatssekretaer-udo-philipp-zu-wirtschaftspolitischem-austausch-in-taiwan.html>

<sup>3695</sup> The First Meeting of the Japan-Germany Economic Security Consultations, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1122\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1122_001.html)

<sup>3696</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiumicino for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3697</sup> Kabinett beschließt Nationale Sicherheits- und Verteidigungsindustriestrategie, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin), 4 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/12/20241204-kabinett-beschliesst-nationale-sicherheits-und-verteidigungsindustriestrategie.html>

On 12 December 2024, Minister Baerbock met with France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot and Poland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Radoslaw Sikorski for the Weimar Triangle meeting.<sup>3698</sup> This meeting reinforced objectives aligned with European Union reforms to diversify and strengthen trilateral supply chain resilience.

On 14 February 2025, Minister Baerbock attended the Munich Security Conference.<sup>3699</sup> This dialogue aimed to reinforce multilateral cooperation for connectivity regarding supply chain resilience.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of Germany attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3700</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 12 March 2025, Minister Baerbock met with the G7 Foreign Ministers at the Ministerial Meeting in Charlevoix.<sup>3701</sup> This multilateral meeting included strategies of cooperation against supply chain disruptions, to support increased supply chain resilience.

On 14 March 2025, The Federal Foreign office, alongside the G7 Foreign Ministers, announced the Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity.<sup>3702</sup> The joint declaration emphasized multilateral commitment and cooperation in efforts to increase the security and resilience of supply chains.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring their toolkits that respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose, and safeguarding critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. Germany has demonstrated this through engagement in bilateral and multilateral dialogue and a myriad of actions that address all aspects of the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kevin Wang*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 24 June 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation hosted a first coordination meeting as part of the Latin America and Caribbean Conference.<sup>3703</sup> Strategies for technological innovation, sustainable development and organized crime were discussed to enhance supply chain resilience.

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<sup>3698</sup> Joint Statement by the Ministers for European Affairs of the Weimar Triangle, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 13 December 2024. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/weimar-triangle-2690460>

<sup>3699</sup> Diplomacy in times of crisis – the world comes together at the Munich Security Conference, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin). 14 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2700460-2700460>

<sup>3700</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3701</sup> Gemeinsame Erklärung der G7-Außenministerinnen und -minister anlässlich ihres Treffens in Charlevoix, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 14 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2705950-2705950>

<sup>3702</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix). 14 May 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>3703</sup> Incontro alla Farnesina con Grulac Italia e IILA in vista della XII Edizione della Conferenza Italia – America Latina e Caraibi, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 24 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/06/incontro-alla-farnesina-con-grulac-italia-e-iila-in-vista-della-xii-edizione-della-conferenza-italia-america-latina-e-caraibi/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/06/incontro-alla-farnesina-con-grulac-italia-e-iila-in-vista-della-xii-edizione-della-conferenza-italia-america-latina-e-caraibi/)

On 26 June 2024, the Italian Presidency hosted the G7 Anti-Corruption Working Group.<sup>3704</sup> Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani was in attendance. This multilateral dialogue opened discussion on anti-corruption technical assistance, critical to the fortification of global supply chains.

On 17 July 2024, Deputy Prime Minister Tajani met with Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, Mary Ng, during the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Trade.<sup>3705</sup> The ministers discussed the Italy-Canada Road Map for enhanced cooperation which called for the exploration of trade and increased bilateral investment.

On 25 July 2024, Minister of Economy Giancarlo Giorgetti and Governor of Bank of Italy Fabio Panetta co-led a meeting with G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors.<sup>3706</sup> The multilateral meeting concluded an agreement to analyze the risks for and influences on financial stability of AI in macroeconomics.

On 2 October 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni met with Microsoft President Brad Smith and discussed Microsoft's planned EUR4.8 billion investment over two years to meet the growing demand for data centers needed to support Artificial Intelligence services.<sup>3707</sup> This included dialogue regarding safeguarding of technological risk.

On 30 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni Attended the Italy-China Business Forum.<sup>3708</sup> At this meeting, she reaffirmed Italy's commitment to improve bilateral trade relations and foster shock resistant supply chains.

On 18 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi reasserted their commitment to advancing the India-Italy Strategic Partnership.<sup>3709</sup> They announced a Joint Strategic Action Plan following a bilateral meeting at the G20 Summit, which aimed to strengthen collaborative industrial and economic initiatives to enhance bilateral supply chains.

On 18 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at the G20 Summit.<sup>3710</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Crown Prince bin Zayed Al Nahyan discussed opportunities for increased bilateral cooperation in energy, connection infrastructure, and artificial intelligence to strengthen supply chains.

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<sup>3704</sup> Riunione del Gruppo di lavoro G7 anticorruzione alla Farnesina, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 26 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/06/riunione-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-anticorruzione-alla-farnesina/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/06/riunione-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-anticorruzione-alla-farnesina/)  
<sup>3705</sup> Minister Ng meets Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 17 July 2024. Access Date: October 28 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-italys-deputy-prime-minister-and-minister-of-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation.html>

<sup>3706</sup> G7, Giorgetti e Panetta presiedono la riunione, Ministeri dell'Economia e delle Finanze (Roma) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.mef.gov.it/inevidenza/G7-Giorgetti-e-Panetta-presiedono-la-riunione/>

<sup>3707</sup> Incontro del Presidente Meloni con Brad Smith, Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Roma) 2 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-brad-smith/26711>

<sup>3708</sup> Intervento del Presidente Meloni al Business Forum Italia-Cina, Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Roma) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-meloni-al-business-forum-italia-cina/26315>

<sup>3709</sup> Incontro Meloni-Modi, il comunicato stampa congiunto, Governo Italiano (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-meloni-modi-il-comunicato-stampa-congiunto/27072>

<sup>3710</sup> Vertice G20, il Presidente Meloni incontra il Principe Ereditario dell'Emirato di Abu Dhabi, Governo Italiano (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/g20-il-presidente-meloni-incontra-il-principe-ereditario-dell-emirato-di-abu-dhabi/27068>

On 25 November 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3711</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

On 22 December 2024, President Giorgia Meloni attended the security-focused North-South Summit in Saariselkä, Finland.<sup>3712</sup> The summit reaffirmed Italy's commitment to building resilient economies and supply chains through new international security initiatives.

On 16 December 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli chaired the last meeting of the 2024 Joint Development Cooperation Committee, which adopted a package of initiatives worth a total of about EUR430 million.<sup>3713</sup> The initiatives largely aim to build resilient economies and supply chains across Africa.

On 21 January 2025, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani and the Minister of the Environment and Energy Security Gilberto Pichetto signed a joint declaration of intent with European and North African countries to build the South Hydrogen Corridor.<sup>3714</sup> The Corridor will create new infrastructure for the hydrogen supply chain and will strengthen bilateral supply chains between West Europe and North Africa.

On 4 February 2025, Minister of Enterprise and Made in Italy Adolfo Urso met with France's Minister of Economy Marc Ferracci.<sup>3715</sup> This bilateral meeting expressed mutual commitment to supporting supply chains within European automotive trade after a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the Joint Competitiveness and Trade Council in Warsaw.

On 4 February 2025, Minister Urso attended the Joint Competitiveness and Trade Council debate in Warsaw.<sup>3716</sup> This meeting reemphasized commitments to integrating the Balkans and Ukraine into European Union supply chains in order to increase their competitiveness and resilience.

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<sup>3711</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3712</sup> Vertice Nord-Sud, la dichiarazione del Presidente Meloni, Governo Italiano (Saariselkä) 22 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/north-south-summit-president-meloni-s-press-statement/27353>

<sup>3713</sup> Il Vice Ministro Edmondo Cirielli presiede l'ottava riunione del Comitato Congiunto per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo del 2024, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 19 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/roma-il-vice-ministro-edmondo-cirielli-presiede-lottava-riunione-del-comitato-congiunto-per-la-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-del-2024/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/roma-il-vice-ministro-edmondo-cirielli-presiede-lottava-riunione-del-comitato-congiunto-per-la-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-del-2024/)

<sup>3714</sup> Idrogeno: cinque Stati firmano dichiarazione per proseguire lavori Corridoio Meridionale, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome). 21 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/idrogeno-cinque-stati-firmano-dichiarazione-per-proseguire-lavori-corridoio-meridionale/](https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/idrogeno-cinque-stati-firmano-dichiarazione-per-proseguire-lavori-corridoio-meridionale/)

<sup>3715</sup> Auto, Urso a Ferracci: riforma globale, non solo rimozione multe, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 4 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/auto-urso-a-ferracci-riforma-globale-non-solo-rimozione-multe>

<sup>3716</sup> E, Urso: procedere nell'integrazione di Balcani e Ucraina nelle catene di valore, anche per migliorare la competitività europea, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome). 4 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/ue-urso-procedere-nell'integrazione-di-balcani-e-ucraina-nelle-catene-di-valore-anche-per-migliorare-la-competitivita-europea>



On 18 February 2025, Minister Urso met with Turkey's Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacir and the President of the Leonardo company Stefano Pontecorvo.<sup>3717</sup> This trilateral meeting aimed to discuss the members' mutual commitment safeguarding bilateral supply chains at the Baykar plant in Istanbul.

On 18 February 2025, Minister Urso met with Turkish Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacir, the President of Intercontinental Exchange Matteo Zoppas and the President of the Italian Space agency Teodoro Valente.<sup>3718</sup> This meeting discussed the development of bilateral public-private partnerships to increase ecological and digital supply chain resilience.

On 20 February 2025, Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani chaired a meeting with ambassadors from over 30 countries.<sup>3719</sup> This meeting aimed to prepare potential initiatives for the diversification and strengthening of Italy's international supply chains.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of Italy attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3720</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 11 March 2025, Minister Urso signed the 'non-paper' agreement for the creation of a "European Union Critical Chemicals Act" by the European Commission.<sup>3721</sup> The agreement entailed an order to foster supply chain resilience across the European industrial sector, and included multilateral agreement from France, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Hungary, and the Netherlands.

On 12 March 2025, Minister Urso joined a 'Coalition of the Willing' at a round table on the sidelines of the Competitiveness Council in Brussels.<sup>3722</sup> Including other European countries, the objective of this coalition is to ensure multilateral cooperation for resilience of European semiconductor supply chains.

On 14 March 2025, Deputy Prime Minister Tajani met with the G7 Foreign Ministers during the Ministerial Meeting in Charlevoix.<sup>3723</sup> This multilateral dialogue reaffirmed the commitments to foster maritime supply chain resistance and stability.

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<sup>3717</sup> Italia-Turchia, Urso visita lo stabilimento di Baykar, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 18 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/italia-turchia-urso-visita-lo-stabilimento-di-baykar>

<sup>3718</sup> Italia-Turchia, Urso incontra Kacir: "nuova fase per partnership industriali," Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 18 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/italia-turchia-urso-incontra-kacir-nuova-fase-per-partnership-industriali>

<sup>3719</sup> Nuovi mercati per l'export: alla Farnesina riunione presieduta da Tajani per il "Piano d'azione per l'export nei mercati emergenti," Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 February 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/nuovi-mercati-per-lexport-alla-farnesina-riunione-presieduta-da-tajani-per-il-piano-dazione-per-lexport-nei-mercati-emergenti/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/02/nuovi-mercati-per-lexport-alla-farnesina-riunione-presieduta-da-tajani-per-il-piano-dazione-per-lexport-nei-mercati-emergenti/)

<sup>3720</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3721</sup> Industria: Urso, "nasce L'Alleanza per la Chimica in Europa," Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 11 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 March 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/industria-urso-nasce-lalleanza-per-la-chimica-in-europa>

<sup>3722</sup> CBAM, Urso: "Revisione urgente per mantenere competitiva L'industria europea," Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 12 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/cbam-urso-revisione-urgente-per-mantenere-competitiva-industria-europea>

<sup>3723</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix). 14 May 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

On 24 March 2025, Minister Urso met with the European Union commissioner for International Partnerships Jozef Síkela in Rome.<sup>3724</sup> The bilateral dialogue was centered on the Artificial Intelligence Hub for Sustainable Development and its initiatives to strengthen industrial supply chains across Africa.

On 27 March 2025, the Government of Italy and the European Union co-hosted an event to coordinate the implementation of Italy's Mattei Plan for Africa and the EU's Global Gateway Initiative.<sup>3725</sup> Discussions among international representatives from the private and public sectors focused on supply chains and economic infrastructure.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit-for-purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. Italy has prioritized its commitment to fostering international supply chains in its bilateral discussions with representatives across the public and private sectors of Africa, Turkey and Europe. Italy has pursued the cooperative development of fit-for-purpose toolkits to combat harmful practices with other European countries and G7 members

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ava Reitmaier Stone*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 26 June 2024, Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Saito Ken met with the Republic of Korea Minister of Industry, Trade, and Resources Ahn Duk-Geun and the United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, participating in the Japan-ROK-United States Commerce and Industry Ministerial Meeting in Washington, D.C.<sup>3726</sup> The leaders affirmed their commitment to collaboratively manage critical and emerging technologies and promote supply chain resilience, and issued a joint statement regarding cooperation on specific technologies including semiconductors, AI, critical minerals, and clean energy.

On 26 June 2024, Minister Ken met with United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo in Washington D.C. in the fourth Japan-United States Commercial and Industrial Partnership Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3727</sup> They discussed the problems of strategic dependencies and overcapacity, and agreed to take joint efforts to increase supply chain resilience in line with the Principles on Resilient and Reliable Supply Chains.

On 10 July 2024 and 11 July 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the League of Arab States met in Tokyo for the 5th Japan-Arab Economic Forum.<sup>3728</sup> Minister Ken emphasized Japan's commitment to enhance domestic stability and support low- and middle-income countries. The Public-Private Business and Economic Conference included discussions on diversifying

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<sup>3724</sup> Mimit: Urso incontra Commissario Ue Síkela, focus su IA e competitività, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 24 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 March 2025. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/mimit-urso-incontra-commissario-ue-sikela-focus-su-ia-e-competitivita>

<sup>3725</sup> Comunicato stampa congiunto Italia-Ue, Governo Italiano (Rome) 27 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/italy-eu-joint-press-release/28063>

<sup>3726</sup> 齋藤経済産業大臣が初の日米韓商務・産業大臣会合に出席しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo), 27 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/06/20240627005/20240627005.html>

<sup>3727</sup> 齋藤経済産業大臣がジーナ・レモンド米国商務長官と第4回日米商務・産業パートナーシップ (JUCIP) 閣僚会合を開催しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo), 27 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/06/20240627004/20240627004.html>

<sup>3728</sup> 第5回日本・アラブ経済フォーラムを開催しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo), 11 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/07/20240711002/20240711002.html>

economic relationships and responding to climate change, and the following day's Ministerial Conference featured talks on policies for digital technologies and enhancing trade frameworks to ensure economic resilience.

On 16 July 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yoko Kamikawa spoke at the G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3729</sup> Minister Kamikawa discussed vulnerabilities in supply chains for critical resources and the promotion of environmental, social and governance standards in mineral supply chains. Participants agreed to promote public-private partnerships through various international efforts to support supply chain resilience.

On 18 July 2024, Minister Saito met with Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, Mary Ng at the G7 Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3730</sup> The ministers engaged in bilateral dialogue on the importance of protecting supply chains from unfair trade practices and reiterated bilateral economic cooperative potential due to Japanese investments in Canadian critical minerals.

On 5 August 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ryosuke Kozuki and Minister of Information and Communications of Vietnam Nguyen Manh Hung met and discussed bilateral cooperation related to semiconductors.<sup>3731</sup> The discussion focused on bilateral efforts to secure the semiconductor supply chain.

On 22 August 2024, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Taku Ishii met with the Indian Minister of State for Ministry of Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada, discussing the Japan-India Semiconductor Supply Chain Partnership.<sup>3732</sup> The meeting reaffirmed commitments to build stable semiconductor supply chains within the two countries.

On 27 August 2024, Minister Saito met with multiple United States Congress members, discussing issues related to supply chains and critical and emerging technologies.<sup>3733</sup> The discussion emphasized the importance of continued Japan-United States cooperation in these areas.

On 9 October 2024, Director-General of the Commerce and Information Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Economy Satoshi Nohara and Canada's Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Associate Assistant Deputy Minister Mary Gregory discussed cooperation between Japan and Canada.<sup>3734</sup> The ministers discussed battery supply chain issues and reaffirmed commitment to building global battery supply chains.

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<sup>3729</sup> 上川陽子外務大臣のG7貿易大臣会合への出席「B7代表との意見交換」及び「サプライチェーン強靱化アウトリーチ・セッション」, 外務省 (Tokyo) 17 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/it/pageit\\_000001\\_00869.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/it/pageit_000001_00869.html)

<sup>3730</sup> Minister Ng meets Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry at G7 trade ministers' meeting, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 18 July 2024. Access Date: October 30 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-japans-minister-of-economy-trade-and-industry-at-g7-trade-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>3731</sup> 上月経済産業副大臣がベトナム社会主義共和国のグエン・マイン・フン情報通信大臣と会談を行いました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 5 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/08/20240805003/20240805003.html>

<sup>3732</sup> 石井経済産業大臣政務官はインドのジティン・ブラサダ商工/電子・IT閣外大臣と会談しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 22 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/08/20240822001/20240822001.html>

<sup>3733</sup> 齋藤経済産業大臣は米国の下院中国特別委員会委員長一行による表敬を受けました, 財務省 (Tokyo) 27 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/08/20240827004/20240827004.html>

<sup>3734</sup> 日加バッテリーサプライチェーンに関する協力覚書に基づく対話 第1回会合の開催(結果), 外務省 (Tokyo) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01252.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01252.html)

On 25 October 2024, Japan attended the 110th Development Committee Meeting of the World Bank.<sup>3735</sup> Representatives engaged in multilateral dialogue regarding Japan's continuing support of the International Development Association, which aims to increase global supply chain participation, focused on low- and middle-income countries.

On 18 November 2024, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yoji Muto attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ministerial meeting.<sup>3736</sup> The meeting established dialogue about Japan's strategies for strengthening the World Trade Organization through supply chain resilience, by the digitalization of trade procedures. The APEC Ministerial Joint Statement was adopted, which emphasized continued work on the APEC Alliance for Supply Chain Connectivity to improve supply chain connectivity and promote trade.

On 21 November 2024, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry co-chaired the German-Japanese Economic Security Consultation alongside representatives from Germany's Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Protection and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.<sup>3737</sup> The meeting opened bilateral dialogue for increased cooperation on strengthening supply chains and responding to economic coercion.

On 27 November 2024, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Masataka Okano and India's Minister of External Affairs Vikram Misri attended the Japan-India Economic Security Dialogue.<sup>3738</sup> The bilateral meeting included dialogue on supply chain resilience and strategized on addressing economic coercion.

On 18 December 2024, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Masaki Ogushi attended the Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum.<sup>3739</sup> At the forum, participants discussed efforts to strengthen multilateral supply chains in the mineral resources sector.

On 19 December 2024, Director-General of the International Economic Affairs Department Kyoko Kashiwabara, alongside US Assistant United Trade Representative Brenna Dougan participated in the Japan-United States Task Force on the Promotion of Human Rights and International Labor Standards in Supply Chains.<sup>3740</sup> During the dialogue, Director-General Kashiwabara discussed Japanese policies to promote business efforts in supply chains respecting human rights.

On 20 December 2024, Minister Yoji met with Vietnam's Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Diên at the Japan-Vietnam Committee on Industry, Trade and Energy.<sup>3741</sup> At the meeting, the two ministers discussed strengthening bilateral supply chain resilience through subsidization and increased cooperation regarding critical mineral supply chains.

On 24 December 2024, Ambassador to Indonesia Yasushi Masaki signed and exchanged notes with Director General of Asia-Pacific and African Affairs Abdul Kadir Jailani for a loan of up to JPY15.545 billion related to

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<sup>3735</sup> 第110回世銀・IMF合同開発委員会における日本国ステートメント(2024年10月25日 於:ワシントンD.C.), 財務省 (Tokyo) 25 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.mof.go.jp/policy/international\\_policy/imf/dc/20241025180048.html](https://www.mof.go.jp/policy/international_policy/imf/dc/20241025180048.html)

<sup>3736</sup> 武藤経済産業大臣がペルー共和国・リマに出張しました, 経済産業省 (Tokyo) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/11/20241118001/20241118001.html>

<sup>3737</sup> 第一回日独経済安全保障協議の開催, 外務省 (Tokyo) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/erp/c\\_see/de/pageit\\_000001\\_01283.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/erp/c_see/de/pageit_000001_01283.html)

<sup>3738</sup> 日印経済安全保障対話及び外務次官対話の開催(結果), 外務省 (Tokyo) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/s\\_sa/sw/in/pageit\\_000001\\_01302.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/s_sa/sw/in/pageit_000001_01302.html)

<sup>3739</sup> 大串経済産業副大臣がコートジボワール共和国へ出張しました, 経済産業省 (東京) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/12/20241218002/20241218002.html>

<sup>3740</sup> Launch of the Second Round of the Japan-U.S. Task Force on the Promotion of Human Rights and International Labor Standards in Supply Chains, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1219\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1219_001.html)

<sup>3741</sup> 第7回「日ベトナム産業・貿易・エネルギー協力委員会」を開催しました, 経済産業省 (東京) 20 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/12/20241220004/20241220004.html>

integrating Indonesian fishing ports into international fish markets.<sup>3742</sup> The loan is intended to improve marine product supply chains through providing funds towards renovating fishing ports and market facilities in Indonesia.

On 25 December 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Iwaya met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.<sup>3743</sup> This bilateral meeting entailed discussions regarding the stabilization of global industrial supply chains and fortification strategies.

On 15 January 2025, Deputy Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Takehiko Matsuo delivered a keynote speech at the Japan-Thailand Public-Private Automotive Business Forum.<sup>3744</sup> During the forum's panel discussion, stakeholders from both countries discussed the current situation and prospects surrounding the automotive supply chain.

On 21 January 2025, Minister Iwaya met Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs Penny Wong, Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and US Secretary of State, Marco Rubio for the Japan-Australia-India-United States Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3745</sup> The four ministers engaged in discussions to support increased cooperation for enhancement of reliable and resilient supply chains.

On 22 January 2025, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Masashi Adachi met with UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology Margaret Jones during the Third Ministerial Council of the Japan-United Kingdom Digital Partnership.<sup>3746</sup> Both officials reaffirmed their country's commitment towards cooperation on ensuring supply chain resilience (specifically within the semiconductor sector), supply chain diversification in telecommunications through adoption of new technologies such as open radio access networks and intergovernmental cooperation to develop technical standards.

On 29 January 2025, Minister Yoji met with Australian Minister for Resources and Minister for Northern Australia Madeleine King.<sup>3747</sup> The bilateral discussion centered around increasing cooperation regarding supply chains of critical minerals.

On 6 February 2025, Ambassador to Canada Kanji Yamanouchi met with Canadian Ambassador to Japan and Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific Ian McKay during the Japan-Canada Chambers Council eighth annual meeting.<sup>3748</sup> This meeting was established by Japan's Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and facilitated dialogue to secure critical bilateral supply chains amidst geopolitical

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<sup>3742</sup> インドネシア共和国に対する円借款2件に関する書簡の署名・交換, 外務省 (ジャカルタ) 24 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_01574.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_01574.html)

<sup>3743</sup> Wang Yi Holds Talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Iwaya, Ministry of Foreign Affairs The People's Republic of China (Beijing). 25 December 2024. Access Date: 23 February 2025.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjfb/zjzg\\_663340/yzs\\_663350/xwlb\\_663352/202412/t20241226\\_11519495.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjfb/zjzg_663340/yzs_663350/xwlb_663352/202412/t20241226_11519495.html)

<sup>3744</sup> 日タイ官民自動車ビジネスフォーラムを開催しました, 経済産業省 (東京) 16 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/01/20250116001/20250116001.html>

<sup>3745</sup> Japan-Australia-India-U.S. (Quad) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo). 21 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/nsp/pageite\\_000001\\_00770.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/nsp/pageite_000001_00770.html)

<sup>3746</sup> Outcomes of the Third Ministerial Council of the Japan-UK Digital Partnership, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 22 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.soumu.go.jp/main\\_sosiki/joho\\_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2025/1/22\\_1.html](https://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/eng/pressrelease/2025/1/22_1.html)

<sup>3747</sup> Minister Muto Holds Meeting with Ms. Madeleine King, Australia's Minister for Resources and Minister for Northern Australia, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo). 29 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0129\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0129_001.html)

<sup>3748</sup> Friends and Partners: Japan-Canada Chambers Council 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting Recap Blog, Canadian Chamber of Commerce (Ottawa). 11 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://chamber.ca/friends-and-partners-japan-canada-chambers-council-8th-meeting-recap-blog/>

threats. Furthermore, both countries strategized increased cooperation to facilitate clean technology supply chains.

On 7 February 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba Shigeru met with US President Donald Trump.<sup>3749</sup> The meeting reaffirmed the bilateral partnership between Japan and the US. Both countries strategized to increase defense capacities for supply chains and the protection of sensitive technologies to enhance supply chain resilience. Furthermore, both countries committed to diversification of the critical minerals supply chain.

On 12 February 2025, Minister Muto attended the European Union-Japan Business Roundtable (BRT) with Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Japan Jean-Eric Paquet.<sup>3750</sup> The discussion centered around strengthening supply chain resilience and various annual recommendations made by the BRT to Japan and the EU were adopted.

On 15 February 2025, Minister Takeshi met US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, and South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul.<sup>3751</sup> This meeting aimed to reaffirm the trilateral partnership, and the ministers recommitted to diversification of critical minerals supply chains and security of supply chains for economic resilience.

On 19 February 2025, State Minister Masaki met with German Parliamentary State Secretary Stefan Wenzel.<sup>3752</sup> Their bilateral dialogue included strategies to enhance supply chains for clean energy technologies between the two nations.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of Japan attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3753</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 7 March 2025, Minister Iwaya and Minister Muto met with UK Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy and UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Jonathan Reynolds during the Japan-United Kingdom Economic 2+2 Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3754</sup> The bilateral meeting emphasized both countries' commitment to supply chain resilience and strengthened cooperation for critical and emerging technologies.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Iwaya attended the G7 Ministerial Meeting in Charlevoix.<sup>3755</sup> The multilateral meeting included discussions regarding cooperation against supply chain disruptions for future resilience.

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<sup>3749</sup> United States – Japan Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington). 7 February 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-japan-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>3750</sup> 日・EUビジネス・ラウンドテーブル(BRT)第26回年次会合の開催(結果概要). 外務省(東京) 13 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/ie/pageit\\_000122\\_00001.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/ie/pageit_000122_00001.html)

<sup>3751</sup> Joint Statement on the Trilateral United States – Japan – Republic of Korea Meeting in Munich, United States Department of State (Washington). 15 February 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-trilateral-united-states-japan-republic-of-korea-meeting-in-munich/>

<sup>3752</sup> State Minister Ogushi Holds Meeting with Mr. Stefan Wenzel, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action of Federal Republic of Germany, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0219\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0219_001.html)

<sup>3753</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3754</sup> Japan-UK Economic 2+2 Joint Press Release, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01069.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01069.html)

<sup>3755</sup> Joint Statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

On 26 March 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba met with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva for a state visit.<sup>3756</sup> This bilateral meeting concluded with a joint statement outlining Japanese-Brazilian strategies for cooperation on supply chain resilience including greater technology transfer. Strategies included increased cooperation for critical and emerging technologies for supply chain resilience.

On 30 March 2025, Minister Muto met with the South Korean Minister for Trade, Cheong In-kyo and the Chinese Minister of Commerce Wang Wentao for the 13<sup>th</sup> Korea-Japan-China Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3757</sup> The trilateral meeting emphasized commitments to supply chain resilience, with a particular focus on ensuring stability.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguarding critical and emerging technologies. Japan has taken both strong and weak actions towards all three aspects of the commitment through implementing policies, adopting joint statements, and participating in bilateral and multilateral dialogues.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Victoria ZhangLiu*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 2 July 2024, the United Kingdom Mission to the World Trade Organization made a statement on emerging technologies at the 56th assembly of the United Nations Human Rights Council.<sup>3758</sup> The statement emphasized the importance of protecting and promoting human rights in the context of new and emerging technologies.

On 17 July 2024, Secretary of State for Business and Trade and President of the Board of Trade Jonathan Reynolds met with Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, Mary Ng at the G7 ministerial meeting.<sup>3759</sup> Secretary Reynolds and Minister Ng and noted bilateral preparations to cooperate on the safeguarding of supply chains against discriminatory trade practice.

On 27 August 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer met with Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz.<sup>3760</sup> This meeting consisted of dialogues aimed to initiate negotiations on a bilateral treaty cooperation on defence and security cooperation to bolster supply chain resilience.

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<sup>3756</sup> STRATEGIC AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN JAPAN-BRAZIL (2025-2030), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100820019.pdf>

<sup>3757</sup> Joint Media Statement of the Thirteenth Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting between the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 30 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/03/20250330001/20250330001-a.pdf>

<sup>3758</sup> UN Human Rights Council 56: UK Statement on New and Emerging Technologies, GOV.UK (London), 2 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-56-uk-statement-on-new-and-emerging-technologies>

<sup>3759</sup> Minister Ng meets Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry at G7 trade minister's meeting, Global Affairs Canada. (Ottawa). 18 July 2024. Access Date: October 29 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/minister-ng-meets-japans-minister-of-economy-trade-and-industry-at-g7-trade-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>3760</sup> Prime Minister to drive UK growth on European visits as he launches major German partnership, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-to-drive-uk-growth-on-european-visits-as-he-launches-major-german-partnership>

On 3 September 2024, Secretary of State for Defence John Healey met with Ukraine's Defence Minister Rustem Umerov.<sup>3761</sup> This meeting aimed to solidify the International Fund for Ukraine, which stimulates the industrial capacity of Europe to secure defense supply chains.

On 9 September 2024 the Department of Business and Trade signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United States and Australian governments.<sup>3762</sup> The MoU aimed to establish a new Supply Chain Resilience Cooperation Group. This group would intend to limit supply chain risk by developing an early warning pilot program to detect and monitor risks.

On 19 September 2024, Minister of State for the Department for Business and Trade Douglas Alexander met with Laos' Minister of Industry and Commerce Malaithong Kommasith to co-chair the Fourth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Economic Ministers Consultation.<sup>3763</sup> The multilateral meeting aimed to strategize cooperation for supply chain resilience including against threats such as climate change and economic challenges.

On 26 September, 2024, Secretary Healey met Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles and the United States' Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin to reaffirm the Australia-United Kingdom-United States partnership.<sup>3764</sup> The trilateral dialogue aimed to strategize increased cooperation for supply chain resilience, including public-private partnerships for investment in greater supply chain defence capacity and greater integration in global supply chains.

On 25 November 2024, the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.<sup>3765</sup>

On 27 November 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), along with the Home Office, announced new measures to address "business-related human rights abuses" in global supply chains through conducting a National Baseline Assessment.<sup>3766</sup> This action ensures a response to harmful supply chain practices.

On 4 December 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs David Lammy attended the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Foreign Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3767</sup> The meeting reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment to spend 2.5% of its budget on defense to secure supply chains across NATO countries.

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<sup>3761</sup> Defence Secretary welcomes Ukrainian counterpart to UK and confirms £1bn milestone in UK-administered fund, Ministry of Defence (London) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/defence-secretary-welcomes-ukrainian-counterpart-to-uk-and-confirms-1bn-milestone-in-uk-administered-fund>

<sup>3762</sup> UK, US and Australia sign supply chain resilience pact, Department of Business and Trade (London) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-australia-sign-supply-chain-resilience-pact>

<sup>3763</sup> The Fourth AEM-UK Consultation, Department for Business and Trade (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-fourth-aem-uk-consultation>

<sup>3764</sup> AUKUS Statement: 26 September 2024, Ministry of Defence (London) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/aukus-statement-26-september-2024>

<sup>3765</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3766</sup> OSCE report on combating trafficking in human beings: UK response, November 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/osce-report-on-combating-trafficking-in-human-beings-uk-response-november-2024>

<sup>3767</sup> UK to push Allies to increase support for Ukraine and defence spending at NATO, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 December 2024. Access Date, 15 February 2025, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-push-allies-to-increase-support-for-ukraine-and-defence-spending-at-nato>



On 4 December 2024, Prime Minister Starmer met with the Emir of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.<sup>3768</sup> At this meeting, Prime Minister Starmer reaffirmed the UK's commitment to bilateral cooperation with Qatar to strengthen defensive industrial capacities for the enhancement of supply chain resilience.

On 15 December 2024, Secretary Lammy and Secretary of State for Defence John Healy met with the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Penny Wong and Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles to discuss collaborative measures between Australia and the UK to bolster supply chains.<sup>3769</sup> This dialogue surrounded commitments to the Australia-United Kingdom-United States (AUKUS) partnership. The parties also announced the creation of the Programme Interface Office to coordinate AUKUS supply chains and support trilateral supply chain resilience.

On 22 January 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology met with Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; and Digital Agency for the third Ministerial Japan-United Kingdom Digital Council meeting.<sup>3770</sup> The UK and Japan reaffirmed commitments outlined in the Hiroshima Accord, with both countries taking action to strengthen cooperation regarding supply chain resilience for digital infrastructure and technologies.

On 12 February 2025, Energy Secretary Ed Miliband met with Indian Minister of Power Manohar Lal for the Fourth India-United Kingdom Energy Dialogue.<sup>3771</sup> The ministers discussed bilateral efforts to build secure and sustainable clean energy supply chains. The meeting established the United Kingdom-India Offshore Wind Taskforce, intended to advance offshore wind development for supply chains.

On 14 February 2025, Minister for the Armed Forces Luke Pollard met with Ukrainian officials to facilitate a trade mission.<sup>3772</sup> During the meeting, the delegation highlighted plans to support Ukraine in the ongoing conflict through the construction of resilient supply chains.

On 5 March 2025, Secretary Lammy met with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.<sup>3773</sup> This meeting included discussions on strengthening collaboration between the two countries, with a focus on building more resilient supply chains.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3774</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

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<sup>3768</sup> Joint statement between the Prime Minister and the Amir of the State of Qatar, Prime Minister's Office (London), 4 December 2024. Access Date, 15 February 2025, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-prime-minister-and-the-amir-of-the-state-of-qatar>

<sup>3769</sup> UK and Australia boost growth and defence partnership at summit in London, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London), 15 December 2024. Access Date: 15 February 2025 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-australia-boost-growth-and-defence-partnership-at-summit-in-london>

<sup>3770</sup> UK-Japan Digital Partnership: joint statement (January 2025), Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London). 23 January 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-japan-digital-partnership/uk-japan-digital-partnership-joint-statement-january-2025>

<sup>3771</sup> Fourth UK-India Energy Dialogue: joint statement, British High Commission (New Delhi). 12 February 2025. Access Date: 22 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fourth-uk-india-energy-dialogue-joint-statement>

<sup>3772</sup> International trade mission to Ukraine deepens industry ties and boosts growth, Ministry of Defence, Department for Business and Trade (London), 14 February 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-trade-mission-to-ukraine-deepens-industry-ties-and-boosts-growth>

<sup>3773</sup> India expands UK footprint as £41 billion partnership boosts countries' growth, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London), 5 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/india-expands-uk-footprint-as-41bn-partnership-boosts-countries-growth>

<sup>3774</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

On 6 March 2025, Prime Minister Starmer met with Irish Taoiseach Micheál Martin at the United Kingdom-Ireland summit.<sup>3775</sup> The summit concluded with the publication of a joint statement, which outlined a bilateral commitment to supporting an all-island supply chain and promoting supply chain resilience.

On 7 March 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy and Business Secretary Johnathan Reynolds met with Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs Iwaya and Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Muto Yoi for the Economic 2+2 Ministers' Meeting.<sup>3776</sup> The bilateral meeting included dialogue for greater cooperation regarding supply chain resilience for critical and emerging technologies.

On 14 March 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy met with the G7 Foreign Ministers at the G7 Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3777</sup> The meeting concluded in the release of the "Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity," highlighting multilateral strategies to secure supply chain resilience.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring their toolkits that respond to harmful practices are fit for purpose, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security. The United Kingdom has met bilaterally with Ireland, Japan, India, Australia, Qatar and other countries to promote resilient supply chain cooperation. Furthermore, through multilateral engagement, the implementation of multilateral policies and commitment to investment in defense capacity, the United Kingdom has acted strongly towards this commitment

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

*Analyst: Kevin Wang*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 26 June 2024, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo met with the Republic of Korea Minister of Industry, Trade, and Resources Ahn Duk-Geun, European Commission Executive Vice President Margrethe Vestager, and the Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Saito Ken during the Japan-European Union-Korea-United States Commerce and Industry Ministerial Meeting in Washington, D.C.<sup>3778</sup> The m discussed the importance of resilient supply chains and the issues posed by non-market policies, and committed to diversifying supply chains where possible and necessary.

On 26 June 2024, Secretary Raimondo met with Japan's Minister Ken in Washington, D.C. during the Japan-United States Commercial and Industrial Partnership Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3779</sup> The ministers stated their concern with strategic dependencies, non-market policies, and overcapacity, and agreed to take joint efforts to increase

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<sup>3775</sup> Joint statement between Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Taoiseach Micheál Martin, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-prime-minister-keir-starmer-and-taoiseach-micheal-martin-6-march-2025>

<sup>3776</sup> Japan-UK Economic 2+2 Joint Press Release, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01069.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01069.html)

<sup>3777</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix). 14 May 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>3778</sup> Readout of the U.S.-E.U.-Japan-Republic of Korea Ministerial Meeting, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.), 26 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/06/readout-us-eu-japan-republic-korea-ministerial-meeting>

<sup>3779</sup> Joint Readout of the Ministerial Meeting of the Japan-United States Commercial and Industrial Partnership, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.), 26 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/06/joint-readout-ministerial-meeting-japan-united-states-commercial-and>

supply chain resilience by both strengthening supply and creating demand in line with the Principles on Resilient and Reliable Supply Chains.

On 26 June 2024, Secretary met with Korea's Minister Ahn and Japan's Minister Ken, participating in the Japan-ROK-United States Commerce and Industry Ministerial Meeting in Washington, D.C.<sup>3780</sup> The ministers released a joint statement of their intent to leverage their trilateral collaboration to promote the development of critical and emerging technologies, remedy supply chain vulnerabilities, and strengthen economic security and resilience. The leaders made specific reference to technologies including semiconductors, AI, critical minerals, and clean energy as critical and emerging technologies that they plan to manage securely.

On 26 June 2024, Assistant Secretary at the Bureau of Energy Resources Geoffrey Pyatt made remarks at the United States Chamber of Commerce's Critical Minerals Summit.<sup>3781</sup> Assistant Secretary Pyatt noted the growing demand for critical minerals essential to national security and energy transition and emphasized the partnership between American industry and foreign affairs. Assistant Secretary Pyatt discussed the complexities of the critical minerals supply chain, highlighting the risks of over-reliance on China and stated the important role of the Mineral Security Partnership in diversifying supply chains and mobilizing investments in critical minerals.

On 27 June 2024, Secretary Raimondo met with Korea's Minister Ahn in the second United States-Korea Supply Chain and Commercial Dialogue Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3782</sup> They emphasized deepening semiconductor investment cooperation and underscored collaboration in supply chain, workforce development, and research and development, and committed to safeguarding critical technologies through Dual-Use Export Controls. The leaders also agreed to explore collaborative opportunities in third countries to enhance global investment access and economic growth.

On 10 July 2024, the U.S. Department of Commerce issued a Notice of Intent to open a competition for research and development in semiconductor advanced packaging.<sup>3783</sup> Up to USD1.6 billion in funding will be provided across five key areas, including power delivery and chiplets ecosystems, as part of the CHIPS for America program. Secretary Raimondo highlighted the importance of advanced packaging in building a robust domestic semiconductor ecosystem, which will in turn enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities and supply chain resilience.

On 25 July 2024, Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm attended a meeting of the Partnership for Transatlantic Energy and Climate Cooperation.<sup>3784</sup> This multilateral meeting included dialogue about the establishment of clean energy supply chains and promoting supply chain resilience.

On 25 July 2024, Secretary Raimondo and Nigeria's Minister of Investment, Trade, and Industry Doris Nkiruka Uzoka-Anite signed a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding related to data protection, cross-border data

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<sup>3780</sup> Joint Statement: Japan-Republic of Korea-United States Commerce and Industry Ministerial Meeting, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.), 26 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/06/joint-statement-japan-republic-korea-united-states-commerce-and>

<sup>3781</sup> Remarks at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Critical Minerals Summit, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.), 26 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/remarks-at-the-u-s-chamber-of-commerces-critical-minerals-summit/>

<sup>3782</sup> Joint Readout: United States-Korea Supply Chain and Commercial Dialogue Ministerial Meeting, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.), 27 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/06/joint-readout-united-states-korea-supply-chain-and-commercial-dialogue>

<sup>3783</sup> Biden-Harris Administration to Invest up to \$1.6 Billion to Establish and Accelerate Domestic Capacity Advanced Packaging, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington, D.C.), 9 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/07/biden-harris-administration-invest-16-billion-establish-and-accelerate>

<sup>3784</sup> The Partnership for Transatlantic Energy and Climate Cooperation (P-TECC) Statement of Principles – 2024, Department of Energy (Washington) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/partnership-transatlantic-energy-and-climate-cooperation-p-tecc-statement-principles-2024>

transfers, and artificial intelligence.<sup>3785</sup> Commitments were reaffirmed to strengthen cooperation in cloud security and applications to protect the Information and Communications Technology and Services supply chain.

On 30 July 2024, the Department of Commerce concluded the first meetings of supply chain bodies established under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Agreement Relating to Supply Chain Resilience.<sup>3786</sup> Multilateral discussions were centered on strengthening resilience and competitiveness of supply chains and coordinating regional responses to disruptions.

On 5 August 2024, Secretary Raimondo convened a roundtable discussion with investors related to non-market actions by China and potential distortions on the market for mature node semiconductors.<sup>3787</sup> Dialogue surrounded how companies addressed oversupply risks, and how government actions could support the construction of resilient semiconductor supply chains.

On 8 August 2024, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg met with retailers, manufacturers, and other businesses to discuss the protection of supply chains related to ocean shipping challenges and impacts.<sup>3788</sup> During the meeting, industry leaders discussed strategies for mitigating the impacts of disruptive events, as well as the Freight Logistics Optimization Works initiative to secure data-sharing for the coordination of global supply chains.

On 29 August 2024, Trade Representative Katherine Tai met with Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mary Ng.<sup>3789</sup> They discussed bilateral collaboration for enhanced supply chain resilience.

On 10 September 2024, Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves met with the Republic of Korea's Minister of Trade Cheong In-Kyo on trade and investment.<sup>3790</sup> Discussion occurred on bilateral collaboration through the United States-Korea Supply Chain and Commercial Dialogue to increase trade and investment in advanced manufacturing.

On 13 September 2024, President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris announced action to combat harmful trade practices, specifically the usage of de minimis shipments to conceal illegal or dangerous

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<sup>3785</sup> Joint Statement on Harnessing Artificial Intelligence, Facilitating Data Flows and Empowering Digital Upskilling Between the United States Department of Commerce and the Nigerian Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Department of Commerce (Washington) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/07/joint-statement-harnessing-artificial-intelligence-facilitating-data>

<sup>3786</sup> U.S. and IPEF Partners Establish Supply Chain Bodies and Convene First Virtual Meetings Under Landmark Supply Chain Agreement, Department of Commerce (Washington) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/07/us-and-ipef-partners-establish-supply-chain-bodies-and-convene-first>

<sup>3787</sup> Readout of Secretary Raimondo's Convening on Legacy Semiconductors, Department of Commerce (Washington) 5 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/08/readout-secretary-raimondos-convening-legacy-semiconductors>

<sup>3788</sup> Readout of Secretary Buttigieg's Meeting with Ocean Shippers, U.S. Department of Transportation (Washington) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/readout-secretary-buttigieg-meeting-ocean-shippers>

<sup>3789</sup> Minister Ng meets with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai in Washington D.C., Global Affairs Canada (Washington). August 29, 2024. Access Date: October 31 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/08/minister-ng-meets-with-united-states-trade-representative-katherine-tai-in-washington-dc.html>

<sup>3790</sup> Readout of Deputy Secretary Graves' Meeting with Republic of Korea Minister of Trade Cheong In-kyo, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/09/readout-deputy-secretary-graves-meeting-republic-korea-minister-trade>

products.<sup>3791</sup> The Government of the United States indicated its intention to amend regulations to exclude goods with tariffs from the de minimis exception, as well as requiring more detailed information for de minimis shipments.

On 23 September 2024, Deputy Secretary Graves met with the Netherlands' Minister of Economic Affairs Dirk Beljaarts to discuss transatlantic trade issues.<sup>3792</sup> The dialogue reaffirmed bilateral cooperation on critical emerging technologies such as semiconductors, and procurement. This action represents American objectives to engage with other nations on issues surrounding critical emerging technologies.

On 3 October 2024, Secretary Raimondo and Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal convened a meeting of the United States-India Commercial Dialogue and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).<sup>3793</sup> Bilateral commitments were signified by the MoU for the diversification of critical minerals supply chains and best practices for commercial development of the sector.

On 4 October 2024, Secretary Granholm and Australia's Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen met to discuss supporting and securing clean solar supply chains.<sup>3794</sup> The ministers acknowledged supply chain diversification objectives and expressed intent to conduct techno-economic market studies.

On 8 October 2024, Secretary Raimondo held a call with the Chinese Minister of Commerce, Wang Wentao, regarding overcapacity in various industrial sectors, as well as non-market policies and regulatory transparency.<sup>3795</sup> The discussion reaffirmed bilateral efforts to address overcapacity and harmful trade practices.

On 9 October 2024, United States Ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO) María Pagán announced the contribution of USD600,000 to the WTO Global Trust Fund program.<sup>3796</sup> The program focuses on supporting government officials in developing countries to improve their ability to engage in WTO trade negotiations. These capacity-building activities are intended to increase global participation in trade and supply chains.

On 10 October 2024, Secretary Raimondo met with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni.<sup>3797</sup> Secretary Raimondo and Prime Minister Meloni discussed G7 efforts to promote resiliency within the global semiconductor ecosystem.

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<sup>3791</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Protect American Consumers, Workers, and Businesses by Cracking Down on De Minimis Shipments with Unsafe, Unfairly Traded Products, White House (Washington) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/13/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-protect-american-consumers-workers-and-businesses-by-cracking-down-on-de-minimis-shipments-with-unsafe-unfairly-traded-products/>

<sup>3792</sup> Readout of Deputy Secretary Graves' Meeting with Minister of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands Dirk Beljaarts, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/09/readout-deputy-secretary-graves-meeting-minister-economic-affairs>

<sup>3793</sup> Secretary Raimondo and Minister Goyal Convene 6th U.S.-India Commercial Dialogue Meeting, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/secretary-raimondo-and-minister-goyal-convene-6th-us-india-commercial>

<sup>3794</sup> Joint Statement Between the U.S. and Australia on the 2024 Ministerial Dialogue on Clean Energy, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/joint-statement-between-us-and-australia-2024-ministerial-dialogue-clean-energy>

<sup>3795</sup> Readout of Secretary Raimondo's Call with Minister of Commerce of China Wang Wentao, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/readout-secretary-raimondos-call-minister-commerce-china-wang-wentao>

<sup>3796</sup> US gives USD 600,000 to strengthen trade expertise in developing economies and LDCs, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/pres24\\_e/pr965\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres24_e/pr965_e.htm)

<sup>3797</sup> Readout of Secretary Raimondo's Meeting with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/readout-secretary-raimondos-meeting-italian-prime-minister-giorgia>

On 17 October 2024, the Department of Commerce announced the signing of a non-binding preliminary memorandum of terms to provide up to USD93 million in funding for Infinera to build a new fabrication plant and a new facility for advanced test and packaging.<sup>3798</sup> This investment is focused on improving resilience of the semiconductor supply chain.

On 21 October 2024, the Department of Commerce announced the signing of a non-binding preliminary memorandum of terms to provide up to USD325 million in funding for Hemlock Semiconductor's construction of a new facility for producing and purifying hyper-pure semiconductor-grade polysilicon.<sup>3799</sup> This investment is focused on improving resilience of the semiconductor supply chain.

On 11 November 2024, International Trade Administration Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Manufacturing Heather Evans attended the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's 29th Conference of the Parties and participated in discussions with representatives from various countries, firms, and civil society groups about clean energy supply chains.<sup>3800</sup> This represents a continuation of efforts to improve the stability of clean energy supply chains alongside global partners.

On 15 November 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Representative Tai attended the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders Meeting.<sup>3801</sup> The meeting produced a Joint Ministerial Statement and multilateral endorsement on the Machu Picchu Declaration which reaffirmed commitments to enhancing global supply chain resilience.

On 15 November 2024, Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade Marisa Lago led a high-level delegation to Indonesia as part of the Innovative Technologies for Urban Infrastructure Development Trade Mission.<sup>3802</sup> This bilateral engagement aimed to advance bilateral trade cooperation and strategized for supply chain resilience.

On 19 November 2024, President Joe Biden met with Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula de Silva at the G20 Rio de Janeiro Summit.<sup>3803</sup> The meeting strengthened bilateral efforts to expand clean energy supply chains and advance technological development for supply chain enhancement.

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<sup>3798</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Preliminary Terms with Infinera to Support Development of Semiconductor Technology Important for Communications and National Security, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/biden-harris-administration-announces-preliminary-terms-infinera>

<sup>3799</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Preliminary Terms with Hemlock Semiconductor to Significantly Expand U.S. Production Capacity of Semiconductor-Grade Polysilicon, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/biden-harris-administration-announces-preliminary-terms-hemlock>

<sup>3800</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce Senior Officials to Participate in United Nations COP 29 Climate Conference in Baku, United States Department of Commerce (Washington) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/11/us-department-commerce-senior-officials-participate-united-nations-cop>

<sup>3801</sup> U.S. 2024 APEC Outcomes, United States Department of State (Washington) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-2024-apec-outcomes/>

<sup>3802</sup> U.S. UNDER SECRETARY LAGO ADVANCES U.S.-INDONESIA BILATERAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT on Visit to Jakarta and Nusantara, United States Embassy and Consulates in Indonesia (Jakarta) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://id.usembassy.gov/u-s-under-secretary-lago-advances-u-s-indonesia-bilateral-trade-and-investment-on-visit-to-jakarta-and-nusantara/>

<sup>3803</sup> FACT SHEET: New Brazil-U.S. Partnership for the Energy Transition, United States Embassy and Consulates in Brazil (Brasilia) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://br.usembassy.gov/fact-sheet-new-brazil-u-s-partnership-for-the-energy-transition/>

On 25 November 2024, Secretary Blinken attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3804</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

On 18 December 2024, Acting Assistant to the Trade Representative for Labor Brenna Dougan co-chaired the US-Japan Task Force on the Promotion of Human Rights and International Labor Standards in Supply Chains.<sup>3805</sup> During the Task Force's meeting, the United States and Japan discussed ongoing efforts to utilize trade policy to combat the usage of forced labor in supply chains. Additionally, various members of the seafood industry in both countries participated in discussions surrounding the seafood supply chains and efforts to improve labor standards within them.

On 19 December 2024, the White House Council on Supply Chain Resilience released the Quadrennial Supply Chain Review.<sup>3806</sup> The Review included findings from the supply chain risk assessment tool SCALE, which analyzed various sectors across the American goods economy to provide a deeper understanding into supply chain risks to support building resilience within them.

On 21 January 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio attended the Japan-Australia-India-United States Foreign Ministers' Meeting and met with Japanese Foreign Minister Iwaya, Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Penny Wong and India's Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.<sup>3807</sup> The multilateral meeting included discussions to increase quadrilateral efforts on enhancing supply chain resilience through strengthening of maritime technology security.

On 21 January 2025, Secretary Rubio met with Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Penny Wong.<sup>3808</sup> The parties reaffirmed their commitment to the AUKUS security partnership and discussed strategies for increased critical minerals and global supply chain security. This included efforts to securitize supply chains against coercive threats in the Indo-Pacific Region.

On 7 February 2025, President Donald Trump met with Japanese Prime Minister Ishiba.<sup>3809</sup> The meeting reaffirmed the US and Japan's bilateral partnership, and both countries strategized for increased defence capacities for supply chains and the protection of sensitive technologies to enhance supply chain resilience. Furthermore, both countries committed to diversification of the critical minerals supply chain.

On 13 February 2025, President Trump met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.<sup>3810</sup> The meeting reaffirmed the US and India's bilateral partnership and included strategization for increased supply chain resilience through increased integration. Security initiatives for supply chain resilience for semiconductors,

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<sup>3804</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

<sup>3805</sup> Readout of the Second Meeting of the U.S. - Japan Task Force on the Promotion of Human Rights and International Labor Standards in Supply Chains, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington D.C.) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2024/december/readout-second-meeting-us-japan-task-force-promotion-human-rights-and-international-labor-standards>

<sup>3806</sup> Secretary Raimondo Applauds Release of Inaugural White House Quadrennial Supply Chain Review, U.S. Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/12/secretary-raimondo-applauds-release-inaugural-white-house-quadrennial>

<sup>3807</sup> Joint Statement by the Quad Foreign Ministers, United States Department of State (Washington). 21 January 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-by-the-quad-foreign-ministers/>

<sup>3808</sup> Secretary Rubio's Meeting with Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Wong, United States Secretary of State (Washington). 21 January 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-meeting-with-australian-minister-for-foreign-affairs-wong/>

<sup>3809</sup> United States – Japan Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington). 7 February 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-japan-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>3810</sup> United States – India Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington). 13 February 2025. Access Date: 24 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-india-joint-leaders-statement/>

critical minerals and advanced materials and pharmaceuticals were topics of discussion. Furthermore, both countries discussed cooperation on reducing exploitation within critical supply chains.

On 15 February 2025, Secretary Rubio met with Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs Iwaya and South Korea Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul.<sup>3811</sup> This meeting reaffirmed their trilateral partnership to enhance the resilience of the critical minerals supply chain through increased security and technology infrastructure.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of the United States attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3812</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 12 March 2025, Secretary Rubio attended the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix.<sup>3813</sup> This multilateral meeting included discussions on advancing supply chain resilience by addressing export control measures that disrupt global supply chains.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to building resilient economies and supply chains, ensuring fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguarding critical and emerging technologies. The United States has taken strong action towards addressing all components of the commitment through bilateral and multilateral dialogues, new policies and funding.

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

*Analyst: Victoria ZhangLiu*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to build resilient economies and supply chains, ensure fit for purpose toolkits to respond to harmful practices, and safeguard critical and emerging technology that could be used to threaten international peace and security.

On 19 July 2024, the European Union signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Serbia to enhance access to raw materials and strengthen partnerships in battery manufacturing and sustainable raw materials for electric vehicles.<sup>3814</sup> This agreement aimed to ensure resilient supply chains through diversification of critical materials needed for the electric mobility transition.

On 10 September 2024, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) updated its ongoing evaluation of Directive (European Union) 2019/633 on unfair trading practices in the agricultural and food supply chain.<sup>3815</sup> The aim of this directive is to enhance the position of farmers and Small and Medium Enterprises across Europe by banning unfair trading practices to strengthen food sector supply chains.

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<sup>3811</sup> Joint Statement on the Trilateral United States – Japan – Republic of Korea in Munich, United States Department of State (Washington). 15 February 2025. Access Date: 23 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-trilateral-united-states-japan-republic-of-korea-meeting-in-munich/>

<sup>3812</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3813</sup> Joint statement of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Charlevoix, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-statement.html>

<sup>3814</sup> Serbia, EU and Germany sign battery supply chain deal, Reuters (Belgrade) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/serbia-eu-germany-sign-battery-supply-chain-deal-2024-07-19/>

<sup>3815</sup> Evaluation of Directive E (EU) 2019/633 of 17 April 2019 on unfair trading practices in B2B relationships in the agricultural and food supply chain Incl. Mapping of national UTP legislation), The European Economic and Social Committee 10 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/information-reports/evaluation-directive-e-eu-2019633-17-april-2019-unfair-trading-practices-b2b-relationships-agricultural-and-food-supply>



On 18 September 2024, the EESC adopted an opinion emphasizing the need for secure supply chains to support the European Union's industrial policy and competitiveness.<sup>3816</sup> The objective was to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of supply chains, ensuring that Europe could develop its industrial capabilities while fostering innovation and job creation.

On 23 September 2024, the European Union Council approved Luxembourg's amended recovery plan, including a new REPowerEU chapter to boost renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable transport.<sup>3817</sup> This aimed to strengthen supply chains by advancing clean energy infrastructure and reducing dependency on fossil fuels.

On 26 September 2024, the EESC published a report from the Strategic Dialogue on the future of the European Union's agriculture sector, highlighting the need for a comprehensive food policy that ensures fair prices for producers.<sup>3818</sup> The objective aimed to strengthen the food supply chain and enhance resilience by supporting sustainable agricultural practices in the European Union.

On 27 September 2024, the European Union announced changes to its auction rules for hydrogen grants to reduce dependence on Chinese suppliers in the renewable energy supply chain.<sup>3819</sup> This adjustment aims to enhance the resilience of the European Union's hydrogen production capabilities by limiting the share of parts sourced from China, thereby promoting local manufacturing and securing supply chains for sustainable energy.

On 10 October 2024, the European Union Council adopted the Cyber Resilience Act, setting cybersecurity requirements for digital products to ensure safety across the supply chain.<sup>3820</sup> This enhances supply chain security by standardizing cybersecurity for digital components throughout their lifecycle.

On 14 October 2024, the EESC proposed the development of a European Liquid Fuels Strategy to facilitate the transition from fossil to renewable liquid fuels.<sup>3821</sup> This strategy aimed to support the decarbonization of the economy while enhancing the resilience and competitiveness of the European Union's industrial value chain, thereby strengthening supply chains in the energy sector.

On 23 October 2024, the EESC adopted an initiative to foster sustainable and resilient food systems.<sup>3822</sup> This initiative seeks to enhance food security and strategic autonomy by reducing dependence on imports and

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<sup>3816</sup> Sectoral initiatives and overall competitiveness of the EU, The European Economic and Social Committee 18 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/sectoral-initiatives-and-overall-competitiveness-eu>

<sup>3817</sup> Recovery fund: Council greenlights Luxembourg's amended plan that includes a RepowerEU chapter, Council of the European Union Official Website On 23 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/09/23/recovery-fund-council-greenlights-luxembourg-s-amended-plan-that-includes-a-repowereu-chapter/>

<sup>3818</sup> Report from the strategic dialogue on the future of EU agriculture, European Union Official Website 26 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/report-strategic-dialogue-future-eu-agriculture>

<sup>3819</sup> EU changes hydrogen project auction rules to limit Chinese presence, Reuters (Brussels) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/eu-changes-hydrogen-project-auction-rules-limit-chinese-presence-2024-09-27/>

<sup>3820</sup> Cyber resilience act: Council adopts new law on security requirements for digital products, Council of the European Union Official Website 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/10/cyber-resilience-act-council-adopts-new-law-on-security-requirements-for-digital-products/>

<sup>3821</sup> A European Liquid Fuels Strategy for a sustainable, affordable and resilient low-carbon transition, European Union Official Website 14 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/european-liquid-fuels-strategy-sustainable-affordable-and-resilient-low-carbon-transition>

<sup>3822</sup> Fostering sustainable and resilient food systems at times of growing crises, European Union Official Website 23 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/fostering-sustainable-and-resilient-food-systems-times-growing-crises>

improving the transparency of the food supply chain, thereby strengthening the overall resilience of supply chains in the agricultural sector.

On 24 October 2024, the European Union Council approved a financial assistance package for Ukraine, including EUR35 billion loan and a loan cooperation mechanism.<sup>3823</sup> This measure aids Ukraine's supply chains by supporting economic stability and facilitating infrastructure recovery amid ongoing conflict.

On 25 October 2024, the European Union initiated further technical negotiations with China regarding imports of battery electric vehicles.<sup>3824</sup> This effort aims to establish a fair playing field in the European Union market by ensuring price undertakings align with World Trade Organization rules, contributing to more balanced and sustainable supply chains.

On 25 October 2024, European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde stated that geopolitical tensions are leading to economic and financial fragmentation, which poses risks to global prosperity and supply chain resilience.<sup>3825</sup> This statement highlights the importance of maintaining multilateral cooperation to prevent protectionism and ensure stable supply chains.

On 31 October 2024, the EESC proposed recommendations for transforming the European Union's agriculture, fisheries, and food systems to enhance resilience and sustainability.<sup>3826</sup> This initiative aims to strengthen supply chains by ensuring stable incomes for producers and implementing measures to protect against climate-related disasters, thus promoting food security and environmental sustainability.

On 15 November 2024, the European Investment Bank, the Banque de France and private firms collaborated to issue a EUR100 million note for investment.<sup>3827</sup> This multilateral investment aimed to secure digital financial supply chains and enhance resilience.

On 22 November 2024, the European Commission initiated discussions on expanding the European Chips Act to include foundational and legacy semiconductors.<sup>3828</sup> This project leveraged Europe's existing expertise in chipmaking technologies, such as microcontrollers and power semiconductor, to boost supply chain resilience and enhance Europe's competitiveness in the semiconductor industry.

On 25 November 2024, the European Union attended the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting.<sup>3829</sup> This multilateral dialogue included strategizing on the diversification of supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region and further cooperation to secure supply chains to enhance resilience.

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<sup>3823</sup> EU solidarity with Ukraine, Council of the European Union Official Website 24 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-solidarity-ukraine/>

<sup>3824</sup> Readout of video call between EVP Dombrovskis and Chinese Commerce Minister Wang, European Commission Official Website 25 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/readout-video-call-between-evp-dombrovskis-and-chinese-commerce-minister-wang-2024-10-25\\_en](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/readout-video-call-between-evp-dombrovskis-and-chinese-commerce-minister-wang-2024-10-25_en)

<sup>3825</sup> IMFC Statement, European Central Bank Official Website 25 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2024/html/ecb.sp241025~eidea121304.en.html>

<sup>3826</sup> EESC proposes concrete recommendations for building a resilient and sustainable food system for the future, European Economic and Social Committee Official Website 31 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/news/eesc-proposes-concrete-recommendations-building-resilient-and-sustainable-food-system-future>

<sup>3827</sup> EIB launches new digital bond as part of the Eurosystem Exploratory Work, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/investor-relations/press/all/fi-2024-13-eib-digital-bond-eurosystem-explanatory-work>

<sup>3828</sup> Northvolt crisis may be make or break for Europe's EV battery ambitions, Reuters (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/northvolt-crisis-may-be-make-or-break-europes-ev-battery-ambitions-2024-11-22/>

<sup>3829</sup> Team-based crisis diplomacy: Foreign Minister Baerbock is travelling to Fiuggi for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/2686232-2686232>

On 16 December 2024, the European Investment Bank provided a EUR243 million green loan to the Eurasian Resources Group for renewable energy development in Italy, France and Germany.<sup>3830</sup> This investment supported the REPowerEU plan and the financing enabled the repowering of existing wind and solar farms and the construction of new greenfield project aimed at strengthening energy supply chain resilience across Europe.

On 17 December 2024, the European Commission approved a EUR1.3 billion loan to the Government of Italy to support the building of a new semiconductor advanced packaging facility.<sup>3831</sup> This investment aimed to safeguard the European Union's security of the semiconductor supply chain and ensured further resilience.

On 19 December 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its commitment to supply chain resilience by maintaining the “solidarity lanes,” which have facilitated the trade and export of millions of tons of grain and oilseed from Ukraine since May 2022.<sup>3832</sup> This initiative aims to mitigate supply chain shocks, ensure trade flow stability and strengthen supply chain monitoring for global food security.

On 20 January 2025, the European Commission's Joint Research Centre published a report on the strategic importance of titanium metal for the European Union's economy and highlighted EU titanium supply chain vulnerabilities.<sup>3833</sup> The research identified geopolitical risks, resource dependency and trade disruptions affecting the titanium supply chain and released policy suggestions to enhance supply chain monitoring, diversify sourcing and improve domestic capabilities.

On 24 January 2025, the European Commission supported Sweden in strengthening its crisis preparedness through a project aimed at improving supply chain security and stakeholder coordination.<sup>3834</sup> This initiative developed a toolkit for “Resilient Public Procurement Strategies” to minimize risks of supply disruption, particularly in food and transportation sectors.

On 27 January 2025, the European Commission established the European Board on Agriculture and Food to enhance coordination and cooperation among actors in the food supply chain.<sup>3835</sup> The board aims to provide high-level advice on strategic policy developments and facilitate exchanges between private sector initiatives and the European Union's policies to ensure coherence and resilience of food supply chains.

On 5 February 2025, the EIB approved EUR2.4 billion in new financing for business investment, clean energy, transport, telecommunications and flood protection in Europe.<sup>3836</sup> This included support for energy-saving

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<sup>3830</sup> EIB provides €243 million to ERG for renewable energy development in Italy, France and Germany, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg), 16 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-511-eib-provides-eur243-million-to-erg-for-renewable-energy-development-in-italy-france-and-germany.htm>

<sup>3831</sup> Commission approves €1.3 billion Italian State aid measure to support Silicon Box in setting up a new semiconductor advanced packaging facility, European Commission (Brussels), 17 December 2024. Access Date: 23 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_6436](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_6436)

<sup>3832</sup> EU response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, European Council (Brussels), 19 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-response-russia-military-aggression-against-ukraine/>

<sup>3833</sup> Titanium metal in the EU: Strategic relevance and circularity potential, European Commission: Joint Research Centre (Luxembourg), 20 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC137082>

<sup>3834</sup> Building a future-oriented crisis preparedness system in Sweden, Reform and Investment Task Force (Brussels), 24 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://reform-support.ec.europa.eu/what-we-do/public-administration-and-governance/building-future-oriented-crisis-preparedness-system-sweden\\_en](https://reform-support.ec.europa.eu/what-we-do/public-administration-and-governance/building-future-oriented-crisis-preparedness-system-sweden_en)

<sup>3835</sup> European Commission establishes the European Board on Agriculture and Food, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (Brussels), 27 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/media/news/european-commission-establishes-european-board-agriculture-and-food-2025-01-27\\_en](https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/media/news/european-commission-establishes-european-board-agriculture-and-food-2025-01-27_en)

<sup>3836</sup> EIB Board Approves EUR2.4 Billion of Financing for Business Innovation, Energy Grids, Flood Resilience and Transport, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-049-eib-board-approves-eur2-4-billion-of-financing-for-business-innovation-energy-grids-flood-resilience-and-transport>

initiatives for businesses across Europe to expand hydrogen refueling infrastructure. These investments aimed to enhance the European Union's energy infrastructure and supply chain resilience.

On 14 February 2025, the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety advanced efforts to strengthen the resilience of the European Union's food supply chain by addressing emerging risks such as resource scarcity, supply chain concentration and climate change.<sup>3837</sup> As part of the Foresight Project on Future Food Policy, the European Union outlined strategies to ensure food security, mitigate supply shocks and reinforce sustainable trade networks to maintain high food safety and nutrition standards while preventing disruptions in global and domestic supply chains.

On 19 February 2025, the European Commission granted EUR920 million to the Government of Germany to support the construction of a semiconductor manufacturing facility.<sup>3838</sup> This investment aimed to ensure the resilience of Europe's semiconductor supply chain and safeguard for resilience.

On 5 March 2025, the European Commission attended the Minerals Security Partnership meeting hosted by South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Kang Insun.<sup>3839</sup> This multilateral dialogue aimed to strategize on the diversification of the global mineral supply chains and increase cooperation for supply chain resilience.

On 28 March 2025, the EIB and Banco del Estado de Chile signed a USD110 million loan agreement to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy investments for small and medium-sized businesses and industries, including companies in the critical raw materials sector.<sup>3840</sup> This operation supports Chile's transition to a decarbonized economy and aligns with the EU's Global Gateway Investment Agenda, fostering partnerships to develop sustainable local value chains in the critical raw materials segment.

On 4 April 2025, European Council President António Costa and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen met with leaders from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to discuss trade, security, energy and geopolitical cooperation.<sup>3841</sup> The meeting aimed to strengthen transport links through the trans-Caspian corridor and secure critical raw materials for the EU's green transition, demonstrating the EU's commitment to diversifying supply chains and enhancing economic partnerships in the region.

On 4 April 2025, the EIB announced an initiative to step up financing for European security, defense and critical raw materials.<sup>3842</sup> This included financing of EUR2 billion for critical raw material investments within the year, the establishment of a new Critical Raw Materials (CRM) Task Force, and a pipeline of CRM operations and advisory activities. These measures enhance the EU's supply chain resilience and technological autonomy in critical sectors.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthening supply chain resilience through strategic investments, policy initiatives, and international partnerships. By addressing vulnerabilities in critical raw materials, energy, food security and pharmaceuticals, the European Union has taken significant steps to

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<sup>3837</sup> Future nutrition policy, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (Brussels), 14 February 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/future-food-safety-budget-and-policy/future-nutrition-policy\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/future-food-safety-budget-and-policy/future-nutrition-policy_en)

<sup>3838</sup> Commission approves €920 million German State aid measure to support Infineon in setting up a new semiconductor facility, European Commission (Brussels). 19 February 2025. Access date: 23 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_557](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_557)

<sup>3839</sup> Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Principals' Meeting in Toronto, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 17 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5674/view.do?seq=321109](https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5674/view.do?seq=321109)

<sup>3840</sup> EIB to Provide USD110 Million to Finance Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Investments in Chile, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-160-eib-to-provide-usd110-million-to-finance-energy-efficiency-and-renewable-energy-investments-in-chile>

<sup>3841</sup> First EU-Central Asia summit, 4 April 2025, European Council (Brussels) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2025/04/04/>

<sup>3842</sup> EIB Steps up Financing for European Security and Defence and Critical Raw Materials, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2025-156-eib-steps-up-financing-for-european-security-and-defence-and-critical-raw-materials>

mitigate supply chain disruptions and enhance trade stability. Overall, the EU has taken strong action across diverse sectors, including forming international partnerships, strengthening supply chain monitoring and investing in critical materials, battery manufacturing and agri-food resilience to enhance economic security.

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

*Analyst: Iva Zivaljevic*

## 17. Infrastructure: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment

“We reaffirm our commitment to mobilize up to USD 600 billion through the PGII [Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment] by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

### Background

First launched at the 2022 G7 Summit in Elmau, the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) highlights the growing importance of infrastructure development. The Covid-19 pandemic exposed significant gaps and inequalities in global infrastructure, supply chains, and development. In response, the G7 sought to address these issues through the PGII by building on previous infrastructure commitments and establishing a unified platform for collaboration on investments aimed at reducing global development disparities. Throughout its history the G7 has addressed the infrastructure-development link at various summits, advancing the issue through the global Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2005. At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders agreed to offer additional support to Africa to meet MDGs in the region.<sup>3843</sup> As part of this commitment, leaders pledged to mobilize investment in infrastructure to promote local business and trade. Examples of subsequent G7 deliberations on the subject follow:

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders committed to yearly increases in their Official Development Assistance (ODA) amounts to Africa.<sup>3844</sup> This assistance consists of monetary sums allocated to African countries to support development projects, with a particular focus on infrastructure. Targeted development goals included bolstering good governance and supporting sustainable development.

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, G8 leaders committed to collaborating with African leaders to develop private investment in the region.<sup>3845</sup> This included initiatives such as promoting “institutional capacity in financial markets, public-private partnerships to develop infrastructure, financial and technical assistance and risk-sharing guarantees for entrepreneurs and support of investment funds.”

<sup>3843</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

<sup>3844</sup> Growth And Responsibility in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-africa.pdf>

<sup>3845</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders pledged to explore public-private collaboration to facilitate investment into infrastructure projects in developing countries, with a particular focus on those in Africa.<sup>3846</sup>

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders stressed the importance of the MDGs.<sup>3847</sup> In Africa in particular, leaders committed to development that was inclusive, supportive of democracy and good governance, and sustainable infrastructure.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders aimed to eliminate extreme poverty by 2030; complete the Millenium Development Goals; and support sustainability, inclusion, and good governance in their development agenda.<sup>3848</sup> They committed to pursuing infrastructural development goals in collaboration with the private sector.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members released the five Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, which aimed to promote development mindful of environmental, social, and governance implications of development.<sup>3849</sup> These goals were to be pursued in collaboration with the private sector.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 members noted the importance of high-quality infrastructure investment and, in Africa, supporting the African Union Agenda to provide future generations with quality infrastructure.<sup>3850</sup> Leaders committed to heightened collaboration with African leaders in pursuit of sustainable development.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards stimulating sustainable and inclusive economic growth, in collaboration with the private sector, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>3851</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders recognized the challenges posed to developing countries by the Covid-19 pandemic and aimed to “build back better” with environmentally and socially sustainable infrastructure investment.<sup>3852</sup> Specific development goals included the use of ODA to help countries transition away from coal power.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders launched the PGII initiative as a continuation to their initiatives from the 2021 Cornwall Summit, with an initial commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion in collective investments over the next five years.<sup>3853</sup> In particular, they restated their support for sustainable development in Africa.

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<sup>3846</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>3847</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>3848</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3849</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/infrastructure-investment.html>

<sup>3850</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqué.html>

<sup>3851</sup> Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqué.html>

<sup>3852</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>3853</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards the PGII and mobilizing USD600 billion in funds by 2027.<sup>3854</sup> Moreover, they pledged to utilize innovative financing mechanisms to increase ODA spending, collaborate with the private sector, and to promote gender inclusivity in their development programs.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, members “reaffirm[ed] [their] commitment to mobilize up to USD 600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.”

### **Commitment Features**

The “Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment” was launched at the G7’s 2022 Elmau Summit. It coordinates infrastructure investment from public and multilateral contributors towards flagship projects, with a view toward encouraging private investment. PGII projects are often (though not exclusively) transnational economic corridors aimed at promoting trade connectivity and reliable supply chains between host countries.

The flagship PGII projects mentioned in the G7 members’ joint statement on the PGII, issued at the Apulia Summit, are:

- The Lobito Corridor, between Angola, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- The Middle Corridor, a transport route from Southeast Asia through to Eastern Europe via the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus using major ports in Kazakhstan, Türkiye, Georgia and Azerbaijan;
- The Luzon Corridor, connecting commercial hubs in the south of the Filipino island of Luzon; and
- The India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) between India and France via sea routes through the Mediterranean Sea and Suez Canal, and land routes connecting Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan and Israel.<sup>3855</sup>

The commitment specifies a focus on Africa and the Indo-Pacific regions.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Reaffirm” is understood to mean “to affirm (something) again especially so as to strengthen or confirm.”<sup>3856</sup> The original topline commitment to mobilize USD600 billion towards PGII-supported projects stems from language in the 2022 Elmau Summit communiqué, and as such the similar language present in this commitment reaffirms a previous pledge, rather than introducing a new goal.

“Commitment” is understood to mean “to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.”<sup>3857</sup>

“Mobilize” is understood to mean “to marshal (something, such as resources) for action.”<sup>3858</sup> This definition, for coding purposes, appreciates the succeeding context (USD600 billion); thus, monetary sums are understood

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<sup>3854</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communiqué.html>

<sup>3855</sup> G7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment Side Event Co-Chair Statement, G7 Information Centre (Borgo Egnazia) 13 June 2024. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240613-gpii.html>

<sup>3856</sup> Reaffirm, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/reaffirm>

<sup>3857</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>3858</sup> Mobilize, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/mobilize>



to be the objects of mobilization. Taken in context, leaders have committed to mobilize these sums both through their own disbursements and through encouraging private and multilateral investment.

“Sustainable” is understood to mean “of, relating to, or being a method of harvesting or using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged.”<sup>3859</sup> For a project to be sustainable, it must demonstrate a focus on using natural resources in environmentally and ecologically conscious ways, and/or on adapting existing infrastructure to make existing consumption more efficient. Examples of projects conducive to sustainability include infrastructure retrofitting, decoupling from non-renewable and/or polluting energy sources, or sustainable financing over the long term.

“Inclusive” is understood to mean that “all parties are included in the discussion and decision-making process taking into account relative capabilities.”<sup>3860</sup> For a project to be inclusive, it should include various stakeholders including representatives of the host country/countries and members of communities affected by infrastructure development. Additionally, a project models inclusivity by meaningfully recognizing and incorporating a wide array of groups (such as women and gender minorities, low-income people, or historically marginalized groups) into its policy-making efforts. Holding multilateral meetings with representatives of partner countries (defined below) or co-organizing public consultations on specific development plans that emphasize economic opportunities and access for individuals in marginalized groups are examples of compliant actions pertaining to inclusivity.

“Resilient” is understood to mean “tending to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.”<sup>3861</sup> For a project to be resilient, it must demonstrate a focus on preserving durable supply chains from major economic or environmental shocks, such as natural disasters. Endorsing projects that build with natural disaster-resistant materials would be an example of a strong action in this regard.

The definition of “quality” infrastructure conforms to the G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment.<sup>3862</sup> For a project to represent a quality infrastructure investment, it must: 1) be economically efficient, effectively governed and resilient to natural and cyber-security risks; 2) create jobs and facilitate skills development in the local economy; 3) address all relevant social and environmental impacts; 4) align with higher-order climate- and environmental standards; and 5) meaningfully incorporate private finance and multilateral development banks in development.

The term “partner country” is understood in context as being any country involved with or hosting a PGII-endorsed project. For instance, Angola, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo would be considered partner countries to the Lobito Corridor, and any country outside the G7 supporting the project through their development agencies would also be considered a “partner country.”

“Focus” is understood to mean “directed attention.”<sup>3863</sup> While the commitment calls for a “particular focus” on projects in Africa and the Indo-Pacific region, there are ongoing PGII flagship projects that do not directly involve either region, and no aspect of the commitment implies exclusive focus on Africa and the Indo-Pacific. Thus, that a project in question does not support Africa and/or the Indo-Pacific region does not count against otherwise compliant actions.

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<sup>3859</sup> Sustainable, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/sustainable>

<sup>3860</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 4 September 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>3861</sup> Resilient, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilient>

<sup>3862</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/infrastructure-investment.html>

<sup>3863</sup> Focus, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/focus>

## General Interpretive Guidelines

This commitment calls for further investment in existing flagship and other infrastructure projects or, due to the major role of private and multilateral investment in the PGII framework, actions that directly facilitate multilateral or private finance inflows to these projects. These projects must also be sustainable, inclusive, resilient and quality infrastructure and investments. Thus, this commitment is best understood in two dimensions. First, leaders have committed to mobilize significant funding for infrastructure projects. Secondly, leaders have committed that projects receiving funding will represent the majority of “sustainable, inclusive, resilient and quality” indicators.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be awarded to members that take strong action through the PGII and have done so whilst ensuring that supported projects are sustainable, inclusive, resilient and represent quality infrastructure and investments.

Examples of strong actions in dimension one include direct investment in projects via members’ development agencies or projects (for example, the European Union’s Global Gateway or Italy’s Mattei Plan for Africa), the announcement of blended funding packages with private or multilateral partners, or the announcement of disbursements by private or multilateral funders that include some coordination, negotiation or other significant involvement by a member’s institutions.

The sum of money mobilized is also relevant for determining compliance with the first dimension of this commitment. For compliance for multi-year financial commitments such as the USD600 billion goal set in 2022, members are not expected to progress based on a simple linear progression towards the goal.<sup>3864</sup> Each member is evaluated on the basis of whether or not there has been meaningful progress towards full compliance with the USD600 billion funding goal, and whether or not full compliance remains feasible under the framework of random progression towards the funding goal. This involves a consideration of money mobilized for each member under the two previous compliance cycles. Naturally, therefore, the expectations vary by member and do not involve hard-set quantitative delineations.

For full compliance, these actions also must align with the second dimension, with supported projects responding to concerns around sustainability, inclusivity, and encompassing overall developmental quality standards.

Actions that ensure compliance regarding sustainability, for example, might include those that mitigate the environmental impact of infrastructure development, provide countries with clean-energy infrastructure, or otherwise respond to the capacity of the recipient to sustain and maintain infrastructure without depleting limited resources. Actions that ensure compliance with inclusivity, for example, might connect rural or remote populations to quality services, invest in infrastructure that is accessible to large swathes of the population regardless of socio-economic status, or include and consult women and marginalized groups in the planning, construction, and governance of infrastructure projects. Actions that ensure compliance regarding resilience, for example, might include infrastructural projects designed to withstand natural disasters or those that are built with quality materials such that constant and costly maintenance is not required by recipients.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded to any member that takes strong action in support of the PGII and other infrastructure projects without action to ensure all projects represent sustainable, inclusive, resilient and quality infrastructure and investments, or if a member takes weak action in support of infrastructure projects whilst upholding a majority of investment criteria (dimension two). Weak actions may include consultations with partners that do not directly result in new funding disbursements or facilitate future funding, and statements reaffirming the commitment without material action to that effect.

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<sup>3864</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 13 December 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be awarded to any member that takes weak action in support of the PGII or other infrastructure projects but does not ensure compliance with a majority of the investment criteria, or to any member that does not take any action in support of infrastructure projects.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has not taken any action towards mobilizing USD600 billion towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient and quality infrastructure projects or has taken only weak action towards mobilizing USD600 billion in infrastructure investments and has only ensured compliance with one or fewer of the following criteria in their investment: 1) sustainability, 2) inclusivity, and 3) resilience.
0	The G7 member has taken weak action towards mobilizing USD600 billion towards infrastructure projects and has ensured compliance with two or more of the following dimensions in their investment: 1) sustainability, 2) inclusivity, and 3) resilience, or has taken strong action towards mobilizing USD600 billion towards infrastructure projects but has not ensured compliance with all three criteria.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards mobilizing USD600 billion towards infrastructure projects and has ensured compliance with all three criteria: 1) sustainability, 2) inclusivity, and 3) resilience.

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### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 20 June 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced a CAD85 million funding disbursement for the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA).<sup>3865</sup> This funding will support pandemic resilience and the development of vaccine manufacturing and supply chains, including infrastructure developments such as storage facilities, with African manufacturing partners.

On 1 July 2024, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mary Ng welcomed a modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement.<sup>3866</sup> The modernized agreement aims to facilitate Ukrainian redevelopment, including telecommunications infrastructure.

On 17 July 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD100 million loan to support clean electricity distribution and sustainable transport through FirstRand Bank.<sup>3867</sup> The funding aligns with the seventh Sustainable Development Goal on clean and affordable energy.

<sup>3865</sup> Canada announces support for vaccine manufacturing in Africa, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-announces-support-for-vaccine-manufacturing-in-africa.html>

<sup>3866</sup> Modernized Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement enters into force, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/modernized-canada-ukraine-free-trade-agreement-enters-into-force.html>

<sup>3867</sup> FinDev Canada announces US\$ 100M commitment to FirstRand Bank to support climate finance in Sub-Saharan Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-announces-us-100m-commitment-firststrand-bank-support-climate-finance-sub-saharan>

On 23 September 2024, commitment to sustainable development in Africa.<sup>3868</sup> This includes promoting plans that support sustainable and resilient infrastructure in African countries, as well as efforts to accelerate the mobilization of G7 and domestic resources.

On 27 September 2024, the Government of Canada signed a joint statement on the security and resilience of undersea cables during the 79th annual United Nations General Assembly.<sup>3869</sup> The statement emphasizes the importance of the resilience, sustainability and inclusivity of infrastructure and therefore constitutes action towards promoting resilient infrastructure.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Hussen announced CAD29.4 million in funding to support credit, loan and insurance access for financially underserved groups worldwide.<sup>3870</sup> This disbursement, undertaken jointly alongside the Desjardins private insurance company, aims to promote inclusive development and investment by connecting underserved groups with lines of credit and other financial services.

On 17 October 2024, Minister Ng announced the Team Canada Trade Mission to Australia, which she will lead in February 2025.<sup>3871</sup> This mission will provide insights for Canadian companies on investment opportunities in various sectors, including digital infrastructure, and will foster deeper partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 5 November 2024, FinDev Canada and international partners including Proparco signed a USD100 million financing agreement to advance wind and solar production in Argentina.<sup>3872</sup> The funding supports affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy infrastructure in Argentina.

On 7 November 2024, FinDev Canada committed CAD18.8 billion in a multilateral funding arrangement for clean and reliable electricity in the Dominican Republic.<sup>3873</sup> The funding supports modern solar power production and storage capabilities to increase sustainable energy in the country.

On 12 November 2024, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault launched the USD1.5 billion GAIA climate finance platform.<sup>3874</sup> GAIA aims to mobilize climate investment including for energy infrastructure in 25 developing and emerging economies.<sup>3875</sup>

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<sup>3868</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>3869</sup> Joint Statement on the Security and Resilience of Undersea Cables in a Globally Digitalized World, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/joint-statement-on-the-security-and-resilience-of-undersea-cables-in-a-globally-digitalized-world.html>

<sup>3870</sup> Canada announces \$29.4 million in funding to support small-scale financial institutions in developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Montréal) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/canada-announces-294-million-in-funding-to-support-small-scale-financial-institutions-in-developing-countries.html>

<sup>3871</sup> Minister Ng announces 2025 Team Canada Trade Missions to bring more of Canada to the Indo-Pacific, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/minister-ng-announces-2025-team-canada-trade-missions-to-bring-more-of-canada-to-the-indo-pacific.html>

<sup>3872</sup> FMO, FinDev Canada and Proparco support Argentinian renewable energy sector with US\$ 100 million FMO-syndicated loan to Gennei, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/fmo-findev-canada-and-proparco-support-argentinian-renewable-energy-sector-us-100-million-fmo>

<sup>3873</sup> FinDev Canada, IDB Invest and FMO invest in Enertur to boost renewable energy in the Dominican Republic, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-idb-invest-and-fmo-invest-enertur-boost-renewable-energy-dominican-republic>

<sup>3874</sup> During the World Leaders Climate Action Summit at COP29, Minister Guilbeault announces major Canadian-led climate finance platform, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Baku) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2024/11/during-the-world-leaders-climate-action-summit-at-cop29-minister-guilbeault-announces-major-canadian-led-climate-finance-platform.html>

<sup>3875</sup> GAIA – US\$ 1.48 billion blended finance platform for climate projects in emerging markets and developing economies – commercial agreement on significant terms, FinDev Canada (Baku) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/gaia-us-148-billion-blended-finance-platform-climate-projects-emerging-markets-and-developing>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Ng and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau participated in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting.<sup>3876</sup> Minister Ng engaged in talks with other APEC members regarding economic partnerships and connectivity. Additionally, Prime Minister Trudeau announced the development of a new economic partnership agreement with Indonesia, which aims to promote investment as well as labour and capital mobility between the two countries.

On 18 November 2024, Canada made an unspecified pledge as part of a USD1.3 billion multilateral investment “for developing low-carbon production processes and green lead markets in developing and emerging countries.”<sup>3877</sup>

On 28 November 2024, Global Affairs Canada released a report summarizing a multi-stakeholder consultation process on Canada’s climate-related official development assistance (ODA) programs.<sup>3878</sup> The report notes call for increased disbursements for low-income countries and to better integrate private-sector finance and Indigenous perspectives into climate-related ODA programs. This process aims to improve the inclusivity of Canada’s climate-related ODA programs.

On 6 December 2024, Minister Ng led a Team Canada Trade Mission to the Philippines.<sup>3879</sup> During the visit, representatives of the two countries signed arrangements for broader cooperation on sustainable nuclear energy infrastructure.

On 18 December 2024, FinDev Canada announced a USD35 million financing agreement to fund sustainable infrastructure projects including the energy transition in Sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>3880</sup>

On 19 February 2025, FinDev Canada inaugurated a regional office in Singapore.<sup>3881</sup> The office aims to facilitate support for sustainable development programs across the Indo-Pacific region.

On 28 February 2025, FinDev Canada CEO Lori Kerr and Indonesia Infrastructure Finance (IIF) Interim CEO Rizki Pribadi signed a Memorandum of Understanding.<sup>3882</sup> Under this memorandum, FinDev Canada committed to increase inter-organizational collaboration, knowledge sharing and ease of affairs with the IIF.

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<sup>3876</sup> Minister Ng strengthens economic ties at Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Ministerial Meeting in Lima, Peru, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/minister-ng-strengthens-economic-ties-at-asia-pacific-economic-cooperation-ministerial-meeting-in-lima-peru.html>

<sup>3877</sup> Cop: Germany, UK, Canada co-operate on climate finance, argus Media (London) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news-and-insights/latest-market-news/2629945-cop-germany-uk-canada-co-operate-on-climate-finance>

<sup>3878</sup> What we heard: Canada’s next international climate and nature finance commitment for developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://international.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/consultations/2024-05-10-climate-nature-finance/report>

<sup>3879</sup> In Manila, Philippines, Minister Ng concludes Canada’s largest Team Canada Trade Mission, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/12/in-manila-philippines-minister-ng-concludes-canadas-largest-team-canada-trade-mission.html>

<sup>3880</sup> FinDev Canada invests US\$ 35 million in Pembani Remgro Infrastructure Fund II to develop sustainable infrastructure in South Africa, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-us-35-million-pembani-remgro-infrastructure-fund-ii-develop-sustainable>

<sup>3881</sup> FinDev Canada announces opening of first regional office in Singapore to support the Indo-Pacific, FinDev Canada (Singapore) 19 February 2025. Access Date: 19 April 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-announces-opening-first-regional-office-singapore-support-indo-pacific>

<sup>3882</sup> Indonesia Infrastructure Finance (IIF) and FinDev Canada partner to accelerate Canada’s participation in infrastructure development in Indonesia, FinDev Canada (Jakarta) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 19 April 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/indonesia-infrastructure-finance-iif-and-findev-canada-partner-accelerate-canadas>

On 6 March 2025, Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly, alongside ministers Ng and Hussen, outlined Canada's global Africa strategy.<sup>3883</sup> This strategy aims to build efficient partnerships with African actors and will focus on sustainable economic and infrastructure development, as well as addressing global challenges such as climate change.

On 9 March 2025, Minister Hussen, alongside Member of Parliament Parm Bains, announced CAD272.1 million in development aid for projects based in Bangladesh.<sup>3884</sup> Associated projects aim to combat climate change and to advance green innovations, building upon Canada's commitment to building sustainable and quality infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 9 March 2025, Minister Hussen announced CAD19.2 million in targeted support for agribusiness and agriculture cooperatives in Nigeria.<sup>3885</sup> These disbursements support youth- and women-led agribusinesses, with the goal of supporting inclusive investments and increasing Nigeria's climate resilience.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Canada has taken strong action toward building sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure systems. Qualitatively, Canada has taken strong action to ensure the inclusivity of its development assistance programs, particularly those geared towards climate and environmental finance.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zulal Tunc*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 30 June 2024, the French Development Agency (AFD) signed a cooperation agreement with the European Union and the Egyptian government to support food security by constructing new wheat silos across six Egyptian governorates with an EUR60 million grant.<sup>3886</sup> Under the agreement, the AFD will work with the Egyptian Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade to construct enough silos to accommodate an extra 420,000 tons of grains.

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<sup>3883</sup> Canada launches its first global Africa Strategy: A partnership for shared prosperity and security, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/canada-launches-its-first-global-africa-strategy-a-partnership-for-shared-prosperity-and-security.html>

<sup>3884</sup> Minister Hussen announces support for development projects in Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2025/03/minister-hussen-announces-support-for-development-projects-in-bangladesh-and-the-indo-pacific-region.html>

<sup>3885</sup> Canada announces support for women and youth entrepreneurs in Nigeria's Bauchi, Kano and Kaduna states, Global Affairs Canada (Abuja) 9 March 2025. Access Date: 19 April 2025. [https://www.international.gc.ca/country\\_news-pays\\_nouvelles/2025-03-09-nigeria.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/country_news-pays_nouvelles/2025-03-09-nigeria.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>3886</sup> EU-Egypt Strategic Partnership: Egypt, AFD Group and EU join forces to strengthen Egypt's food security, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 30 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/eu-egypt-strategic-partnership-egypt-afd-group-and-eu-join-forces-strengthen-egypt-s-food-security>

On 5 July 2024, the AFD committed EUR800,000 to a Franco-Moroccan partnership in decarbonized hydrogen.<sup>3887</sup> This investment supports decarbonization and increased sustainability as part of Morocco's energy transition.

On 17 July 2024, the AFD committed EUR60 million to finance the Seven Forks Solar Power Plant project in Kenya.<sup>3888</sup> This project will produce environmentally sustainable energy while also reducing the cost of electricity and contributing to the economic development of Kenya.

On 25 July 2024, President Emmanuel Macron met with the President-elect of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto to discuss the development of Franco-Indonesian security and development initiatives.<sup>3889</sup> This partnership aims to address urban development and to the support energy transition in Indonesia.

On 26 July 2024, President Macron met with the President of Madagascar Andry Rajoelina to discuss Franco-Malagasy partnerships.<sup>3890</sup> Proposed collaboration includes initiatives such as developing transport and energy infrastructure in Madagascar.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment towards sustainable development in Africa.<sup>3891</sup> This includes promoting plans that support sustainable and resilient infrastructure in African countries, as well as efforts to accelerate the mobilization of G7 and domestic resources.

On 15 October 2024, the AFD strengthened its partnership with Microfinance Solidaire, providing an additional EUR2 Million in loans.<sup>3892</sup> These loans help Microfinance Solidaire to assist entrepreneurs who work to provide access to clean energy across Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia and Haiti.

On 15 October 2024, in a joint press release with Canada, the United Kingdom and Germany among others, Secretary of State to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Thani Mohamed-Soilihi announced the Hamburg Platform for Sustainable Development.<sup>3893</sup> This platform will combine and standardize public and private investments in emerging markets and developing economies to support large-scale sustainable development projects in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

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<sup>3887</sup> Innovating in decarbonized hydrogen: partnership between AFD, IRESEN and SATT Paris-Saclay, France in Morocco (Rabat) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://ma.ambafrance.org/Innover-dans-l-hydrogene-decarbone-partenariat-entre-l-AFD-l-IRESEN-et-la-SATT>

<sup>3888</sup> Kenya: Seven Forks Solar Power Plant, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/en/carte-des-projets/kenya-seven-forks-power-plant>

<sup>3889</sup> Entretien avec Prabowo Subianto, Président élu de la République d'Indonésie, Élysée (Paris) 25 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/07/25/entretien-avec-prabowo-subianto-president-elu-de-la-republique-d-indonesie>

<sup>3890</sup> Entretien avec Andry Rajoelina, Président de la République de Madagascar, Élysée (Paris) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/07/26/entretien-avec-andry-rajoelina-president-de-la-republique-de-madagascar>

<sup>3891</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>3892</sup> Microfinance Solidaire pursues its support for microentrepreneurs, backed by Proparco, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/microfinance-solidaire-pursues-its-support-microentrepreneurs-backed-proparco>

<sup>3893</sup> Plateforme de Hambourg pour le développement durable – De nouvelles alliances sont nécessaires pour fournir des financements mixtes à grande échelle (Berlin, le 15 octobre 2024), Ministère de L'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/developpement/evenements-et-actualites-sur-le-theme-du-developpement/evenements-et-actualites-sur-le-theme-du-developpement-2024/article/plateforme-de-hambourg-pour-le-developpement-durable-de-nouvelles-alliances>

On 24 October 2024, Secretary Mohamed-Soilihi participated in the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Development.<sup>3894</sup> During this meeting, he reaffirmed France's commitment to combat malnutrition and support food security in pursuit of its global health goals.

On 28 October 2024, President Macron and the King Mohammed VI of Morocco reaffirmed the partnership between France and Morocco to further sustainable development.<sup>3895</sup> This partnership includes promoting joint initiatives to strengthen road, rail and maritime infrastructure, as well as urban mobility.

On 29 October 2024, the AFD granted Bancóldex, Colombia's export-import bank, access to a USD100 million line of credit.<sup>3896</sup> The line of credit is particularly geared towards supporting entrepreneurial projects that improve Colombia's climate adaptability.

On 1 November 2024, the AFD and European Union concluded an implementation agreement for an economic cooperation program with Indonesia.<sup>3897</sup> Over the course of five years, starting in 2025, the AFD and EU will provide funding of at least EUR3 million to support Indonesia's clean energy transition, with a particular focus on infrastructure investments to facilitate decarbonization and green hydrogen use.

On 1 November 2024, the AFD and European Union concluded an implementation agreement for an economic cooperation program with Indonesia.<sup>3898</sup> Over the course of five years, starting in 2025, the AFD and EU will provide funding of at least EUR3 million to support Indonesia's clean energy transition, with a particular focus on infrastructure investments to facilitate decarbonization and green hydrogen use.

On 4 November 2024, Secretary Mohamed-Soilihi attended the World Urban Forum (WUF) in Cairo.<sup>3899</sup> The WUF aims to improve the international development of sustainable cities. At this meeting, Secretary Mohamed-Soilihi spoke on the development of smart cities and housing, while also reaffirming France's commitment with Egypt to develop more sustainable cities through the AFD.

On 5 November 2024, Proparco, a development finance institution of the French government, and international partners including FinDev Canada signed a USD100 million financing agreement to advance wind

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<sup>3894</sup> M. Thani Mohamed-Soilihi, Secrétaire d'État chargé de la Francophonie et des Partenariats internationaux, s'est rendu à Pescara, en Italie au G7 en format développement (24 octobre 2024), Ministère de L'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/sommets-et-enjeux-globaux/l-action-de-la-france-au-sein-du-g7/article/m-thani-mohamed-soilihi-secretaire-d-etat-charge-de-la-francophonie-et-des>

<sup>3895</sup> Déclaration relative au « partenariat d'exception renforcé » entre le Royaume du Maroc et la République française, Élysée (Paris) 28 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024.

<https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/10/28/declaration-relative-au-partenariat-dexception-renforce-entre-le-royaume-du-maroc-et-la-republique-francaise>

<sup>3896</sup> BANCÓLDEX ACCÈDE À UNE LIGNE DE CRÉDIT TRANSFORMATIONNELLE DE L'AFD DE 100 MILLIONS DE DOLLARS, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/bancoldex-accede-une-ligne-de-credit-transformationnelle-de-lafd-de-100-millions-de-dollars>

<sup>3897</sup> L'INDONÉSIE, LA FRANCE ET L'UE RENFORCENT LEUR PARTENARIAT POUR ACCÉLÉRER LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/lindonesie-la-france-et-lue-renforcent-leur-partenariat-pour-acceler-la-transition-energetique>

<sup>3898</sup> L'INDONÉSIE, LA FRANCE ET L'UE RENFORCENT LEUR PARTENARIAT POUR ACCÉLÉRER LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/lindonesie-la-france-et-lue-renforcent-leur-partenariat-pour-acceler-la-transition-energetique>

<sup>3899</sup> 12e édition du Forum urbain mondial (FUM) en faveur des villes durables (du 4 au 8 novembre 2024), Ministère de L'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 4 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/evenements-et-actualites-lies-aux-nations-unies/actualites/article/12e-edition-du-forum-urbain-mondial-fum-en-faveur-des-villes-durables-du-4-au-8>



and solar production in Argentina.<sup>3900</sup> The funding supports affordable, reliable, sustainable, clean and modern energy in Argentina.

On 8 November 2024, the AFD signed an EUR400 million to the government of South Africa, to facilitate South Africa's transition to a low-emission economy.<sup>3901</sup> The loan aims to ensure an inclusive transition process for communities in South Africa that primarily use, or benefit economically from, coal-powered energy.

On 12 November 2024, AFD officials participated in the fourth ASEAN [Association of South East Asian Nations]-France Development Partnership Committee meeting.<sup>3902</sup> At this meeting, the AFD committed EUR2.5 million to support the development of an integrated ASEAN-wide electricity network.

On 19 November 2024, the AFD concluded a partnership with the government of Montenegro valued at EUR50.95 million.<sup>3903</sup> The funding aims to support Montenegro's climate adaptability, renewable energy investments and infrastructure modernization.

On 3 December 2024, President Macron attended the One Water Summit, organized by the governments of France and Kazakhstan in preparation for the 2026 UN Conference on Water.<sup>3904</sup> President Macron urged public development banks to finance water management projects. The summit also launched the One Water Vision initiative to bring together states to research water resource maintenance.

On 9 December 2024, the AFD announced a EUR12 million subsidy to renovate and extend the Saint-Joeseph Hospital in Palestine.<sup>3905</sup> This renovation includes the integration of energy efficiency measures such as optimizing heating, cooling, and lighting systems, improving insulation and increasing the hospital's renewable energy production capacity.

On 21 December 2024, President Macron announced a EUR80 million loan through the AFD to support the modernization of the Ethiopian electricity network.<sup>3906</sup> This project is also funded by the European Union and the European Investment Bank, with participation by French companies.

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<sup>3900</sup> FMO, FinDev Canada and Proparco support Argentinian renewable energy sector with US\$ 100 million FMO-syndicated loan to Gennei, FinDev Canada (Montreal) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/fmo-findev-canada-and-proparco-support-argentinian-renewable-energy-sector-us-100-million-fmo>

<sup>3901</sup> L'AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT CONCLUT LES NÉGOCIATIONS POUR LE PRÊT DE POLITIQUE PUBLIQUE DE 7,6 MILLIARDS DE RANDS (400 MILLIONS D'EUROS) POUR LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE JUSTE DE L'AFRIQUE DU SUD, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/lagence-francaise-de-developpement-conclut-les-negociations-pour-le-pret-de-politique-publique-de-76-milliards-de-rands-400-millions-deuros-pour-la-transition>

<sup>3902</sup> QUATRIÈME RÉUNION DU COMITÉ DE PARTENARIAT DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ASEAN-FRANCE : LA FRANCE RENFORCE LE PARTENARIAT POUR UN DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ET RÉSILIENT EN ASIE DU SUD-EST, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 12 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/quatrieme-reunion-du-comite-de-partenariat-de-developpement-asean-france-la-france-renforce-le-partenariat-pour-un-developpement-durable-et-resilient-en-asie-du-sud>

<sup>3903</sup> MONTÉNÉGR0 ET FRANCE : UN PARTENARIAT AMBITIEUX POUR UNE TRANSITION VERTE, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/montenegro-et-france-un-partenariat-ambitieux-pour-une-transition-verte>

<sup>3904</sup> One Water Summit : « La dynamique pour la préparation de la conférence de l'ONU sur l'eau en 2026 est enclenchée », Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/one-water-summit-onu-eau-2026?origin=/fr/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id%5B0%5D=1025](https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/one-water-summit-onu-eau-2026?origin=/fr/actualites?field_region_country_target_id%5B0%5D=1025)

<sup>3905</sup> Territoires palestiniens : un hôpital modèle pour la santé et le climat, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/hopital-sante-gaza-palestine-energie-soins?origin=/fr/actualites?field\\_region\\_country\\_target\\_id=237&items\\_per\\_page=20](https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/hopital-sante-gaza-palestine-energie-soins?origin=/fr/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=237&items_per_page=20)

<sup>3906</sup> Visite officielle en Éthiopie., Élysée (Paris) 22 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/12/22/visite-officielle-en-ethiopie>

On 28 January 2025, the AFD participated in the African Energy Summit Mission 300 and committed EUR1 billion in support to achieve Mission 300 energy development objectives by 2030.<sup>3907</sup> Mission 300 aims to provide electricity to 300 million people in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030.

On 12 March 2025, President Macron announced a strategic partnership with Uzbekistan to strengthen economic cooperation, trade and sustainable development.<sup>3908</sup> This agreement involves supporting the green economy, energy efficiency and the ecological transition in Uzbekistan. France is also supporting Uzbekistan's accession to the World Trade Organization and building of regional connections.

On 26 March 2025, the AFD announced a EUR100 million loan to Nacional Financiera, Mexico's development agency.<sup>3909</sup> The credit financing agreement aims to support the development and maintenance of quality and environmentally conscious infrastructure in Mexico.

On 6 April 2025, the French Presidency reaffirmed France's commitment to international strategic partnerships, especially in the African region.<sup>3910</sup> It reaffirmed that French investments will support sustainable cities, energy transitions, transportation, agriculture and health.

France has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Through the AFD, France has advanced several international partnerships with leaders in the focus areas of Africa and the Indo-Pacific and has mobilized funds towards projects that involve infrastructure development in comply with the criteria of sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Taylor Stetka*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 19 June 2024, State Secretary for Development Jochen Flasbarth signed an agreement with Mozambican Foreign Minister César Francisco de Gouveia Júnior for climate and development cooperation between

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<sup>3907</sup> Afrique subsaharienne : accélérer l'électrification et soutenir les énergies renouvelables, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/mission-300-afd-electricite-energies-renouvelables-afrique-subsaharienne?origin=/fr/actualites?%2C%2C=5%3D55items\\_per\\_page%3D10&page=1](https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/mission-300-afd-electricite-energies-renouvelables-afrique-subsaharienne?origin=/fr/actualites?%2C%2C=5%3D55items_per_page%3D10&page=1)

<sup>3908</sup> Déclaration conjointe sur l'établissement d'un partenariat stratégique entre la République française et la République d'Ouzbékistan, Élysée (Paris) 12 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2025/03/12/declaration-conjointe-sur-letablissement-dun-partenariat-strategique-entre-la-republique-francaise-et-la-republique-douzbeistan>

<sup>3909</sup> NACIONAL FINANCIERA (NAFIN) ET L'AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT (AFD) UNISSENT LEURS FORCES POUR PROMOUVOIR LA CONSTRUCTION VERTE AU MEXIQUE, Agence Française de Développement (Mexico) 26 March 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 19 April 2025. [https://waf.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/nacional-financiera-nafin-et-lagence-francaise-de-developpement-afd-unissent-leurs-forces-pour-promouvoir-la-construction-verte-au-mexique?origin=/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse?items\\_per\\_page=10](https://waf.afd.fr/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse/nacional-financiera-nafin-et-lagence-francaise-de-developpement-afd-unissent-leurs-forces-pour-promouvoir-la-construction-verte-au-mexique?origin=/fr/actualites/communiqu-de-presse?items_per_page=10)

<sup>3910</sup> Relevé de décisions du Conseil présidentiel pour les partenariats internationaux, Élysée (Paris) 6 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2025/04/06/releve-de-decisions-du-conseil-presidentiel-pour-les-partenariats-internationaux>

Germany and Mozambique.<sup>3911</sup> German involvement will develop green energy infrastructure initiatives, including storm-proof power grids and climate-adapting retrofits to existing houses and power lines.

On 20 June 2024, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) announced that it would support the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA).<sup>3912</sup> The AVMA aims to strengthen pandemic resilience and vaccine manufacturing and supply chains, including infrastructure developments such as storage facilities, alongside African manufacturing partners.

On 28 June 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze concluded a cooperation agreement on climate and renewable energies with the government of Morocco.<sup>3913</sup> As part of this agreement, Germany will support the development of a green hydrogen industry in Morocco and facilitate electricity trading between Morocco and the European Union given Morocco's wind and solar conditions.

On 13 September 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the President of Kenya William Ruto reaffirmed their dedication to a German-Kenyan climate and development partnership, as well as continued collaboration in the development of sustainable technologies.<sup>3914</sup> This reaffirms Germany's commitment towards aiding sustainable energy initiatives in Kenya, furthering German-Kenyan industrial relations and expanding Kenyan access to sustainable supply chains.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable development in Africa.<sup>3915</sup> This includes promoting plans that support sustainable and resilient infrastructure in African countries, as well as efforts to accelerate the mobilization of G7 and domestic resources.

On 24 September 2024, Chancellor Scholz, in collaboration with the President of Namibia Nangolo Mbumba, chaired the United Nations Summit of the Future and coordinated negotiations for the Pact for the Future.<sup>3916</sup> The Pact for the Future aims to mobilize significant investments and resources, and to remove obstacles to sustainable development.<sup>3917</sup> The pact also aims to expand sustainable trade with developing nations and to provide them with sustainable and accessible project financing.

On 11 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz committed EUR170 million towards the redevelopment of Ukrainian infrastructure.<sup>3918</sup> This support follows Russian attacks on Ukrainian energy infrastructure including power stations and power lines. Specifically, these funds will support the repair and restoration of heating infrastructure.

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<sup>3911</sup> Deutschland und Mosambik schließen Klima- und Entwicklungspartnerschaft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 19 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/deutschland-und-mosambik-klima-und-entwicklungspartnerschaft-215620>

<sup>3912</sup> Neue Finanzierung für Impfstoffe aus Afrika, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Berlin) 20 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/neue-finanzierung-fuer-impfstoffe-aus-afrika-215652>

<sup>3913</sup> Deutschland und Marokko vereinbaren Allianz für Klima und Energie, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 December 2024. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/06/20240628-deutschland-marokko-allianz-fuer-klima-und-energie.html>

<sup>3914</sup> Engere Kooperation im Bereich Migration, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/scholz-trifft-ruto-2308452>

<sup>3915</sup> Foreign Ministers' Chair's Statement (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/240923-statement.html>

<sup>3916</sup> For a better present and future, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/united-nations-summit-of-the-future-2311248>

<sup>3917</sup> Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations, United Nations (New York) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. [https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sotf-pact\\_for\\_the\\_future\\_adopted.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sotf-pact_for_the_future_adopted.pdf)

<sup>3918</sup> "Playing for time won't work", Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/chancellor-zelensky-berlin-2314868>

On 15 October 2024, in a joint press release with France, Canada and the United Kingdom among others, the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development announced the Hamburg Platform for Sustainable Development.<sup>3919</sup> This platform combines and standardizes public and private investments in emerging markets and developing economies to support large-scale sustainable development projects following the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

On 16 October 2024, the Government of Germany adopted the Focus on India strategic document, updating bilateral Indo-German relations across multiple fields, including development cooperation.<sup>3920</sup> Policy goals for 2025 and onwards include establishing energy security, collaborating on energy storage technologies, expanding local public transport and partnering with India to support sustainable development initiatives in Africa and the Pacific Island states.<sup>3921</sup>

On 25 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz and the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi co-chaired the seventh India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations to expand the Focus on India initiative.<sup>3922</sup> Both parties affirmed a focus on sustainability, renewable energy and development cooperation. Both parties also reaffirmed their commitment to the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership and announced the India-Germany Innovation and Technology Partnership Roadmap as well as the Indo-German Green Hydrogen Roadmap. Chancellor Scholz and Prime Minister Modi also announced the scaling up of development projects in Cameroon, Ghana and Malawi, as well as the launch of pilot development projects in Madagascar and Ethiopia under the Triangular Development Cooperation initiative.

On 12 November 2024, the KfW, Germany's development financial institution, announced a EUR23 million loan to Axian Energy to develop a solar energy system in the Casamance region of Senegal.<sup>3923</sup> The investment, facilitated by the KfW's Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft subsidiary, seeks to increase the energy supply in Senegal by mobilizing low-carbon energy sources.

On 18 November 2024, Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck announced a USD220 million German pledge "for developing low-carbon production processes and green lead markets in developing and emerging countries."<sup>3924</sup>

On 19 November 2024, the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Foreign Office announced, at the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29), a EUR60 million contribution to the Adaptation Fund.<sup>3925</sup> These funds will contribute to climate adaptation efforts in developing countries.

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<sup>3919</sup> New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

<sup>3920</sup> India as a key partner in the Indo-Pacific: The German Government adopts Focus on India paper, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/focus-on-india/2680284>

<sup>3921</sup> Focus on India, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2680288/8909ac2c501ab85d55defff7d1b8b75d/241016-fokus-indien-data.pdf>

<sup>3922</sup> Joint Statement: 7th India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (IGC), Federal Foreign Office (New Delhi) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2681720>

<sup>3923</sup> DEG to finance solar energy and energy storage in Senegal, Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (Cologne) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_828992-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_828992-2.html)

<sup>3924</sup> Cop: Germany, UK, Canada co-operate on climate finance, argus Media (London) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news-and-insights/latest-market-news/2629945-cop-germany-uk-canada-co-operate-on-climate-finance>

<sup>3925</sup> COP 29: Deutschland investiert mit Beitrag zu internationalem Klimaanpassungsfonds in globale Resilienz und Stabilität, Auswärtigen Amt (Baku) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2685558-2685558>

On 28 November 2024, Germany pledged EUR200 million in loans to finance the energy transition in South Africa.<sup>3926</sup> The funds aim to support solar and wind power and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These loans will also finance vocational and technical schools to train skilled workers for South Africa's energy transition, aiming to simultaneously combat social inequality and support industry by equipping young workers with skills that the South African economy needs. Alongside pairing these loans with a separate fund combatting violence against women, the aims of this action constitute compliance with ensuring inclusivity.

On 17 March 2025, Germany pledged EUR300 million in funding to support the rebuilding and stabilization of Syria.<sup>3927</sup> EUR131 million of this funding will support humanitarian aid and EUR36 million will support stabilization and peacebuilding measures. Initiatives include increasing health services in the region, building emergency shelters, implementing clean water and hygiene measures and additional protection measures for members of vulnerable groups. This funding aims to facilitate an equitable and resilient rebuilding process.

On 18 March 2025, the Federal Foreign Office hosted the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue (BETD), bringing together representatives from over 40 countries, including business and NGO representatives, to discuss the global transition towards renewable energy.<sup>3928</sup> The BETD aims to build international networks to support countries in their energy transitions, whilst building future investments and jobs.

On 23 March 2025, Chancellor Scholz participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Petersberg Climate Dialogue in preparation for the UN Climate Change Conference (COP30).<sup>3929</sup> Topics included additional investments in renewable energy, improvements in energy efficiency and the move away from fossil fuels.

On 30 March 2025, German Investment and Development, a subsidiary of the federal government, invested EUR15 million to support economic development in North and West Africa.<sup>3930</sup> This investment is expected to create over 1,500 jobs and generate EUR800 million in local income. Sustainable initiatives supported through this fund include expanding the use of renewable energies, conducting energy audits, optimizing energy use and introducing measures to reduce emissions in supply chains.

On 2 April 2025, Secretary Flasbarth announced the redirection of EUR100 million in support for Ukraine towards repairs of Ukrainian transformer stations.<sup>3931</sup> This redirection of funds comes following the American suspension of development aid in the region and aims to address the critical shortage of power in the region.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Germany has made significant investments in infrastructure in partner nations and well as led international initiatives to meet these targets, such as the Pact for the Future. German and German-supported infrastructure initiatives support climate adaptation, combat

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<sup>3926</sup> Germany remains important partner for South Africa's socially just energy transition, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 5 December 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/germany-supports-south-africas-socially-just-energy-transition-239574>

<sup>3927</sup> Deutschland sichert Unterstützung für einen inklusiven und friedlichen Übergangsprozess in Syrien zu (Brussels) 17 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/9-bruesseler-syrien-konferenz-unterstuetzung-uebergangsprozess-248780>

<sup>3928</sup> Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue 2025: Die globale Energiewende zu Gast in Berlin, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 18 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/klimaussenpolitik/energie/2706002-2706002>

<sup>3929</sup> 16. Petersberger Klimadialog: Weichenstellung für eine erfolgreiche COP30, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 26 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/aussenpolitik/klimaussenpolitik/petersberger-klimadialog-2707048>

<sup>3930</sup> DEG invests in sustainably-managed companies in North and West Africa, KfW DEG (Cologne) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_842560-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_842560-2.html)

<sup>3931</sup> Internationales Unterstützertreffen in Kyjiw soll Widerstandskraft der Ukraine stärken, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 2 April 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/internationales-unterstuetzertreffen-in-kyjiw-249688>

social inequalities, and support energy transitions, indicating compliance with the qualitative criteria of sustainability, inclusivity and resilience.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Taylor Stetka*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 15 June 2024, the Italian government organized an event on African development on the sidelines of the G7 summit.<sup>3932</sup> This event allowed representatives involved with various initiatives for African Infrastructural Development across both public and private sectors to come together and collaborate.

On 23 June 2024, the Italian Embassy in Mogadishu and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation launched a EUR2 million initiative to improve the tracking of local water and land resources in cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).<sup>3933</sup> This initiative will support local adoption of the FAO's digital management, aiding local decision-making and climate resilience against flooding. The FAO's Digital Services Portfolio aims to foster digital inclusion and therefore counts for the inclusion criteria.<sup>3934</sup>

On 26 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni delivered a speech to the Chamber of Deputies, reaffirming Italy's commitment to infrastructure development.<sup>3935</sup> She underscored the necessity of continued cooperation in this area and highlighted Italy's efforts to integrate its own development initiatives within the EU Global Gateway initiative, particularly in the Lobito Corridor.

On 6 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni signed an agreement with the President of Algeria Abdelmadjid Tebboune to collaborate on sustainable agriculture as part of the Mattei Plan for supporting African development.<sup>3936</sup> As part of the agreement, the Government of Algeria will grant land to a private Italian company that will then rejuvenate it for sustainable agricultural use.

On 8 July 2024, Director General for Development Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Stefano Gatti, Director of International Cooperation and Development Finance at the Italian National Promotional Institution Paolo Lombardo signed an agreement with the Government of Mozambique for the construction

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<sup>3932</sup> President Meloni's closing press conference at the G7 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-closing-press-conference-g7-summit/26481>

<sup>3933</sup> Somalia: Italia e FAO lanciano iniziativa per migliorare la gestione di risorse idriche e terrestri, L'Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (Nairobi) 23 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.aics.gov.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Somalia-Italia-e-FAO-lanciano-iniziativa-per-migliorare-la-gestione-di-risorse-idriche-e-terrestri.pdf>

<sup>3934</sup> FAO Digital Services Portfolio, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.fao.org/digital-services/en>

<sup>3935</sup> President Meloni's address to the Chamber of Deputies ahead of the European Council meeting on 27-28 June, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-chamber-deputies-ahead-european-council-meeting-27-28-june/26151>

<sup>3936</sup> Italy and Algeria sign agreement on high-tech regenerative agriculture, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/italy-and-algeria-sign-agreement-high-tech-regenerative-agriculture/26192>

of the “Centro Agroalimentare di Manica” in the western Manica province of Mozambique.<sup>3937</sup> Italy will contribute EUR38 million in financing towards building this regional processing and distribution hub for local food and agricultural products.

On 30 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the CEO of investment firm BlackRock, Larry Fink, after Blackrock’s participation in the 2024 G7 Apulia Summit PGII side event.<sup>3938</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Fink discussed the potential for new equitable partnerships in Africa, investments into African countries and the creation of new financing instruments for African projects.

On 9 October 2024, Foreign Affairs Minister Antonio Tajani met with Brazilian government officials and entrepreneurs at the Italy-Brazil Business Forum.<sup>3939</sup> During this Forum, two of Italy’s state-owned banks concluded an agreement that allows the Banco do Brasil access to a EUR250 million line of credit to finance a port in the municipality of Aracruz.

On 10 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the United States Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo to discuss economic relations between Italy and the United States.<sup>3940</sup> In particular, they discussed cooperation on the implementation of the Mattei Plan, particularly the development of the Lobito Corridor.

On 10 October 2024, the Italian Export Credit Agency, the European Investment Bank and Enel announced up to USD300 million in funding for Enel Colombia’s power grids and renewable energy generation projects.<sup>3941</sup> This funding will be used to develop two solar photovoltaic plants with a capacity of approximately 486 megawatts to support individuals in the Bogotá Region. By adding grid capacity, this project will make energy more affordable in Columbia.

On 24 October 2024, the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Development launched the PGII Secretariat to improve the coordination and implementation of investments.<sup>3942</sup> The Secretariat will also communicate PGII progress and further infrastructure initiatives.

On 18 November 2024, President Meloni committed to increasing Italy’s contribution to the three-year renewal of the International Development Association.<sup>3943</sup> The measure aims to boost Italy’s support for projects within the framework of the Mattei Plan including investment in infrastructure.

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<sup>3937</sup> Mattei Plan for Africa: agreement signed for food and agriculture center in Mozambique, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/mattei-plan-africa-agreement-signed-food-and-agriculture-centre-mozambique/26202>

<sup>3938</sup> President Meloni meets with Chairman and CEO of BlackRock, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-chairman-and-ceo-blackrock/26693>

<sup>3939</sup> In São Paulo, Tajani meets with the Brazilian Government and entrepreneurs. “The Italian System must strengthen in Latin America,” Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/a-san-paolo-tajani-incontra-il-governo-e-gli-imprenditori-del-brasile-il-sistema-italia-deve-rafforzarsi-in-america-latina/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/a-san-paolo-tajani-incontra-il-governo-e-gli-imprenditori-del-brasile-il-sistema-italia-deve-rafforzarsi-in-america-latina/)

<sup>3940</sup> Meeting with United States Secretary of Commerce, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-united-states-secretary-commerce/26754>

<sup>3941</sup> Colombia: EIB Global provides Enel Colombia with \$300 million loan for renewable energy generation and power grid improvements, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-371-eib-global-provides-enel-colombia-with-usd300-million-loan-for-renewable-energy-generation-and-power-grid-improvements>

<sup>3942</sup> Communiqué, Meeting of G7 Development Ministers, G7 Information Centre (Pescara) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

<sup>3943</sup> Vertice G20, incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Presidente della Banca Mondiale, Governo Italiano (Rome) 18 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/vertice-g20-incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-il-presidente-della-banca-mondiale/27074>

On 27 November 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli signed an agreement to provide a EUR45 million funding package to the Republic of the Congo.<sup>3944</sup> This funding aims to support the development of the Republic of the Congo's healthcare system.

On 3 December 2024, Italy's new MedOr Project held its inaugural meeting.<sup>3945</sup> The project aims to foster geo-economic and social-cultural partnerships with countries in Africa, the Middle and Far East, South America and the Mediterranean. Participants discussed developing programs for infrastructure and transport services in partner countries.

On 31 December 2025, the Government of Italy provided EUR13 million to the Ukraine Energy Support Fund.<sup>3946</sup> This contribution will go towards the resilience and security of Ukraine's energy infrastructure amidst the Russian invasion.

On 21 January 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, alongside representatives from Germany, Austria, Algeria and Tunisia, signed a declaration of intent signalling its goal to jointly develop a Southern Hydrogen Corridor.<sup>3947</sup> This project aims to build an infrastructural 'pipeline' to facilitate the transfer of renewable energy between North Africa and Europe.

On 17 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni spoke at the Conference of Italy's prefects and police commissioners.<sup>3948</sup> Prime Minister Meloni discussed the importance of the Mattei Plan to Italian national interests and how best to integrate the Mattei Plan with PGII plans. In addition, Prime Minister Meloni discussed how the Mattei Plan has already begun in nine nations and that it is currently being extended to five additional African nations.

On 25 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with European Union Commissioner for International Partnerships Jozef Síkela to discuss the joint efforts between the Mattei Plan and the European Union Global Gateway, both of which are key contributions of the PGII initiative.<sup>3949</sup> In addition, they discussed the importance of a future event on 27 March 2025 pertaining to the Mattei Plan and the Global Gateway.

On 27 March 2025, the Government of Italy and the European Union hosted a joint event to further drive collaboration with Africa through the Italian Mattei Plan and the European Union Global Gateway, which encourages investment and infrastructure growth in African countries to address their specific needs.<sup>3950</sup>

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<sup>3944</sup> Deputy Minister Cirielli signs an agreement for the development of integrated healthcare services in the Republic of the Congo, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/vice-ministro-cirielli-firma-accordo-per-lo-sviluppo-dei-servizi-sanitari-integrati-della-repubblica-del-congo/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/vice-ministro-cirielli-firma-accordo-per-lo-sviluppo-dei-servizi-sanitari-integrati-della-repubblica-del-congo/)

<sup>3945</sup> MedOr Project: Inaugural Meeting of the Strategic Committee Held at Palazzo Chigi, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 7 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/medor-project-inaugural-meeting-strategic-committee-held-palazzo-chigi/27213>

<sup>3946</sup> Italy contributes €13 million to Ukraine Energy Support Fund, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome), 31 December 2024. Access Date: 2 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/litalia-stanzia-13-milioni-di-euro-per-il-fondo-di-sostegno-per-lenergia-dellucraina/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/12/litalia-stanzia-13-milioni-di-euro-per-il-fondo-di-sostegno-per-lenergia-dellucraina/)

<sup>3947</sup> Hydrogen: five States signed a declaration to continue the Southern Corridor works, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome), 21 January 2025. Access Date: 2 March 2025. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/idrogeno-cinque-stati-firmano-dichiarazione-per-proseguire-lavori-corridoio-meridionale/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2025/01/idrogeno-cinque-stati-firmano-dichiarazione-per-proseguire-lavori-corridoio-meridionale/)

<sup>3948</sup> President Meloni's speech at the Conference of Italy's prefects and police commissioners, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 29 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-speech-conference-italy-s-prefects-and-police-commissioners-questori>

<sup>3949</sup> Meeting with the European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jozef Síkela, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 29 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-european-commissioner-international-partnerships-jozef-s-kela/28042>

<sup>3950</sup> Italy-EU joint press release, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 29 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/italy-eu-joint-press-release/28063>



Italy has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Italy has taken strong action towards ensuring sustainable, resilient and inclusive African infrastructure through the Mattei Plan.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Michael Chou*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 20 June 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) released a round of “Sustainability Bonds” amounting to JPY20 billion<sup>3951</sup> These bonds support JICA’s development aid disbursements, broadly supporting the Agency’s mandate including infrastructural investments. JICA has committed not to use any proceeds from these bonds towards projects using coal as an energy source, demonstrating compliance with sustainability concerns.

On 20 June 2024, the Development Bank of Japan Inc. (DBJ) has agreed to invest in Breakthrough Energy Ventures Select Fund I, managed by Breakthrough Energy Ventures (BEV) that focuses on scaling emissions-free global companies.<sup>3952</sup> As the first Japanese bank to invest in the fund, DBJ aims to accelerate carbon neutrality by leveraging its risk capital and collaborating with BEV to support decarbonization efforts and promote sustainable development.

On 5 July 2024, JICA committed approximately JPY84 billion in development assistance to the city of Mumbai, India.<sup>3953</sup> The aid will support the Mumbai Metro Line 3 construction process, which aims to improve public transit connectivity in Mumbai. JICA expects that the loan agreement will support various UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

On 30 July 2024, JICA signed a Record of Discussions for cooperation on “The Project for Strengthening the Implementation Capacity of Water Supply Services through Introduction of Volumetric Flow Meter in Tajikistan” with the Government of Tajikistan.<sup>3954</sup> This partnership aims to support Tajikistan’s progress towards achieving SDG 6, clean water and sanitation.

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<sup>3951</sup> JICA Launches JPY 20 Billion Non-Guaranteed Domestic Bonds Tranches, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240620\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240620_31.html)

<sup>3952</sup> DBJ to Invest in Breakthrough Energy Ventures Fund to Support Later-Stage Climate Innovations --First Japanese Bank to invest in BEV Select Fund I--, Development Bank of Japan (Tokyo) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj\\_news/2024/html/20240620\\_204823.html](https://www.dbj.jp/en/topics/dbj_news/2024/html/20240620_204823.html)

<sup>3953</sup> インド向け円借款貸付契約の調印: 本邦企業も多く進出するムンバイでメトロ建設～交通渋滞緩和を通じ、経済活動の活発化及び気候変動の抑制に貢献～, 国際協力機構 (Tokyo) 5 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/information/press/2024/20240702\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/information/press/2024/20240702_31.html)

<sup>3954</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Tajikistan: Contributing to the improvement of water supply services through the establishment of a foundation for the nationwide distribution of metered tariff model, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240813\\_32.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240813_32.html)

On 1 August 2024, JICA signed an agreement to provide grant aid to the Government of Kyrgyzstan for multiple initiatives backed by up to JPY2.153 billion in grants.<sup>3955</sup> Initiative targets include improving air connectivity and supporting healthcare infrastructure in Kyrgyzstan including the treatment of breast cancer and cardiovascular disease.

On 8 August 2024, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of Tajikistan to provide aid up to JPY2 billion for the Project of Improvement of the Water Supply System located in Jomi District.<sup>3956</sup> These funds will support access to clean water in surrounding areas.

On 19 August 2024, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of Palau to grant up to JPY2.79 billion for the Project for the Reconstruction of Minato Bridge.<sup>3957</sup> This project will strengthen trade connectivity in Palau, demonstrating Japan's commitment to infrastructural development in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 30 September 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement of up to USD100 million with the Development Bank of Southern Africa.<sup>3958</sup> This project aims to support the sustainable economic development of the Republic of South Africa by facilitating the financing of renewable energy initiatives that will drive the growth of green infrastructure.

On 14 October 2024, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of Madagascar to grant up to JPY2.9 billion for the Project for the Expansion and Improvement of Water Supply System in Toamasina.<sup>3959</sup> This project aims to support access to safe water and aligns with both Japan's commitment to support infrastructural development in Africa and United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6.

On 16 October 2024, JICA signed a Record of Discussions to cooperate with Tunisia on the "The Project for Urban Mobility Master Plan Study in Greater Tunis."<sup>3960</sup> The project aims to improve regional infrastructure to reduce the effects of traffic congestion and air pollution and aligns with Japan's commitment to support infrastructural development in Africa.

On 17 October 2024, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of Tanzania to grant up to JPY4.1 billion to support the Project for Construction of Dodoma City Inner Ring Road.<sup>3961</sup> This aid will fund the construction of new roads and aligns with Japan's commitment to support infrastructural development in Africa.

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<sup>3955</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with the Kyrgyz Republic: Contributing to improving the quality of public medical services through the provision of medical equipment and to enhance regional connectivity and economic development through the improvement of international airports, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808_31.html)

<sup>3956</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Tajikistan: Support for improving the water supply service, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808\\_32.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240808_32.html)

<sup>3957</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Palau: strengthening the bridge and stabilize transportation capacity by re-constructing the Minato Bridge, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240819\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240819_21.html)

<sup>3958</sup> Signing of a Loan Agreement for Green Finance Promotion Project in Republic of South Africa (Private Sector Investment Finance) : Boosting Energy Transition over the Country, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118_21.html)

<sup>3959</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Madagascar: Contributing to safe and stable water supply through constructing, installing, and replacing water supply facilities in Toamasina, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241021\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241021_21.html)

<sup>3960</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with the Republic of Tunisia: Supporting sustainable urban development through the development of urban transport master plans, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241017\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241017_41.html)

<sup>3961</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Tanzania: Contributing to smoother traffic and improvement of the living environment through road development in the capital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025_21.html)

On 24 October 2024, the JICA signed a loan agreement of maximum JPY6.58 billion with Ecuador for the Chachimbiro Geothermal Development Project.<sup>3962</sup> This project will help promote the use of renewable energy, diversification of power sources and increase in power generation capacity.

On 30 October 2024, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of Laos to provide up to JPY2.84 billion for the Project for Improvement of Vientiane International Airport.<sup>3963</sup> This project aims to increase the efficiency of the airport and contributes to SDG 9.

On 18 November 2024, JICA loaned the Government of Iraq JPY60.040 million to bring the Basrah Oil Refinery up to higher sustainability standards.<sup>3964</sup> This money will go towards constructing a new fluid catalytic cracking complex which will increase efficiency and reduce the environmental toll of activities.

On 19 November 2024, Ambassador Tsutomu Koizumi signed a grant agreement to provide up to JPY615 million to Laos for “The Project for Strengthening Disaster Response Capacity through the Establishment of Evacuation Shelters.”<sup>3965</sup> These funds will improve Laotian climate resilience by constructing flood shelters, which will be built accessibly and in response to the needs of women, children, and people with disabilities.

On 25 November 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Government of Bangladesh to provide JPY38.206 million in funding for the development of a railway bridge and sewer treatment system.<sup>3966</sup> These projects are aimed at creating sustainable, safe and accessible infrastructure.

On 29 November 2024, JICA agreed to loan the Development Bank of South Africa up to USD100 million for the financing of renewable energy projects.<sup>3967</sup> This long-term funding aims to help South Africa develop its sustainable green infrastructure sector.

On 4 December 2024, Ambassador Naohisa Okuda signed an agreement to provide up to JPY700 million to Vanuatu for economic and social development.<sup>3968</sup> The project will equip Vanuatu with a research vessel and other items to monitor and sustainably manage its fisheries.

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<sup>3962</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement for Ecuador: Promoting the Use of Renewable Energy, Diversifying Power Sources, and Increasing Power Generation Capacity through Construction of a Geothermal Power Plant, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241025_41.html)

<sup>3963</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Lao People’s Democratic Republic: Contributing to strengthening the industrial base and connectivity with neighboring countries through improvement of Vientiane International Airport, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241016\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241016_21.html)

<sup>3964</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Republic of Iraq: Contributing to an increase in high-quality oil products that meet environmental standards through the upgrading of the Basrah Refinery, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118_41.html)

<sup>3965</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes concerning the Grant Aid to the Lao People's Democratic Republic “The Project for Strengthening Disaster Response Capacity through the Establishment of Evacuation Shelters,” Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00741.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00741.html)

<sup>3966</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Bangladesh: Contributing to efficient logistics and improve connectivity through constructing railway bridge, and Improving living, sanitation and water environment by developing a sewerage system, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241125\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241125_31.html)

<sup>3967</sup> Signing of a Loan Agreement for Green Finance Promotion Project in Republic of South Africa (Private Sector Investment Finance) : Boosting Energy Transition over the Country, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241118_21.html)

<sup>3968</sup> Grant Assistance to the Republic of Vanuatu: Signing and Exchange of Notes on “the Economic and Social Development Programme (Fishery Research Vessel)”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00782.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00782.html)

On 5 December 2024, Ambassador Keisuke Senda signed an agreement providing up to JPY390 million to Samoa for economic and social development.<sup>3969</sup> This project will provide Samoa with equipment to develop its drinking water infrastructure, addressing Samoa's most pressing infrastructural needs.

On 17 December 2024, JICA signed a grant agreement worth a maximum of JPY2.831 million with Pakistan to contribute to the Project for Flood Management Enhancement in the Indus Basin.<sup>3970</sup> The agreement will help reduce flood risks whilst enhancing water infrastructure in the region.

On 23 December 2024, JICA signed a grant agreement worth a maximum of JPY2.412 million with the Democratic Republic of Congo to support the "Project for the Rehabilitation of the Matadi Bridge and its Access Roads."<sup>3971</sup> This funding will help repair the roads and increase connectivity within the region.

On 24 December 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement worth a maximum of JPY23.148 million with Indonesia to support the fishery sector and increase fish quality within the supply chain.<sup>3972</sup> The project will support the construction and development of fishing ports, markets and other related facilities.

On 24 December 2024, JICA signed a loan agreement worth JPY50 million with Armenia.<sup>3973</sup> This loan will be used to support small and medium sized agricultural enterprises in Armenia, fueling sustainable economic growth by contributing to sustainable food production.

On 16 January 2025, JICA signed a loan agreement worth a maximum of JPY35 million with Egypt to support private sector development and economic diversification.<sup>3974</sup> The loan will contribute to economic development and the advancement of the green economy in Egypt.

On 10 January 2025, JICA signed a loan agreement worth a maximum of JPY83.408 million with Indonesia.<sup>3975</sup> This loan aims to increase the logistic capacity of ports within the Jakarta Metropolitan Area and contribute to the region's international economic activity.

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<sup>3969</sup> Grant Assistance to the Independent State of Samoa: Signing and Exchange of Notes on "the Economic and Social Development Programme (Equipment related to the development of underground water resources)", Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00790.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00790.html)

<sup>3970</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Pakistan : Contributing to the reduction of flood risk through the strengthening of flood management, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241216\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241216_31.html)

<sup>3971</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Democratic Republic of Congo : Contributing to the stabilization of logistics and traffic through the rehabilitation of the Matadi Bridge and its Access Roads, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 24 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241213\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241213_21.html)

<sup>3972</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Indonesia: Support construction and rehabilitation facilities related to fishing ports and markets contributing to development of fishery sector, and support rehabilitation and construction the sediment control facilities contributing to sustainable regional growth, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241224\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20241224_21.html)

<sup>3973</sup> Signing of a Loan Agreement for Support Project for Agricultural Sector and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Armenia (Private Sector Investment Finance) : Contributing to the financial inclusion of MSMEs mainly agricultural sector in Armenia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250122\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250122_21.html)

<sup>3974</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Egypt: Contributing to Private Sector Development and Economic Diversification through the Development Policy Loan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250117\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250117_41.html)

<sup>3975</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Indonesia: Contributing to the improvement of the investment environment by strengthening logistics functions in Jakarta Metropolitan Area, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240109\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240109_21.html)

On 3 February 2025, JICA signed a grant agreement worth a maximum of JPY835 million with Bangladesh to support the “Project for the Improvement of Equipment for Air Pollution Monitoring.”<sup>3976</sup> Through helping to procure monitoring equipment, this project advances Bangladesh’s pollution control capacity.

On 6 February 2025, JICA signed grant agreement worth JPY2 million with Morocco for the “Project for the Development of the New Generation Fishing Port.”<sup>3977</sup> This grant will help enhance the local fishing infrastructure and economy.

On 6 February 2025, JICA signed a loan agreement worth a maximum of JPY159.496 million with Panama. This loan agreement, which mobilizes funds to build new public transit in Panama City, aims to support the alleviation of traffic congestion and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>3978</sup>

On 21 February 2025, JICA provided a grant worth a maximum of JPY951 million to the World Food Programme to bolster the Wheat Value Chain.<sup>3979</sup> This grant will help provide equipment and enhance global wheat production management.

On 23 February 2025, JICA signed a grant agreement worth up to JPY1.334 million with the Government of Jordan to contribute to the “Project for the Introduction of Water Supply Control System.”<sup>3980</sup> This grant will help increase the quality of water supply services in the region.

On 25 February 2025, JICA signed a loan agreement of JPY13.688 million with the Government of Bhutan to construct hydroelectric power plants.<sup>3981</sup> This agreement will contribute to decarbonization in South Asia.

On 25 March 2025, JICA provided a grant worth JPY4.939 million to the Government of Uganda to support the reconstruction of Karuma Bridge.<sup>3982</sup> This infrastructure project will support transportation flows in the region and improve road safety.

On 27 March 2025, JICA provided a grant worth JPY1.739 million to the Government of Fiji for the “Project for the Development of Regional Centres for the Improvement of Meteorological Services and Disaster Risk

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<sup>3976</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Bangladesh: Supporting action against severe air pollution, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250128\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250128_31.html)

<sup>3977</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Morocco: Contributing to development and diversification of rural economy of surrounding areas through enhancing capacity and function of the fish landing infrastructure of Souiria K’dima, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250124\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250124_41.html)

<sup>3978</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Panama: Contributing to the alleviation of traffic congestion and the improvement of quality of life in the Panama Metropolitan Area through the construction of a monorail utilizing Japan’s technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240207\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20240207_41.html)

<sup>3979</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with WFP for Sudan: Contributing to enhancement of agricultural productivity through improvement of the wheat value chain, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250218\\_21.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250218_21.html)

<sup>3980</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Jordan: the quality improvement of water supply services through installation of SCADA systems and rehabilitation of facilities, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250217\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250217_41.html)

<sup>3981</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Bhutan: Contribute to Bhutan’s Economic Growth through the First Support for Hydro Power Plants Construction by Japanese ODA Loan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250214\\_31.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250214_31.html)

<sup>3982</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Uganda: Contributing to strengthening transport functions in Uganda and facilitating logistics in East Africa through the reconstruction of Karuma Bridge, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250327\\_12.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250327_12.html)

Reduction.”<sup>3983</sup> This agreement will support resilience against natural disasters and climate change in the Pacific region.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Japan has mobilized significant funds and has ensured compliance with sustainability inclusivity, and resilience, through supporting emissions reductions, improving access to markets and clean water, and building accessible disaster shelters.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zulal Tunc*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 20 June 2024, the United Kingdom pledged GBP49 million towards the launch of the Gavi Investment Opportunity and African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) aimed at promoting investment in local vaccine manufacturing and development in Africa.<sup>3984</sup> AVMA initiatives improve pandemic resilience through the development of vaccine supply chains, storage facilities, and related infrastructure with African manufacturing partners.

On 12 July 2024, Trade Commissioner for Asia Pacific Martin Kent and British Ambassador to Laos Melanie Barlow attended the ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations)-UK Senior Economic Officials meeting.<sup>3985</sup> During the meeting, British officials spoke on their efforts to deepen economic bonds including by promoting the United Kingdom’s infrastructure business in the region.

On 15 July 2024, delegates from United Kingdom Export Finance (UKEF) met with representatives of the Guatemalan government, private industry, and financial institutions to discuss how the United Kingdom could help finance infrastructure projects in the country.<sup>3986</sup>

On 17 July 2024, a UKEF delegation met with officials from the Government of Honduras.<sup>3987</sup> The bilateral aimed to explore infrastructure projects in Honduras that could benefit from UK financing and investment.

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<sup>3983</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Fiji: Supporting the Construction of the Meteorological Facilities and Equipment for the Pacific Region, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250327\\_14.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2024/20250327_14.html)

<sup>3984</sup> Foreign Secretary to attend Gavi summit to launch AVMA, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-to-attend-gavi-summit-to-launch-avma>

<sup>3985</sup> UK deepens commitment to ASEAN-UK Economic ties in Vientiane, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-commitment-to-asean-uk-economic-ties-in-vientiane>

<sup>3986</sup> UK delegation seeks to enhance trade with Guatemala through competitive financing, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-delegation-seeks-to-enhance-trade-with-guatemala-through-competitive-financing>

<sup>3987</sup> UK Delegation Seeks to Enhance Trade with Honduras through Competitive Financing, Government of the United Kingdom (Guatemala City) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-delegation-seeks-to-enhance-trade-with-honduras-through-competitive-financing>

On 8 August 2024, UKEF and the Polish export credit agency, KUKE, granted a EUR249 million loan through the Standard Chartered Bank to be utilized for construction of solar power plants in Turkey.<sup>3988</sup> The funding will allow the development of the project and the advancement of the renewable energy sector in Turkey.

On 27 August 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West announced GBP12.9 million in funding for several programs, most notably Transforming Energy Access (TEA) and the Pacific Resilience Facility (PCF).<sup>3989</sup> The TEA funds support solar and hydrogen systems while the PCF provides general climate finance to the region. The funds contribute to financing infrastructure.

On 9 September 2024, CEO of UKEF Tim Reid and Executive Vice-President of the Chilean Production Development Corporation announced a partnership agreement aimed to aid in the green hydrogen sector.<sup>3990</sup> The two governmental agencies aim to jointly assist hydrogen projects in Chile through the GBP5 billion provided by the UK export credit support.

On 17 September 2024, Minister for Africa Ray Collins announced GBP3.8 million for investment in green energy in Ghana with Shell Foundation.<sup>3991</sup>

On 17 September 2024, the Government of the United Kingdom announced GBP1.9 million in investment towards supporting the technology sector in Ghana and Nigeria as part of the UK-Africa Technology and Innovation Partnerships Programme.<sup>3992</sup> This initiative aims to establish partnerships with local non-profits in West Africa such to improve delivery of digital services, stimulate the economy and accelerate local innovation.

On 24 September 2024, the UK's Mobilising Institutional Capital Through Listed Product Structures (MOBILIST) flagship program, designed to mobilize investment for projects aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, entered into a partnership with the Nairobi Securities Exchange.<sup>3993</sup> This collaboration aims to stimulate the Kenyan economy and increase capital investment in local projects focused on sustainable climate action and development.

On 12 November 2024, the British Embassy Phnom Penh and Cambodia's Ministry of Commerce convened the 2nd UK-Cambodia Joint Trade Investment Forum.<sup>3994</sup> The forum reviewed British-Cambodian progress in trade policy, developmental investment and bilateral business achievements.

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<sup>3988</sup> UK and Poland Target Green Exports with £249 Million Financing for Solar Project, Government of United Kingdom (London) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-poland-target-green-exports-with-249-million-financing-for-solar-project>

<sup>3989</sup> UK Announces New Climate Funding for Pacific as Minister Visits New Zealand and Tonga, Government of United Kingdom (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-new-climate-funding-for-pacific-as-minister-visits-new-zealand-and-tonga>

<sup>3990</sup> UK-Chile Agreement paves the way for Green Hydrogen Exports, Government of United Kingdom (London) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-chile-agreement-paves-way-for-green-hydrogen-exports>

<sup>3991</sup> Minister for Africa Lord Collins Reaffirms UK-Ghana Partnership, Government of United Kingdom (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-lord-collins-reaffirms-uk-ghana-partnership>

<sup>3992</sup> UK announces £1.9m for Science, Tech & Innovation in West Africa, Government of the United Kingdom (Abuja) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 7 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-19m-for-science-tech-innovation-in-west-africa>

<sup>3993</sup> New UK-Kenya investment partnership rings in UK trade visit, Government of the United Kingdom (Nairobi) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 7 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-kenya-investment-partnership-rings-in-uk-trade-visit>

<sup>3994</sup> UK and Cambodia Hold 2nd Joint Trade and Investment Forum, Government of the United Kingdom (Phnom Penh) 12 November 2024. Access date: 8 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-cambodia-hold-2nd-joint-trade-and-investment-forum>

On 7 October 2024, UKEF and Virgin Money provided GBP2 million in funding for Alicat Workboats to build two offshore wind workboats for Turkey.<sup>3995</sup> This funding aids in the global shortage of workboats that service offshore wind infrastructure and highlights the United Kingdom's commitment to aid developing countries in transition to renewable energy.

On 27 October 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer and State Secretary for Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Affairs David Lammy announced funding to encourage investment for climate change in vulnerable nations and support Powering Renewable Energy Opportunities in six Pacific Island Countries, which will test clean energy technologies.<sup>3996</sup> These measures ensure protection for countries that are susceptible to extreme impacts of climate change and help their transition to sustainable energy.

On 8 November 2024, UKEF committed to new agreements on sustainable and clean energy at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>3997</sup> UKEF signed an agreement with Indonesia's state electricity company, enabling them to finance energy transition projects in Indonesia which use UK goods and services. UKEF also has agreed to facilitate GBP10 billion in funds to finance clean-growth projects in association with the Net Zero Export Credit Agencies. Through these initiatives, UKEF supports sustainable energy transitions and helps finance global clean energy projects.

On 15 November 2024, the Minister of State for Development and for Women and Equalities Anneliese Dodds announced a GBP30 million investment in the Weather and Climate Information Services (WISER) Africa program, including GBP4 million for WISER Kenya.<sup>3998</sup> The program partners with key organizations and aims to strengthen climate hazard adaptation, enhance early warning systems, and support drought-affected communities. The goals of the program are formed in collaboration with affected communities, particularly with women from these communities, indicating inclusive consultation processes.

On 18 November 2024, the United Kingdom pledged approximately USD211 “for developing low-carbon production processes and green lead markets in developing and emerging countries.”<sup>3999</sup>

On 28 November 2024, Minister Dodds announced an investment of GBP1.98 billion over three years to the International Development Association, the World Bank's fund dedicated to supporting the world's lowest-income countries.<sup>4000</sup> This funding will be directed towards projects fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty and mitigating the effects of climate change.

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<sup>3995</sup> Norfolk Boat Builder Wins Major Offshore Wind Contract with Government Backing, Government of United Kingdom (London) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/norfolk-boat-builder-wins-major-offshore-wind-contract-with-government-backing>

<sup>3996</sup> UK Attends Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa, Government of United Kingdom (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-attends-commonwealth-heads-of-government-meeting-in-samoa>

<sup>3997</sup> UK leadership drives international shift towards cleaner export finance, UK Export Finance (London) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leadership-drives-international-shift-towards-cleaner-export-finance>

<sup>3998</sup> UK Pledges Ksh 660 Million to Kenya to Boost Weather and Information Services, Government of the United Kingdom (Nairobi) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-ksh-660-million-to-kenya-to-boost-weather-and-information-services>

<sup>3999</sup> Cop: Germany, UK, Canada co-operate on climate finance, argus Media (London) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 5 January 2025. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news-and-insights/latest-market-news/2629945-cop-germany-uk-canada-co-operate-on-climate-finance>

<sup>4000</sup> New UK Investment to Unlock Billions to Tackle Root Causes of Irregular Migration, Climate Change and Growth Crises., Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-investment-to-unlock-billions-to-tackle-root-causes-of-irregular-migration-climate-change-and-growth-crises--2>



On 5 December 2024, UKEF issued a loan of GBP60 million to support Cameroon in enhancing the productivity of extensive agricultural land areas with the involvement of British companies.<sup>4001</sup> The project responds to environmental, social, and economic issues, supporting green growth and land productivity, supporting schools and other facilities, and improving the economic fortunes of agricultural workers and other Cameroonians utilizing adjacent infrastructure.

On 17 December 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced GBP35 million in assistance for Ukraine, aimed at supporting Ukrainian infrastructure, amidst increasing Russian attacks.<sup>4002</sup> These funds will help rebuild Ukraine's energy infrastructure in anticipation of Ukraine's winter energy demands.

On 20 December 2024, UKEF issued guarantees worth GBP168 million to finance the construction of an offshore wind farm in Taiwan.<sup>4003</sup> This will help promote sustainable development and clean energy infrastructure in Taiwan.

On 13 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer announced an export package worth GBP12.3 billion to strengthen investments and trade relations between the United Kingdom and Iraq.<sup>4004</sup> This effort is part of the UK's Plan for Change and aims to strengthen the British economy.

On 28 January 2025, Minister Dodds announced the release of GBP17 million in humanitarian aid for Gaza.<sup>4005</sup> This aid will focus on developing healthcare and residential facilities among other key infrastructural projects in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

On 28 January 2025, Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds appointed parliamentarians to a "global growth team" to act as UK Trade Envoys to different regions and countries.<sup>4006</sup> This will help the UK increase investments, identify trade areas and seek opportunities for private sector involvement.

On 4 February 2025, the Department of Business and Trade participated in a trade mission in Guatemala City.<sup>4007</sup> This event allowed delegates to explore investment opportunities that would improve Guatemalan infrastructure and increase partnership between British and Guatemalan companies while providing business opportunities.

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<sup>4001</sup> £60 Million Land Improvement Deal Announced at UK's West & Central Francophone Africa Trade Forum, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/60-million-land-improvement-deal-announced-at-uks-west-central-francophone-africa-trade-forum>

<sup>4002</sup> Prime Minister announces new sanctions and £35 million of emergency support for Ukraine as Russia continues to attack critical national infrastructure, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-new-sanctions-and-35-million-of-emergency-support-for-ukraine-as-russia-continues-to-attack-critical-national-infrastructure>

<sup>4003</sup> UK Subsea Exporters Gain from £168 Million Taiwan Renewables Deal, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-subsea-exporters-gain-from-168-million-taiwan-renewables-deal>

<sup>4004</sup> UK and Iraq Boost Cooperation on Trade, Growth and Illegal Migration (London) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-iraq-boost-cooperation-on-trade-growth-and-illegal-migration>

<sup>4005</sup> New Humanitarian Support for Gaza as Ceasefire Allows Operations to Scale Up, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-humanitarian-support-for-gaza-as-ceasefire-allows-operations-to-scale-up>

<sup>4006</sup> New 'global Growth Team' Appointed by Trade Secretary, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-global-growth-team-appointed-by-trade-secretary>

<sup>4007</sup> The UK's Department of Business and Trade Assists British Companies in Guatemala's Infrastructure Trade Mission, Government of the United Kingdom (Guatemala City) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uks-department-of-business-and-trade-assists-british-companies-in-guatemalas-infrastructure-trade-mission>

On 5 February 2025, the United Kingdom pledged GBP17 million towards clean and sustainable energy in Ukraine during the second round of the InnovateUkraine competition.<sup>4008</sup> This investment will focus on developing technologies such as smart green grids, green fuels, renewable generation, low-carbon houses, and other areas.

On 12 February 2025, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Ed Miliband participated in the fourth UK-India Energy Dialogue.<sup>4009</sup> During this event, Secretary Miliband underscored the willingness of the UK and India to promote offshore wind energy and the importance of establishing a UK-India Offshore Wind Taskforce. Furthermore, the two held discussions on decarbonizing the Indian power sector.

On 26 February 2025, Minister for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West, in roundtable discussions with Mongolian Deputy Prime Minister Amarsaikhan Sainbuyan, discussed further economic and political partnerships under the UK-Mongolia Joint Cooperation Roadmap.<sup>4010</sup> Talks encompassed the comprehensive role of UKEF in supporting the construction of Ulaanbaatar's metro system. Investment and partnership opportunities were also underscored in various fields like energy sector, gender equality and cooperation on critical minerals.

On 25 February 2025, Prime Minister Starmer announced that the United Kingdom would reduce its overall spending on official development assistance from 0.5 per cent of gross national income (GNI) to 0.3 per cent of GNI by 2027.<sup>4011</sup> This action is antithetical to the commitment's aim of reaching USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027.

On 17 March 2025, the UK and the Philippines convened a Joint Economic and Trade Committee meeting.<sup>4012</sup> In this meeting, both countries agreed upon a Financing Framework Partnership to help build critical infrastructural projects of national importance in the Philippines. Energy, agriculture, economic development, regional collaboration and trade and investments were also key areas of deliberation.

On 21 March 2025, the British Embassy in Peru and the Peruvian Private Investment Promotion Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding underlining strategies to promote the growth of public-private partnerships in infrastructure maintenance.<sup>4013</sup>

On 24 March 2025, UKEF facilitated Dints, a British firm, in securing a GBP12 million infrastructural contract on renewable energy in Angola.<sup>4014</sup> It was possible because of UKEF's loan guarantee to Apple Bank for the purposes of providing those funds to a contractor working with Dints. This project aims to further develop the renewable energy sector in Angola.

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<sup>4008</sup> InnovateUkraine Opens Second Round of Investment for Clean Energy Projects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/innovateukraine-opens-second-round-of-investment-for-clean-energy-projects>

<sup>4009</sup> UK Stands up for Working People by Boosting Economic, Clean Energy and Climate Links with India, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-stands-up-for-working-people-by-boosting-economic-clean-energy-and-climate-links-with-india>

<sup>4010</sup> UK-Mongolia Political Dialogue - Joint Statement, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-mongolia-political-dialogue-joint-statement>

<sup>4011</sup> UK to reduce aid to 0.3% of gross national income from 2027, House of Commons Library (London) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 19 April 2025. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/uk-to-reduce-aid-to-0-3-of-gross-national-income-from-2027/>

<sup>4012</sup> Joint Statement on UK-Philippines JETCO, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-uk-philippines-jetco>

<sup>4013</sup> UK and Peru Sign an Agreement to Promote Infrastructure Development through Public-Private Collaboration, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-peru-sign-an-agreement-to-promote-infrastructure-development-through-public-private-collaboration>

<sup>4014</sup> British Exports Shine in African Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Deal, Government of the United Kingdom (Lima) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-exports-shine-in-african-infrastructure-and-renewable-energy-deal>

On 26 March 2025, the UK hosted the UK-Southeast Asia Tech Week in the Philippines, where Ambassador to the Philippines Laure Beaufils and Fintech Alliance Philippines signed a Strategic Partnership to promote cooperation and investment opportunities.<sup>4015</sup> This partnership is set to advance the technological and financial sectors of the Philippines.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. The United Kingdom has supported various initiatives, with significant funds, supporting inclusive, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure development. Whilst the United Kingdom has moved to scale down its overseas development spending, it is still on track to meet the commitment's goal by 2027 according to the random progression model and both this cycle's and previous cycles' actions.

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

*Analyst: Sharvi Jain*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 15 June 2024, Vice President Kamala Harris committed over USD500 million towards energy aid in Ukraine.<sup>4016</sup> This aid will increase energy supply, maintain the energy grid and restore destroyed infrastructure.

On 27 June 2024, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman announced USD66.8 million in funding to Zambia in response to current drought conditions in the country.<sup>4017</sup> This money will not only provide humanitarian aid to alleviate the ongoing crisis but to also support the country's agricultural base and future drought resilience.

On 12 July 2024, American Special Coordinator for the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment Helaina Matza traveled to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan to discuss opportunities for strategic infrastructure investments related to the Trans-Caspian Corridor alongside local partners.<sup>4018</sup>

On 15 July 2024, Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Brian Nichols and Ambassador to Honduras Lisa Kubiske reaffirmed the US commitment towards infrastructure development ahead of the

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<sup>4015</sup> UK-Southeast Asia Tech Week 2025 in Manila, Government of the United Kingdom (Manila) 26 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-southeast-asia-tech-week-2025-in-manila>

<sup>4016</sup> Vice President Kamala Harris Announces Over \$1.5 Billion to Bolster Ukraine's Energy Sector, Address Humanitarian Needs, and Strengthen Civilian Security, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-15-2024/-vice-president-kamala-harris-announces-over-1-billion-bolster-ukraines-energy-sector-address-humanitarian-needs-and-strengthen-civilian-security>

<sup>4017</sup> USAID Announces More Than \$66 Million to Support Zambia in Efforts to Combat Drought, Support Resilience, and Strengthen Food Security as a Feed the Future Accelerator Country, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-27-2024-usaid-announces-more-66-million-support-zambia-efforts-combat-drought-support-resilience-and-strengthen-food-security-feed-future-accelerator-country>

<sup>4018</sup> Acting Special Coordinator for the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment Matza's Travel to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/acting-special-coordinator-for-the-partnership-for-global-infrastructure-and-investment-matzas-travel-to-uzbekistan-and-kazakhstan/>

Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity ministerial meeting.<sup>4019</sup> The officials spoke on the importance of development approaches that combine sustainability, inclusivity and resilience, giving examples of initiatives the United States has taken to these ends.

On 17 July 2024, the United States, India and Tanzania announced the launch of a Triangular Development Project.<sup>4020</sup> The project aims to strengthen and promote the development of clean and reliable energy infrastructure in Tanzania.

On 27 August 2024, the United States announced further investment in the Pacific Islands of USD1 million for the expansion of a biogas project in Tuvalu at the 53rd Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting.<sup>4021</sup> This investment will help support a sustainable clean energy transition in Tuvalu by investing in locally based energy transition infrastructure initiatives.

On 28 August 2024, the Department of State announced that Acting Special Coordinator for the PGII Helaina Matza recently traveled to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania, where she discussed expanding the Lobito Corridor in those countries.<sup>4022</sup> The parties also discussed progress towards the greenfield Zambia-Lobito rail line and new US-led investments aiming to expand the Lobito Corridor to the Indian Ocean.

On 11 September 2024, the Department of State announced several key outcomes from the U.S.-Nigeria Strategic Energy Dialogue.<sup>4023</sup> These included technological assistance and over USD80 million in commitments to aid Nigeria's clean energy transition and a new Clean Energy Alliance of Nigeria launched by the State Department to advance "clean, reliable, and affordable" energy.

On 17 September 2024, the USAID and the Department of State announced USD75 million in development assistance for Moldova.<sup>4024</sup> These funds aim to accelerate the development of Moldova's transportation and logistics infrastructure.

On 3 October 2024, USAID announced USD50 million in funding for the Enterprises for Development, Growth, and Empowerment (EDGE) Fund.<sup>4025</sup> This additional funding aims to support the EDGE Fund's

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<sup>4019</sup> Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs Brian A. Nichols and Ambassador Lisa Kubiske on the America's Partnership for Economic Prosperity Ministerial, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/assistant-secretary-for-western-hemisphere-affairs-brian-a-nichols-and-ambassador-lisa-kubiske-on-the-americas-partnership-for-economic-prosperity-ministerial/>

<sup>4020</sup> U.S., India, and Tanzania Partner to Accelerate Renewable Energy Development in Tanzania, United States Embassy in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) 17 July 2024. Access Date 19 December 2024. <https://tz.usembassy.gov/u-s-india-and-tanzania-partner-to-accelerate-renewable-energy-development-in-tanzania/>

<sup>4021</sup> FACT SHEET: Following Through on the U.S.- Pacific Islands Partnership 53rd Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders Meeting in Nuku'alofa, Tonga August 26-30, 2024, The White House (Washington D.C.) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/08/27/fact-sheet-following-through-on-the-u-s-pacific-islands-partnership-53rd-pacific-islands-forum-pif-leaders-meeting-in-nukualofa-tonga-august-26-30-2024/>

<sup>4022</sup> Digital Press Briefing: Lobito Corridor Expansion and United States Infrastructure on the African Continent, United States Department of State (Dodoma) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/digital-press-briefing-lobito-corridor-expansion-and-u-s-infrastructure-on-the-african-continent-2>

<sup>4023</sup> U.S.-Nigeria Strategic Energy Dialogue Highlights Key Bilateral Cooperation, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-nigeria-strategic-energy-dialogue-highlights-key-bilateral-cooperation/>

<sup>4024</sup> The United States Announces an Additional \$75 Million in Development Assistance for Moldova, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-17-2024-united-states-announces-additional-75-million-development-assistance-moldova>

<sup>4025</sup> United States Agency for International Development Launches New Window of \$50 Million for EDGE Fund to Boost Innovation through Private Sector Partnerships, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-03-2024-usaid-launches-new-window-50-million-edge-fund-boost-innovation-through-private-sector-partnerships>

goal of promoting private sector engagement surrounding international challenges such as increasing the representation of women in corporate supply chains and delivering medicines to remote communities.

On 20 October 2024, USAID announced that Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman will travel to Italy to discuss the PGII and other issues.<sup>4026</sup> Deputy Administrator Coleman will also reaffirm the United States' commitment towards developing sustainable infrastructure.

On 12 November 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced USD10 million for the Investment Mobilization Collaboration Alliance's third funding window through Power Africa, focusing on clean energy and critical mineral projects in Africa.<sup>4027</sup>

On 14 November 2024, USAID announced USD53.7 million in blended finance for various climate finance initiatives.<sup>4028</sup> This disbursement aims to directly fund and promote private investment into climate-smart development programs.

On 18 November 2024, the Department of State announced that Special Coordinator Matza will attend the third meeting of the Trilateral Luzon Economic Corridor Steering Committee, engaging in direct consultations with partners in the Philippines and Japan to promote the development of the Luzon Corridor.<sup>4029</sup>

On 19 November 2024, the United States announced a new contribution of USD325 million to the Clean Technology fund at the G20 summit alongside a call to action by President Joe Biden for leaders to invest in the global clean energy transition.<sup>4030</sup>

On 3 December 2024, President Biden announced the development of a permanent USAID mission to Angola.<sup>4031</sup> The new mission represents an elevation of the USAID-Angola partnership and will promote further cooperation between the United States and Angola, especially on infrastructure development.

On 3 December 2024, the United States and Angola co-hosted the PGII Lobito Trans-Africa Corridor Summit, where leaders reaffirmed and collaborated on their commitment to investing in infrastructure to develop the Corridor connecting the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.<sup>4032</sup> The leaders also committed to accelerate the Zambia-Lobito rail project at the summit.

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<sup>4026</sup> Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman Travels to Italy, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 2024 October 20. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-20-2024-deputy-administrator-isobel-coleman-travels-italy>

<sup>4027</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Leverages Historic U.S. Climate Leadership at Home and Abroad to Urge Countries to Accelerate Global Climate Action at the 29th U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29), The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/12/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-leverages-historic-u-s-climate-leadership-at-home-and-abroad-to-urge-countries-to-accelerate-global-climate-action-at-the-29th-u-n-climate-change-con/>

<sup>4028</sup> USAID Announces More Than \$53 Million in Blended Finance Partnerships, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-14-2024-usaid-announces-more-53-million-blended-finance-partnerships>

<sup>4029</sup> Acting Special Coordinator for the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment Matza's Travel to the Philippines, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/acting-special-coordinator-for-the-partnership-for-global-infrastructure-and-investment-matzas-travel-to-the-philippines/>

<sup>4030</sup> FACT SHEET: Continuing a Legacy of Leadership at the G20, The White House (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/19/fact-sheet-continuing-a-legacy-of-leadership-at-the-g20/>

<sup>4031</sup> President Biden Announces New USAID Mission in Angola, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 13 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-03-2024-president-biden-announces-new-usaid-mission-angola>

<sup>4032</sup> FACT SHEET: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment in the Lobito Trans-Africa Corridor, The White House Briefing Room (Lobito) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 7 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/12/02/fact-sheet-president-bidens-trip-to-angola/>

On 3 December 2024, Secretary Blinken signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha regarding American support for Ukraine's energy infrastructure.<sup>4033</sup> The memorandum includes a conditional USD825 million grant to Ukraine to develop its energy infrastructure beyond emergency needs.<sup>4034</sup>

On 10 December 2024, the Department of State released a media note outlining talks between the United States and the Philippines surrounding energy policy.<sup>4035</sup> The two countries committed to deepening their collaboration on the Philippines' energy transition, including the rollout of nuclear energy.

On 8 January 2024, the DoS signed a USD27 million agreement with Mauritania.<sup>4036</sup> This new partnership is part of the Millennium Challenge Corporation Threshold Program and aims to help Mauritania develop critical energy sector capability while ensuring climate resilience and environmental sustainability.

On 13 January 2024, the United States Trade and Development Agency announced a USD2 million grant for the Government of Nigeria.<sup>4037</sup> This sum will fund a feasibility assessment for broadband infrastructure expansion across Nigeria to ensure the country's population has inclusive access to digital services.

On 26 January 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid. Accordingly, Secretary of State Marco Rubio issued an indefinite pause on all foreign funding provided by the DoS or USAID.<sup>4038</sup> This severely interferes with the funding commitments previously made by these organizations to existing projects and the country's overall ongoing commitment towards the mobilization of funds for international infrastructure development and investment.

On 28 March 2025, the DoS and USAID notified Congress that they intend to discontinue integrate certain USAID activities into the DoS and discontinue a portion of the remaining programs.<sup>4039</sup> This entails a substantial scaling down of US overseas development assistance from July 2025 onwards and is thus antithetical to the commitment's goal of reaching USD 600 billion of aid through the PGII by 2027.

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<sup>4033</sup> Secretary Antony J. Blinken and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha at Memorandum of Understanding Signing in Support of Ukraine Energy Resilience and Before Their Meeting, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-and-ukrainian-foreign-minister-andrii-sybiha-at-memorandum-of-understanding-signing-in-support-of-ukraine-energy-resilience-and-before-their-meeting/>

<sup>4034</sup> MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between Ukraine and the USA regarding Collaboration on Ukrainian Energy System Resilience, U.S. Embassy in Ukraine (Kyiv) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/memorandum-of-understanding-between-ukraine-and-the-usa-regarding-collaboration-on-ukrainian-energy-system-resilience-2/>

<sup>4035</sup> U.S. and Philippines Hold 2nd Annual Energy Policy Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-and-philippines-hold-2nd-annual-energy-policy-dialogue/>

<sup>4036</sup> United States and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania Sign Agreement to Enhance Power Sector Resilience and Climate Adaptation, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 2 March 2025. <https://2021-2025.state.gov/united-states-and-the-islamic-republic-of-mauritania-sign-agreement-to-enhance-power-sector-resilience-and-climate-adaptation/>

<sup>4037</sup> Department of State Hosts U.S.-Nigeria Technology Dialogue and Signing of \$2 Million Broadband Study Grant, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 2 March 2025. <https://2021-2025.state.gov/office-of-the-spokesperson/releases/2025/01/departments-hosts-u-s-nigeria-technology-dialogue-and-signing-of-2-million-broadband-study-grant>

<sup>4038</sup> Implementing the President's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 January 2025. Access Date: 2 March 2025. <https://www.state.gov/implementing-the-presidents-executive-order-on-reevaluating-and-realigning-united-states-foreign-aid/>

<sup>4039</sup> On Delivering an America First Foreign Assistance Program, United States Department of State (Washington D.C.) 29 March 2025. Access Date: 29 March 2025. <https://www.state.gov/on-delivering-an-america-first-foreign-assistance-program/>

On 30 April 2025, the Department of the Treasury announced the establishment of the United States-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund.<sup>4040</sup>

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. Before 26 January 2025, the United States made investments in the development of infrastructure in Africa with a focus on sustainability, resilience and the inclusivity of minority groups and vulnerable populations. However, the United States' plans to curtail USAID severely decreases the potential for future US global infrastructure and investment spending and represents a diversion from progress towards the USD600 billion goal. Similarly, the DFC has not signed new spending contracts since 15 June 2025.<sup>4041</sup> Nevertheless, based on this cycle's actions before January 2025 (even if the US has since revoked or reduced an unknown portion of the funding for an unknown quantity of these actions), as well as US development compliance in previous cycles, it remains feasible for the United States to complete the commitment's goal by 2027 according to the random progression model.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Michael Chou*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific.

On 20 June 2024, the European Union and its member states announced a total investment of over EUR750 million towards the African Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) with EUR220 million directly contributed from the European Union budget.<sup>4042</sup> The AVMA aims to bolster Africa's pandemic resilience through boosting the continent's domestic vaccine manufacturing industry.

On 29 June 2024, the European Union provided EUR30 million in grants and EUR271 million in loans to Egypt to reduce pollution, towards decarbonization and to enhance energy efficiency as part of the Green Sustainable Industry programme.<sup>4043</sup> The assistance package also includes EUR60 million for grain storage infrastructure.

On 25 June 2024, the European Union signed an Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Kyrgyzstan.<sup>4044</sup> This agreement deepens cooperation in various areas related to development, sustainability, and resilience.

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<sup>4040</sup> Treasury Announces Agreement to Establish United States-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund, United States Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 30 April 2025. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sb0126>

<sup>4041</sup> Newsroom, United States International Development Finance Corporation (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 12 May 2025. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/newsroom>

<sup>4042</sup> Team Europe announces over €750 million to the African Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator, European Commission (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3262](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3262)

<sup>4043</sup> The EU and Egypt team up to mobilise private sector investments at Investment Conference and sign a Memorandum of Understanding underpinning €1 billion in macro-financial assistance for Egypt, European Commission (Brussels) 29 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3481](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3481)

<sup>4044</sup> The European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic sign an Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA), European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3462](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3462)

On 29 June 2024, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen met with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi at the EU-Egypt Investment Conference. During the conference, the two signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a EUR1 billion Macro-Financial Assistance initiative that aims to bolster Egypt's economic growth and sustainable transition.<sup>4045</sup> The new funding seeks to attract private investment into Egypt and support Egyptian water management and construction initiatives, among other priorities.

On 30 June 2024, the European Union signed a cooperation agreement with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and the Egyptian government to support food security by constructing new wheat silos across six Egyptian governorates.<sup>4046</sup> Under the agreement, the European Union will mobilize part of a general EUR100 million Food and Resilience Facility to support cooperation between the Egyptian government and the AFD on developing enough wheat silos to support about 420,000 additional tons of grains.

On 2 July 2024, President von der Leyen announced EUR1.2 billion in investments for the Western Balkans with the aim of promoting unity in the region and fostering a sustainable green transition.<sup>4047</sup> Infrastructure projects funded by these investments include a new high-speed rail-line in the region as well as water and sanitation facilities.

On 31 August 2024, the European Commission announced the entry into force of the EU-Angola Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement.<sup>4048</sup> This agreement aligns with the Africa-EU Global Gateway Investment Package and aims to facilitate investment to unlock underprioritized sectors of Angola's economy. Additionally, the agreement aims to uphold both parties' commitment to respecting both labor rights and climate sustainability regulations.

On 11 September 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) each announced EUR100 million in funding for the DBSA's Embedded Generation Investment Programme for small and medium sized renewable energy projects in South Africa.<sup>4049</sup> This initiative will mainly support solar photovoltaic and onshore wind projects in the private sector to produce 384 megawatts of renewable electricity.

On 12 September 2024, the EIB and FirstRand Bank Ltd. each announced EUR200 million in funding for renewable energy including solar photovoltaic and wind energy and energy efficiency projects in South Africa.<sup>4050</sup> This initiative aims to decrease South Africa's reliance on fossil fuels, reduce carbon emissions and increase renewable energy in the country.

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<sup>4045</sup> EU and Egypt strengthen investment opportunities at Investment Conference in Cairo, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_24\\_3606](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_24_3606)

<sup>4046</sup> EU-Egypt Strategic Partnership: Egypt, AFD Group and EU join forces to strengthen Egypt's food security, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 30 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu%C3%A9-de-presse/eu-egypt-strategic-partnership-egypt-afd-group-and-eu-join-forces-strengthen-egypt-s-food-security>

<sup>4047</sup> European Commission announces additional €1.2 billion investment package for infrastructure and support to entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3586](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3586)

<sup>4048</sup> EU's first Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement enters into force with Angola, European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2024. Access Date: 8 November 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_4462](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_4462)

<sup>4049</sup> EIB and Development Bank of Southern Africa increase support for private sector renewable energy to € 600 million/ ZAR 11.9 billion, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-329-eib-and-development-bank-of-southern-africa-increase-support-for-private-sector-renewable-energy-to-eur-600-million-zar-11-9-billion>

<sup>4050</sup> South Africa: EIB and FirstRand Bank boost renewable energy investments with € 400 million/ZAR 7.9 billion initiative, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-336-eib-and-firststrand-bank-boost-renewable-energy-investments-in-south-africa-with-eur-400-million-zar-7-9-billion-initiative>



On 9 October 2024, the European Commission agreed on a EUR1.8 billion financial support package for Moldova as it moves towards European Union ascension.<sup>4051</sup> This funding will support initiatives concerning infrastructural development, the green transition including electricity, and improving internet access to remote communities. This initiative, therefore, supports both sustainable and inclusive development.

On 10 October 2024, the EIB, Enel and the Italian Export Credit Agency announced up to USD300 million in funding for Enel Colombia's power grids and renewable energy generation projects.<sup>4052</sup> This funding will be used to develop two solar photovoltaic plants with a capacity of approximately 486 megawatts to support individuals in the Bogotá Region.

On 16 November 2024, President von der Leyen and President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa inaugurated the global 'Scaling up Renewables in Africa' campaign as the latest initiative under the EU-Africa Global Gateway Investment Package.<sup>4053</sup> The initiative aims to fund responses to targets set by the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to triple renewable energy and double energy efficiency worldwide.

On 17 December 2024, President von der Leyen pledged to increase humanitarian aid to Syria.<sup>4054</sup> This aid aims to develop essential infrastructure facilities to fulfil basic needs like water and electricity.

On 19 December 2024, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jozef Síkela approved a budget agreement worth EUR100 million which will develop Mauritania's economy and infrastructure while forming partnerships under the Global Gateway strategy.<sup>4055</sup> This agreement is part of a bigger package of EUR210 million to promote growth in the green energy sector, the healthcare system and other areas.

On 9 January 2025, the European Commission contributed EUR3 billion towards the total EUR18.1 billion Macro-Financial Assistance loan program for Ukraine.<sup>4056</sup> The purpose of this loan is to allow Ukraine to rebuild its essential infrastructure and military. This loan is affiliated with the G7's Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration initiative and is to be repaid using immobilized Russian assets.

On 16 January 2025, Commissioner Síkela announced an assistance package of EUR76.5 million with Angolan President João Lourenço.<sup>4057</sup> This payment will contribute to Angola's development in employment and education alongside the construction of the Lobito Corridor.

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<sup>4051</sup> Commission adopts €1.8 billion support package to underpin Moldova's economic growth plan on its path to the EU, European Commission (Chişinău) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 7 November 2024.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5124](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5124)

<sup>4052</sup> Colombia: EIB Global provides Enel Colombia with \$300 million loan for renewable energy generation and power grid improvements, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024.

<https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2024-371-eib-global-provides-enel-colombia-with-usd300-million-loan-for-renewable-energy-generation-and-power-grid-improvements>

<sup>4053</sup> Scaling up Renewables in Africa Campaign, European Commission (Brussels) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 8 December 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5881](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5881)

<sup>4054</sup> President von Der Leyen Visits Ankara and Amman to Engage with the Region in the Wake of the Collapse of the Assad Regime, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_24\\_6524](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_24_6524)

<sup>4055</sup> First official Mission of EU Commissioner Síkela develops mutually beneficial cooperation with Mauritania, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_101](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_101)

<sup>4056</sup> Commission Disburses First €3 Billion to Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 9 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_223](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_223)

<sup>4057</sup> Global Gateway: EU Strengthens Partnership with Angola and Bolsters Lobito Corridor Investments, European Commission (Paris) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_304](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_304)

On 21 January 2025, Commissioner Sikela extended EU backing for the Green Corridor Kivu-Kinshasa, an initiative by President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi.<sup>4058</sup> This corridor will increase connectivity, agricultural activities and economic growth for the people of the DRC and focus on investments in critical infrastructural, as well as political and technical projects encompassing Environmental, Social and Governance qualities.

On 28 January 2025, the European Commission pledged EUR100 million for the Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme.<sup>4059</sup> This initiative aims to develop space partnership between the EU and African countries. The aim is to engender green technology growth for better disaster prevention, to boost the private sector and to improve policy and decision-making capabilities.

On 18 February 2025, the European Commission announced that the EU and Barbados, alongside private entities HDF Energy and Rubis, had recently presented the launch of Renewable Barbados project.<sup>4060</sup> This project aims to provide clean and stable energy to the people of Barbados by integrating solar power with hydrogen storage.

On 23 February 2025, the EU declared an investment of EUR8.9 million for pharmaceutical production in the Caribbean.<sup>4061</sup> This funding aims to strengthen healthcare facilities through regional manufacturing.

On 23 February 2025, the EU and satellite provider Hispasat signed a MoU with the Caribbean Telecommunication Union at the CARICOM Summit in Barbados.<sup>4062</sup> The EU and Spain agreed to invest EUR10 million to fund projects to improve connectivity in the Caribbean.

On 27 February 2025, President von der Leyen and Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi met to solidify the EU-India Strategic Partnership.<sup>4063</sup> The deliberations included cooperation on several areas including security and trade. The highlight of this meeting was continued collaboration on the IMEC which aims to accelerate trade between India, the EU and the Middle East through infrastructure investments like electricity cables, hydrogen pipeline and high-speed data cable.

On 4 March 2025, President von der Leyen and World Bank President Ajay Banga announced that the EU's Scaling Up Renewables in Africa initiative and the World Bank's Mission 300 would be collaborating to achieve their aim of providing electricity to 300 million people in Africa by 2030.<sup>4064</sup> The goal is to provide access to sustainable and renewable energy for millions of Africans by driving investments with the help of the World Bank.

On 12 March 2025, President von der Leyen announced a EUR4.7 billion Global Gateway Investment Package, with EUR4.4 billion dedicated to South Africa's clean energy transition.<sup>4065</sup> The investment, part of the Scaling

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<sup>4058</sup> Global Gateway: A Green Corridor preserving the last lungs of the earth through green economic growth, European Commission (Brussels) 21 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_346](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_346)

<sup>4059</sup> Global Gateway: EU Reinforces Partnership with Africa through "Africa-EU Space Partnership Programme", European Commission (Brussels) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_401](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_401)

<sup>4060</sup> Launch of the Renewable Barbados Project (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_562](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_562)

<sup>4061</sup> EU Supports Local Pharma and Strengthens Caribbean Health Systems, European Commission (Brussels) 23 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_604](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_604)

<sup>4062</sup> EU Strengthens Digital Connectivity in the Caribbean, European Commission (Brussels) 23 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_606](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_606)

<sup>4063</sup> The EU and India Reinforce Strategic Ties during Landmark Visit of the College to New Delhi, European Commission (Brussels) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac\\_25\\_649](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ac_25_649)

<sup>4064</sup> European Commission and World Bank Group Join Forces to Expand Energy Access in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_678](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_678)

<sup>4065</sup> Global Gateway Investment Package South Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 12 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_774](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_774)

up Renewables in Africa campaign led by the EU and backed by Global Citizen and the IEA, aims to strengthen strategic industries and infrastructure.

On 4 April 2025, President von der Leyen and President of the European Council António Costa attended the EU-Central Asia Summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.<sup>4066</sup> At the summit, the EU announced a Global Gateway Investment Package of EUR12 billion and leaders discussed deepening cooperation and trade relations across a variety of key sectors.<sup>4067</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to mobilize up to USD600 billion through the PGII by 2027 towards sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and quality infrastructure and investments with partner countries, with a particular focus on Africa and on the Indo-Pacific. The European Union has taken strong action to invest significant funds in infrastructure projects, including throughout Africa and the Indo-Pacific, ensuring compliance with sustainability, resilience and inclusivity criteria by supporting energy transitions, access to services for remote communities and food supply chain resilience.

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

*Analyst: Sharvi Jain*

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<sup>4066</sup> President Ursula von Der Leyen to Take the EU-Central Asia Partnership to the next Level, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_940](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_940)

<sup>4067</sup> Factsheet: EU-Central Asia Summit, European Commission (Samarkand) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025.

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs\\_25\\_977](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_25_977)

## 18. Migration and Refugees: Border Management

“We will enhance cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on ... efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

### Background

In today's interconnected world, the rapid pace of globalization has created both opportunities and vulnerabilities, as criminal organizations exploit the increased flow of people, goods and information across borders, endangering citizens and destabilizing global systems. Although the G7 has changed its commitments in border management throughout the years, three main priorities have consistently remained at the forefront. These include assisting migrants and refugees, enhancing border security to reduce crime and fostering collaboration between countries to facilitate better border management. As global conflict and instability drive record numbers of forced displacement, estimated at around 120 million in May 2024, countries hosting refugees will require vital support.<sup>4068</sup> Reducing crime has also been a major focus for border management, as 2023 marked “the deadliest year on record for migrants.”<sup>4069</sup> G7 members will tackle human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and other transnational organized crimes by improving border security systems and utilizing data analysis.

Highlights on some of the G7's work on border management, migration, and refugees follow:

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, the G7 leaders noted the increasing rates of refugees, displaced persons, and uncontrolled migration, and the global challenges they posed, specifically towards national minorities.<sup>4070</sup> G7 leaders urged member states and the international community to support refugees and commit to protecting human rights.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, the G8 leaders expressed concern about the discriminatory attacks on refugees and personnel of humanitarian organizations supporting refugees.<sup>4071</sup>

<sup>4068</sup> Worldwide Levels of Forced Displacement Hit New High: UNHCR, United Nations (New York City) 12 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/06/1150981>

<sup>4069</sup> IOM and UNODC Join Forces to Tackle Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, United Nations (New York City) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2024/July/iom-and-unodc-join-forces-to-tackle-human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling.html>

<sup>4070</sup> Tokyo Summit Political Declaration: Striving for a More Secure and Humane World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1993. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/political.html>

<sup>4071</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, the G8 leaders voiced their concern for human trafficking and migrant smuggling, agreeing on joint efforts to prevent these crimes and protect victims from operations. In addition, they committed to prosecuting criminals and implementing strategies to resolve these problems.<sup>4072</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the G8 committed to adopting the United Nations Transnational Organised Crime Convention (UNTOC) and three protocols on firearms, migrant smuggling, and human trafficking by the end of 2000.<sup>4073</sup> The members specifically expressed concern over the rising challenges of illegal immigration and human trafficking and requested that the Lyon Group, recognized for its efforts, report on its fight against transnational organized crime.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders committed to improving how countries share information on terrorist and criminal movements to enhance border control, reduce terror attacks, and minimize threats to infrastructure and security.<sup>4074</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders declared their support in fighting transnational organized crime, and strengthening cooperation to fight various global challenges including both human trafficking and migrant smuggling.<sup>4075</sup> Additionally, the G8 leaders emphasized their continued support for the implementation of the UNTOC and its related three protocols.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders, in response to the increasing amount of remittance flows around the world, declared their support to facilitate access to financial services for migrants.<sup>4076</sup> To do this, G8 leaders committed to a 5% reduction of global average transferring remittance costs, creating increased income for migrants receiving remittances.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, the G8 leaders committed to providing political and financial support to organizations to help them better monitor and secure borders, strengthening border security and reducing crime.<sup>4077</sup> Leaders reaffirmed their support for the rule of law and vowed to hold criminals involved in the trafficking of drugs and people accountable for their crimes, as well as coordinating with international organizations such as the United Nations to hold meetings to discuss the issue of border security with regional partners. In addition, the G7 leaders acknowledged the tragic loss of life and growing numbers of displaced people caused by the conflict in Syria, promising to support humanitarian efforts in neighbouring countries such as Lebanon and Jordan.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders recognized the significant issue of vulnerable migration around the world, which had reached its highest levels since the Second World War.<sup>4078</sup> The leaders committed to increasing financial and humanitarian support for migrants, which included assistance for migrant host countries, collaboration with support partners and development in affected regions. The G7 leaders encouraged countries to ease border controls to allow for the temporary stay of refugees and implement resettlement policies to provide opportunities for refugees.

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<sup>4072</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>4073</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>4074</sup> G8 Statement on Counterterrorism, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2004. Access Date: 3 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/counterterrorism.pdf>

<sup>4075</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>4076</sup> Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

<sup>4077</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 July 2013. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>4078</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 1 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders emphasized the issue of the rising numbers of migrants and refugees, advocating for increased international partnerships to address the issue.<sup>4079</sup> Efforts included controlling migrant flows and supporting refugees and migrants near their home country. This approach aimed to make future returns easier, assist in redevelopment, uphold human rights for refugees and ensure the safety of vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Leaders also committed to tackling the root cause of migration as part of a long-term strategy, by providing support to improve conditions within countries that are at risk of an outflow of migration.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, the G7 leaders committed to facilitating safe global migration and respecting migrants' human rights.<sup>4080</sup> The leaders also dedicated their efforts to tackling criminal organizations that exploit migrants through illegal and dangerous migration.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “enhance cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.”<sup>4081</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment can be broken down into two main dimensions: 1) enhancing border management and enforcement and 2) curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. Additionally, for full compliance, G7 members must also partner with countries of origin and transit in each of the two dimensions.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Enhance” is understood to mean heighten or intensify.<sup>4082</sup>

“Cooperation” refers to the action or process of working together to the same end.<sup>4083</sup>

“Promote” is understood to mean to encourage or support something, or to help something become successful.<sup>4084</sup>

“Three-pronged approach” refers to the G7’s cooperation strategy that includes three distinct, but interconnected focus areas aimed at addressing migration. The three prongs include addressing the root cause of irregular migration, enhancing border management and combating migrant smuggling and trafficking, and creating safe and regular pathways for migration.<sup>4085</sup>

“Partnership” is understood to mean an agreement between organizations, people, etc. to work together.<sup>4086</sup>

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<sup>4079</sup> G7 Taormina Leader’s Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 1 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

<sup>4080</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leader’s Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 1 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>4081</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 31 August 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4082</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>4083</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 31 August 2024. [https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>4084</sup> Promote, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/promote>

<sup>4085</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4086</sup> Partnership, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/partnership>

“Country of origin” in the context of the migration commitment, refers to a country of nationality or of former habitual residence of a person or group of persons who have migrated abroad, irrespective of whether they migrate regularly or irregularly.<sup>4087</sup>

“Country of transit” in the context of the migration commitment, refers to the country through which a person or a group of persons pass on any journey to the country of destination or from the country of destination to the country of origin or of habitual residence.<sup>4088</sup>

“Border management” is understood to mean the administration of measures related to authorized movement of persons (regular migration) and goods, whilst preventing unauthorized movement of persons (irregular migration) and goods, detecting those responsible for smuggling, trafficking and related crimes and identifying the victims of such crimes or any other person in need of immediate or longer-term assistance and/or (international) protection.<sup>4089</sup>

“Enforcement” is understood to mean the process of making people obey a law or rule, or making a particular situation happen or be accepted.<sup>4090</sup>

“Curb” is understood to mean to control or limit something that is not wanted.<sup>4091</sup>

“Transnational organized crime” refers to self-perpetuating associations of individuals who operate across borders for the purpose of obtaining power, influence, monetary and/or commercial gains, wholly or in part by illegal means, while protecting their activities through a pattern of corruption and/or violence, or while protecting their illegal activities through a transnational organizational structure and the exploitation of transnational commerce or communication mechanisms.<sup>4092</sup>

“Migrant smuggling” refers to the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the irregular entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.<sup>4093</sup>

“Trafficking in persons” refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.<sup>4094</sup> Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

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<sup>4087</sup> Key Migration Terms, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms>

<sup>4088</sup> Key Migration Terms, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms>

<sup>4089</sup> Key Migration Terms, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms>

<sup>4090</sup> Enforcement, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/enforcement>

<sup>4091</sup> Curb, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/curb>

<sup>4092</sup> Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime: Definition, National Security Council (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/administration/eop/nsc/transnational-crime/definition>

<sup>4093</sup> Key Migration Terms, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms>

<sup>4094</sup> Key Migration Terms, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 6 September 2024.  
<https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms>

## General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that take strong actions in all three commitment dimensions and demonstrate partnerships with countries of origin and transit within each dimension. Actions must show a clear impact on the migration and security landscape.

Examples of strong actions for enhancing border management and enforcement include investments in surveillance and monitoring technologies at borders, as well as training and deployment of specialized border security forces.

For curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking, strong actions include border enforcement announcements, enacting and/or amending national legislation to strengthen punitive measures, actively participating in initiatives to dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks and undertaking targeted law enforcement actions.

In terms of partnering with countries of origin and transit, strong actions include bilateral and/or multilateral agreements focused on shared migration management responsibilities, providing financial or technical assistance for migration management and engaging in joint operations or task forces targeting smuggling and trafficking networks.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong actions towards fewer than three, or weak action across all three, of the following: 1) enhancing border management and enforcement, 2) curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking or 3) partnering with countries of origin and transit within each dimension. Weaker actions include issuing verbal statements of support, attending meetings and forums without committing to concrete actions and proposals of legislation without passing them or making minimal legislative changes that lack enforcement mechanisms.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if the G7 member takes no strong action and only weak action in fewer than three of the commitment criteria.

## Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not enhanced cooperation to curb migrant smuggling and trafficking by taking weak action in two or fewer of: 1) enhancing border management and enforcement, 2) curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking or 3) partnering with countries of origin and transit.
0	The G7 member has enhanced cooperation to curb migrant smuggling and trafficking by taking a strong action fewer than three, or taking weak actions in all three, of: 1) enhancing border management and enforcement, 2) curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking, or 3) partnering with countries of origin and transit.
+1	The G7 member has enhanced cooperation to curb migrant smuggling and trafficking by taking strong actions in all three criteria: 1) enhancing border management and enforcement, 2) curbing transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking, and 3) partnering with countries of origin and transit.

*Compliance Director: Jennifer Lee  
Lead Analyst: Kevin Li*

## Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing border management and enforcement by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 4 July 2024, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced the recent amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulation that aim to optimize border processing, bolster border security



and uplift public safety.<sup>4095</sup> The changes enable a Minister's Delegate to authorize the removal of persons who are deemed inadmissible directly at a port of entry, such as those smuggling firearms, drugs, and weapons.<sup>4096</sup>

On 12 July 2024, Canadian Ministers met with US officials at the 2024 US-Canada Cross Border Crime Forum (CBCF) to discuss their commitment to bolster partnerships in law enforcement, national security and trafficking.<sup>4097</sup> The US and Canada reiterated their commitment to optimizing information sharing regarding law enforcement and intelligence to combat transnational organized crime.

On 16 July 2024, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the details of a successful operation between Canadian and US law enforcement that resulted in the arrest of four persons involved in a smuggling attempt on the St. Clair River.<sup>4098</sup> Canadian law enforcement coordinated with US Border Patrol and Air and Marine Operators to arrest the individual driving the vessel as he returned to Canada from US waters. This collaborative effort highlights a strong commitment to curbing transnational organized crime and reinforces partnerships between the two nations in managing migration and security challenges.

On 30 July 2024, the CBSA declared new hours of operation for the Stanstead Route 143 Border Crossing.<sup>4099</sup> The updated operation hours will harmonize with the hours at the US port of entry at Derby Line Route 5, building security and correlation measures to return inadmissible persons at each border.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4100</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 4 October 2024, the Government of Canada announced that Canada and the European Union had signed an agreement to strengthen national security by improving border security measures.<sup>4101</sup> This agreement includes the sharing of Passenger Name Record data, which can help the CBSA assess the risk associated with travellers so that the agency can act if needed against those involved in terrorism or crime.

On 17 October 2024, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) announced a successful operation between the RCMP and the US Federal Bureau of Investigation that targeted a Mexican drug cartel network which

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<sup>4095</sup> New regulatory amendments will improve border processing efficiency and support public safety priorities, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/07/new-regulatory-amendments-will-improve-border-processing-efficiency-and-support-public-safety-priorities.html>

<sup>4096</sup> Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (Transborder Criminality): SOR/2024-128, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 10 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2024/2024-06-19/html/sor-dors128-eng.html>

<sup>4097</sup> The 2024 U.S.–Canada Cross Border Crime Forum (CBCF), Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/07/the-2024-uscanada-cross-border-crime-forum-cbcf.html>

<sup>4098</sup> Border Patrol Stops Cross-Border Smuggling Event on St. Clair River, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-stops-cross-border-smuggling-event-st-clair-river>

<sup>4099</sup> The CBSA is modifying hours of service at Stanstead Route 143 border crossing, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/07/the-cbsa-is-modifying-hours-of-service-at-stanstead-route-143-border-crossing.html>

<sup>4100</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4101</sup> Canada and the European Union sign agreement to enhance border security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 13 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/10/canada-and-the-european-union-sign-agreement-to-enhance-border-security.html>

trafficked drugs to North America.<sup>4102</sup> The operation resulted in many arrests in the US and Canada, along with drug seizures, indicating their strong commitment to stopping trafficking across borders.

On 8 November 2024, the CBSA announced the implementation of new facilities at the Sainte-Aurélie border crossing, part of a CAD4 million investment to improve border management processes.<sup>4103</sup> The government allocated the funding towards upgrading technology and facilities to improve efficiency in processing travellers while still ensuring strong security measures.

On 18 November 2024, the CBSA announced the future adjustment of service hours across 35 Canadian land ports of entry starting from 6 January 2025.<sup>4104</sup> This adjustment comes in cooperation with the United States, aiming to bolster border security and facilitate the return of inadmissible travellers.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4105</sup>

On 17 December, the Canadian government announced an investment of CAD1.3 billion in a comprehensive Border Plan aimed at enhancing border security and improving immigration systems.<sup>4106</sup> The plan is supported by five main pillars, such as improving cooperation between law enforcement and the financial sector to combat money laundering and stop the flow of profits from crime, as well as enhancing coordination with U.S. officials for real-time intelligence sharing on illegal border crossings.

On 2 January 2025, the CBSA announced the “first Canadian land preclearance operation in the U.S.” to facilitate the movement of goods and individuals at Quebec’s border with New York.<sup>4107</sup> At the preclearance site, Canadian border officers will examine travellers and goods to decide whether they are admissible into Canada.

On 19 January 2025, the RCMP Federal Policing Northwest Region increased its security at the Manitoba border with the US by deploying Black Hawk helicopters.<sup>4108</sup> These flights will target illegal activity, such as individuals who illegally enter Canada, or smugglers, and trafficking of contraband. The RCMP also emphasized that these new measures and the continued presence of officers in patrol vehicles allow officers to respond faster to issues on the Canada-US border.

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<sup>4102</sup> Significant transnational organized crime group disrupted by RCMP, FBI and police across Canada and the Americas, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Ottawa) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://rcmp.ca/en/news/2024/10/significant-transnational-organized-crime-group-disrupted-rcmp-fbi-and-police-across-canada-and>

<sup>4103</sup> The Canada Border Services Agency announces the opening of new border crossing facilities in Sainte-Aurélie, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 13 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/11/the-canada-border-services-agency-announces-the-opening-of-new-border-crossing-facilities-in-sainte-aurelie.html>

<sup>4104</sup> The CBSA is adjusting hours of service at land ports of entry across Canada, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/11/the-cbsa-is-adjusting-hours-of-service-at-land-ports-of-entry-across-canada.html>

<sup>4105</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4106</sup> Government of Canada announces its plan to strengthen border security and our immigration system, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-announces-its-plan-to-strengthen-border-security-and-our-immigration-system.html>

<sup>4107</sup> The CBSA announces first Canadian land preclearance operation in the U.S., Government of Canada (Ottawa). 2 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2025/01/the-cbsa-announces-first-canadian-land-precleanance-operation-in-the-us.html>

<sup>4108</sup> RCMP Federal Policing Northwest Region confirms Black Hawk helicopter flights have started in Manitoba, RCMP (Emerson). 20 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://rcmp.ca/en/manitoba/news/2025/01/rcmp-federal-policing-northwest-region-confirms-black-hawk-helicopter-flights-have-started-manitoba>

On 27 January 2025, the CBSA announced that it would be “discontinuing the issuance of permits to enter Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail without [an individual presenting themselves] to a port of entry.”<sup>4109</sup> Per the CBSA, this change will enhance security at the border by monitoring the compliance of trail users—aligning with the US CBP.

On 23 January 2025, the CBSA reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining strong border security ahead of International Customs Day.<sup>4110</sup> From the year-round work of securing borders to stopping or removing inadmissible people, the CBSA is dedicated to maintaining strong border management.

On 29 January 2025, the CBSA and RCMP stopped a human smuggling attempt along the Canadian border.<sup>4111</sup> The arrest and subsequent return of the individual to the US marks Canada’s commitment to ensuring strong border security and the success of its Project Disrupt and Deter.

On 27 February 2025, the CBSA released an announcement regarding the renovation of the Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle border crossing to ensure higher safety, technology and security standards.<sup>4112</sup> This project is part of a larger commitment with the US to secure ports of entry at US-Canada border crossings.

On 3 March 2025, Canada launched the Joint Operational Intelligence Cell (JOIC) to strengthen coordination between federal agencies in targeting transnational organized crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling.<sup>4113</sup> Created under the Prime Minister’s Directive on Transnational Crime and Border Security, the JOIC supports enhanced intelligence sharing and joint enforcement with domestic and US partners.

On 5 March 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio discussed plans for collaboration on shared goals of border control and national safety.<sup>4114</sup> This call highlights the importance of US-Canadian relations and the two countries’ efforts for border security.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Joly and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4115</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

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<sup>4109</sup> The CBSA is discontinuing the issuance of Pacific Crest Trail permits, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 27 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2025/01/the-cbsa-is-discontinuing-the-issuance-of-pacific-crest-trail-permits.html>

<sup>4110</sup> The CBSA reaffirms its commitment to efficiency, security, and prosperity on International Customs Day, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2025/01/the-cbsa-reaffirms-its-commitment-to-efficiency-security-and-prosperity-on-international-customs-day.html>

<sup>4111</sup> CBSA and RCMP intercept human smuggling attempt in Niagara, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2025/01/cbsa-and-rcmp-intercept-human-smuggling-attempt-in-niagara.html>

<sup>4112</sup> The CBSA announces the start of work to modernize the Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle border crossing, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 19 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2025/02/the-canada-border-services-agency-announces-the-start-of-work-to-modernize-the-saint-bernard-de-lacolle-border-crossing.html>

<sup>4113</sup> Launch of the Joint Operational Intelligence Cell, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2025/03/launch-of-the-joint-operational-intelligence-cell.html>

<sup>4114</sup> Secretary Rubio’s Call with Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-call-with-canadian-minister-of-foreign-affairs-melanie-joly/>

<sup>4115</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

Canada has fully complied with enhancing border management enforcement and curbing transnational organized crime involving migrant smuggling and trafficking. Canada has taken strong action in both commitment dimensions, by introducing new amendments to legislation and operation hours that help improve border processing efficiency and safety and has partnered with the US by engaging in collaborations to uphold border security. Canada has also taken strong action in collaborating with countries of origin and transit to dismantle smuggling networks and has participated in forums to commit to curbing transnational organized crime.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Salma Amer Safarini*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 5 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) announced the seizure of a human trafficking network operating in France and Romania.<sup>4116</sup> The French authorities, aided by Eurojust and Europol, collaborated with the Romanian authorities to successfully track down and arrest the suspected members of the trafficking group that had been smuggling Romanian women into France for sexual exploitation.

On 19 July 2024, French authorities led and collaborated with a British Border Force Vessel on a rescue operation of migrants on board a boat that had deflated while trying to cross the English Channel.<sup>4117</sup> Authorities rescued 71 migrants and returned them to Calais, France, ensuring the safety of individuals attempting to cross the channel, while also exemplifying cooperation between the UK and France in managing migration challenges.

On 30 July 2024, the French authorities coordinated with the National Crime Agency (NCA) to investigate and arrest a man who allegedly aided a crossing in the English Channel that caused a woman's death in France.<sup>4118</sup> This demonstrates French efforts to address dangerous smuggling activities and enhancing law enforcement partnerships between France and the UK.

On 1 October 2024, Prime Minister Michel Barnier outlined the French government's stance on immigration moving forward.<sup>4119</sup> He affirmed that France will impose stricter measures to control immigration, such as lengthening the maximum holding time of irregular immigrants to facilitate their exit from the country, improving border security through collaboration with countries of origin and transit, imposing harsher sentences for individuals involved in smuggling and trafficking, and re-establishing border checks. This initiative

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<sup>4116</sup> Coordinated actions from Romanian and French authorities to stop a human trafficking network, Eurojust (The Hague) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/actions-taken-stop-romanian-human-trafficking-network>

<sup>4117</sup> British vessel takes Channel migrants back to France, BBC (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2lk950y1gpo>

<sup>4118</sup> Arrest follows fatal Channel crossing, National Crime Agency (London) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/arrest-follows-fatal-channel-crossing>

<sup>4119</sup> Déclaration de politique générale de M. Michel Barnier, Premier ministre, sur la feuille de route gouvernementale en matière de niveau de vie, de logement, de sécurité et d'immigration, ainsi que sur la réduction des dettes budgétaire et écologique, à l'Assemblée nationale le 1er octobre 2024, Direction de l'information légale et administrative (Paris) 3 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/295574-michel-barnier-01102024-declare-politique-generale-assemblee-nationale>

shows France's commitment to enhancing its border management and enforcement, both domestically and in collaboration with countries of origin and transit.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4120</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 4 October 2024, Minister of the Interior Bruno Retailleau and Italian Minister of the Interior, Matteo Piantedosi, signed a document indicating their determination to share information about migrant trafficking.<sup>4121</sup> The governments intend to investigate and take down criminal migrant trafficking networks.

On 18 October 2024, the French authorities tried alleged trafficking mastermind Mirkhan Rasoul, who is accused of organizing and controlling one of the biggest smuggling gangs that facilitated migrant crossings in the English Channel from 2020 to 2022.<sup>4122</sup> His trial is part of an overarching European smuggling trial concerning the gang's members, who were arrested during a previous joint operation against smugglers led by France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

On 23 October 2024, the French government prolonged its previous border control policy for neighboring states from the Schengen Area.<sup>4123</sup> Authorities will conduct identification checks at borders and prop up additional border checkpoints. Among other justifications for the decision, the government highlights security threats from criminal smuggling networks and irregular migration. This border control policy, which involves France's borders with Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Spain is expected to continue until 30 April 2025.

On 30 October 2024, President Emmanuel Macron announced that France and Morocco signed a bilateral agreement to fight against clandestine immigration and trafficking.<sup>4124</sup> The countries will also collaborate on fighting transnational organized crime and providing a more effective framework for returning irregular migrants from France to Morocco.

On 5 November 2024, a French court convicted members of an English Channel smuggling group.<sup>4125</sup> The individuals were sentenced to multiple years of jail time, with up to 15 years for the group mastermind Mirkhan Rasoul.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration.<sup>4126</sup>

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<sup>4120</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4121</sup> France, Italy launch project to exchange migrant trafficking information, Reuters (Toronto) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/france-italy-launch-project-exchange-migrant-trafficking-information-2024-10-04/>

<sup>4122</sup> 'Merchants of death' trial steps up fight against Channel smugglers, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cden09n621wo>

<sup>4123</sup> Temporary Reintroduction of Border Control, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen-borders-and-visa/schengen-area/temporary-reintroduction-border-control\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/schengen-borders-and-visa/schengen-area/temporary-reintroduction-border-control_en)

<sup>4124</sup> Paris et Rabat ont noué "un partenariat renforcé" contre "l'immigration clandestine", France 24 (Paris) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.france24.com/fr/afrique/20241030-paris-et-rabat-ont-nou%C3%A9-un-partenariat-renforc%C3%A9-contre-l-immigration-clandestine>

<sup>4125</sup> 18 convicted in France for small boat people smuggling following joint operation involving NCA, National Crime Agency (London) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/18-convicted-in-france-for-small-boat-people-smuggling-following-joint-operation-involving-nca>

<sup>4126</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 28 November 2024, the French National Police, supported by EU members, dismantled a transnational criminal group engaged in migrant smuggling.<sup>4127</sup> The group, active in France since 2022, allegedly profited hundreds of millions of euros from smuggling thousands of migrants.

On 29 November 2024, Director of Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior Simon Fetet, Diplomatic Advisor Mathilde Grammont, Deputy Ambassador in charge of Migration at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs Frédéric Rimoux and Chief of the removal centre at the Directorate of Immigration Delphine Montuelle with Moroccan Migration, Border and Foreign Affairs Ministers to discuss migration between the two states.<sup>4128</sup> Building upon their previous meeting, the representatives conversed about facilitating legal immigration to France, fighting against irregular immigration, and cooperating on the return of irregular Moroccan migrants.

On 4 December 2024, French authorities broke up a transnational smuggling network with the help of German authorities, Europol and Eurojust.<sup>4129</sup> They arrested 13 suspects and seized smuggling equipment such as lifeboats and vests which would have been used to cross the English Channel.

On 25 December 2024, French authorities rescued a total of 107 migrants attempting to cross the English Channel.<sup>4130</sup> Throughout the day, they intervened a total of 12 times to rescue migrants from boats that were at times malfunctioning.

On 15 January 2025, French authorities rescued a total of 99 migrants attempting to cross the English Channel.<sup>4131</sup> Intervening twice, authorities rescued the passengers in need of assistance and dispatched a monitoring vessel to supervise the remaining passengers headed to the United Kingdom.

On 14 February 2025, Prime Minister Francois Bayrou stated that he would reactivate the “interministerial committee of immigration control.”<sup>4132</sup> He claimed this was a response to France’s concerning low statistics on carried out “Obligation to Leave the French Territory” orders, resulting from a lack of cooperation from countries of origin.

On 6 March 2025, Special Representative on Immigration Patrick Stefani and UK Border Security Commander Martin Hewitt signed a roadmap intended to promote cooperation between France and the UK to fight human

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<sup>4127</sup> France arrests 26 for smuggling migrants from Indian sub-continent, Europol (The Hague) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/france-arrests-26-for-smuggling-migrants-indian-sub-continent>

<sup>4128</sup> Maroc-France : une réunion inédite pour améliorer les procédures migratoires, Ministère de l’Intérieur (Paris) 30 November 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués-de-presse/maroc-france-reunion-inedite-pour-ameliorer-procedures-migratoires>

<sup>4129</sup> Authorities disrupt migrant smuggling supply chain, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/authorities-disrupt-migrant-smuggling-supply-chain>

<sup>4130</sup> French rescuers save 107 migrants in English Channel on Christmas day, France 24 (Paris) 26 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20241226-french-rescuers-save-107-migrants-in-channel-in-one-day>

<sup>4131</sup> 99 migrants rescued in English Channel, InfoMigrants (Paris) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/62258/99-migrants-rescued-in-english-channel>

<sup>4132</sup> Déclaration de politique générale de M. François Bayrou, Premier ministre, sur la dette publique et le budget 2025, l'Europe, l'éducation nationale, les outre-mer, la réforme des retraites, la "débureaucratisation", l'immigration, la transition écologique, l'intelligence artificielle et la concertation sur le travail et les salaires, à l'Assemblée nationale le 14 janvier 2025, Direction de l'information légale et administrative (Paris) 14 January 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/296842-francois-bayrou-14012025-declaration-politique-generale-l>

smuggling.<sup>4133</sup> The agreement aims to disrupt irregular migration by deterrence through reminding migrants of risks, ensuring the swift return of migrants to their countries of origin, and apprehending criminal organizations involved.

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4134</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

On 16 March 2025, the National Police and Spanish law enforcement agencies took down a smuggling group based in Marseille.<sup>4135</sup> The group smuggled over 1,700 migrants from Spain into France from May 2023 to August 2024. The operation resulted in nineteen arrests and the seizure of multiple vehicles and cash.

On 27 March 2025, Minister of the Interior Bruno Retailleau and UK Secretary of State for the Home Department Yvette Cooper announced that France and the UK would prolong a pre-existing agreement on irregular migration by one year.<sup>4136</sup> This agreement extends the Sandhurst Agreement on irregular immigration and border control to 2027, allowing authorities to make use of unused funds.

On 16 April 2025, the Government of France and the Government of the United Kingdom began discussions on a pilot bilateral agreement to address irregular Channel crossings.<sup>4137</sup> The proposed arrangement would involve returning individuals who arrive in the UK without authorization to France in exchange for the legal resettlement of migrants with family ties in Britain. Framed as a deterrent to people-smuggling networks, the plan is intended to reduce dangerous small boat crossings and strengthen cross-border enforcement.

France has fully complied with its commitment to enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, enhancing border management and enforcement, and stopping transnational organized crime of migrant smuggling and human trafficking. France has taken strong action in both dimensions of its commitment, by enhancing security at its borders and entering bilateral agreements to fight transnational smuggling and trafficking groups, all in the context of collaboration with countries of origin and transit. France has also prosecuted individuals and groups responsible for migrant smuggling and has entered agreements to assist in the return of migrants.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Olivier d'Aragon Flores*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border

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<sup>4133</sup> The UK deepens cooperation with France on people smuggling, Home Office (London) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-deepens-cooperation-with-france-on-people-smuggling>

<sup>4134</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4135</sup> Network smuggling migrants between Spain and France busted in Marseille, Europol (The Hague) 21 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/network-smuggling-migrants-between-spain-and-france-busted-in-marseille>

<sup>4136</sup> Royaume-Uni et France prolongent un accord contre les migrations clandestines, France24 (Paris) 27 February 2025. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.france24.com/fr/info-en-continu/20250227-royaume-uni-et-france-prolongent-un-accord-contre-les-migrations-clandestines>

<sup>4137</sup> UK and France in talks over migrant returns deal, BBC (London) 16 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c99pg1men8po>

management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 27 June 2024, the Federal Minister of the Interior and Community Nancy Faeser welcomed the Minister of Interior of Türkiye Ali Yerlikaya for a discussion on German and Turkish cooperation.<sup>4138</sup> The ministers focused on enhancing their collaboration on issues regarding organized crime, migrant smuggling and terrorism.

On 28 June 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, Nasser Bourita, to discuss the partnerships between Germany and Morocco.<sup>4139</sup> The ministers voiced their support for the bilateral Mixed Migration Working Group and concurred on efforts to address irregular migration through facilitating legal migration and returns with support from the EU Talent Partnerships, the Rabat Process, and the Global Compact for Migration.

On 2 July 2024, the Government of Germany and the Government of Poland came together to discuss partnerships and cooperation between Germany and Poland in areas regarding organized crime and illegal immigration.<sup>4140</sup> Minister Faeser spoke with Poland's Interior Minister Tomasz Siemoniak and Sport Minister Sławomir Nitras on ways to bolster border police coordination, tackle migrant smuggling and improve collaboration in cross-border disaster management efforts.

On 12 August 2024, Minister Faeser began her security tour through seven federal states, pledging an additional EUR1 billion in 2025, 1,000 additional federal police officers, and significant reinforcements for the Federal Criminal Police Office, Federal Agency for Technical Relief, and other authorities.<sup>4141</sup> The government allocated goals and funds support ongoing measures to address internal and external threats rooted in irregular migration and people smuggling.

On 13 August 2024, the Government of Germany announced additional plans to improve border management, stop human smugglers and reduce irregular migration.<sup>4142</sup> These plans include the implementation of temporary border checks at the German-Polish land border in response to the rise in human smuggling and irregular migration. Furthermore, these plans also aim to quickly implement the Common European Asylum System which will allow asylum cases to be decided at the EU's external borders and ensure equal responsibility among EU countries on issues concerning asylum.

On 29 August 2024, Minister Faeser, the Federal Minister of Justice, Marco Buschmann, and the State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Anja Hajduk, announced a federally agreed upon substantial security package to take on a more rigorous approach for migration policy.<sup>4143</sup> This included measures to streamline the identification of irregular migration and asylum seekers, enforce weapons laws, and grant greater authority to border security agencies.

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<sup>4138</sup> Promoting German–Turkish cooperation, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/06/tuerk-innenminister.html>

<sup>4139</sup> Joint statement on the Moroccan-German Strategic Dialogue, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2665270>

<sup>4140</sup> German-Polish cooperation, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/07/dt-pol-regierungskonsultationen.html>

<sup>4141</sup> Sicherheitstour 2024: Bundesinnenministerin Faeser besucht Sicherheitsbehörden und Einsatzkräfte in sieben Bundesländern, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 12 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/08/sicherheitsreise.html>

<sup>4142</sup> Joining forces to stop human smugglers and reduce irregular migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. [https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/08/sicherheitstour\\_grenze.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/08/sicherheitstour_grenze.html)

<sup>4143</sup> Greater Security for Germany, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/security-package-of-federal-government-2305010>



On 11 September 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz spoke on migration, modernization and border security at the general debate in the German Bundestag.<sup>4144</sup> He stressed the need for legal migration to support Germany's economic stability, highlighting accelerated deportations and how the Federal Government's initiatives—specifically the Skilled Labor Immigration Act and reformed citizenship law—have aimed for strategic handling and selection of migrants.

On 12 September 2024, Minister Faeser announced a new security legislation to the Bundestag which will include stricter weapons laws, measures to strengthen law enforcement capabilities, and easier processes to expel non-citizen criminals.<sup>4145</sup> These actions are in response to the terrorist attack in Solingen and will better protect the security of Germans.

On 13 September 2024, Minister Faeser signed a comprehensive “migration and mobility partnership agreement” with Kenya on behalf of the German Federal government.<sup>4146</sup> This bilateral cooperation both allows for faster repatriation of citizens required to leave the country as well as limits irregular migration.

On 15 September 2024, Minister Faeser and Uzbekistan's President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, signed a “comprehensive migration and mobility partnership” agreement.<sup>4147</sup> This agreement enforces limits on irregular migration while cooperating bilaterally in aspects of educational and employment migration to and from Germany and Uzbekistan.

On 15 September 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community announced that border checks would officially begin on Monday, 16 September 2024, at all of Germany's land borders.<sup>4148</sup> This increased border security will be temporary to combat cross-border crime and stop irregular migration.

On 16 September 2024, the Federal Government temporarily reintroduced border checks at all of Germany's land borders with Belgium, Denmark, France and Luxembourg for a 6-month period starting 16 September 2024.<sup>4149</sup> This increased border security with increased cooperation with partner countries and joint patrols will be temporary to counter cross-border crime and curb irregular migration.

On 17 September 2024, Minister Faeser met with her counterparts from the governments of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Slovenia, and the UK to discuss increased cooperation in combating irregular migration and organised crime.<sup>4150</sup> Increased cooperation could include joint police patrols, data

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<sup>4144</sup> “Stop complaining, start acting and pitching in”, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/federal-chancellor-general-debate-2307772>

<sup>4145</sup> Bundestag debate on migration and security, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. [https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/09/bt\\_sicherheitspaket.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/09/bt_sicherheitspaket.html)

<sup>4146</sup> Bundesinnenministerin Faeser unterzeichnet ein umfassendes Migrationsabkommen mit Kenia, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/09/kenia-migrationsabkommen.html>

<sup>4147</sup> Qualifizierte Arbeitskräfte gewinnen, Rückführungen beschleunigen: Migrationsabkommen zwischen Deutschland und Usbekistan abgeschlossen, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 15 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/09/usbekistan-migrationsabkommen.html>

<sup>4148</sup> Checks at all German land borders start on Monday, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024.

[https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen\\_pm2-en.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen_pm2-en.html)

<sup>4149</sup> Checks at all German land borders start on Monday, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024.

[https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen\\_pm2-en.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen_pm2-en.html)

<sup>4150</sup> Federal Minister of the Interior Nancy Faeser continues talks on the Western Balkans, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/09/berliner-prozess.html>

exchange, and the incorporation of financial and social authorities to stop the flow of funds to criminal organizations.

On 18 September 2024, the Federal Government's Special Representative for Migration Agreements, Joachim Stamp, and the Deputy Foreign Minister of Colombia, Jorge Rojas Rodriguez, signed a joint declaration for migration partnership between Germany and Colombia.<sup>4151</sup> This declaration and new bilateral steering group enhance bilateral cooperation in migration policy by promoting legal migration pathways and addressing irregular migration through the enforcement of repatriation measures.

On 24 September 2024, the German police arrested at least four individuals associated with migrant smuggling and smuggling people from the Middle East and the Caucasus into Germany.<sup>4152</sup> Around 400 law enforcement officers took part in the operation involving the federal police, prosecutors and customs authorities. This demonstrates Germany's commitment to combatting irregular migration and organized crime.

On 30 September 2024, the Federal Foreign Office announced the creation of a new German-Danish border committee to reduce bureaucratic hurdles and make everyday life easier for citizens who frequently cross the border.<sup>4153</sup> This initiative will focus on strengthening coordination between relevant authorities and systematically identifying obstacles that restrict mobility in the pertinent region(s), while monitoring success through long-term tracking.

On 4 October 2024, Minister Faeser travelled to Mirabella Eclano for the meeting of G7 interior ministers to discuss migration policy and ongoing efforts to combat human smuggling.<sup>4154</sup> The ministers stressed the importance of tackling these issues and engaging with third countries to fight against trafficking and irregular migration.

On 10 October 2024, Minister Faeser met with the EU at the Justice and Home Affairs Council in Luxembourg to sign a new agreement on closer border police controls and cooperation, specifically on cross-border trains.<sup>4155</sup> This bilateral approach is intended to strengthen the security of both countries' border management systems and stop people smugglers at an early stage with greater success.

On 11 October 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior presented draft laws for the implementation of the legal basis of the new Common European Asylum System (GEAS) in Germany to amplify migration control.<sup>4156</sup> This mechanism will limit irregular migration by enhancing border security and efficiently processing asylum concerns while upholding constitutional and humanitarian standards.

On 13 October 2024, the Federal Government of Germany announced its first comprehensive national action plan to fight human trafficking, incorporating prevention, prosecution, and victim support measures that are

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<sup>4151</sup> Deutschland und Kolumbien unterzeichnen gemeinsame Absichtserklärung über Migrationspartnerschaft, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 18 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/09/kolumbien-migration.html>

<sup>4152</sup> German police arrest four over alleged people smuggling, Euronews (Lyon) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/09/24/german-police-arrest-four-suspects-for-alleged-human-smuggling>

<sup>4153</sup> Deutschland und Dänemark etablieren neues Grenzgremium, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/deutsch-daenisches-grenzgremium/2674834>

<sup>4154</sup> "We are potentially direct targets for terrorist organisations", Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/10/g7.html>

<sup>4155</sup> Bundesinnenministerin Faeser unterzeichnet Abkommen mit Dänemark für grenzpolizeiliche Kooperation, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/10/abkommen-daenemark.html>

<sup>4156</sup> Gemeinsames Europäisches Asylsystem: Bundesinnenministerium legt Gesetzentwürfe zur Umsetzung vor, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 11 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/10/geas.html>

expected to be adopted in spring 2025.<sup>4157</sup> This plan aims to improve “structural conditions” to effectively combat human and cross-border trafficking in the country with greater success.

On 30 October 2024, Minister Faeser visited the Polish-Belarusian border with Polish Interior Minister Siemoniak.<sup>4158</sup> The Ministers exchanged their views and intentions to address irregular migration and security through bilateral cooperation and police coordination, as well as discuss their country’s implementation of the GEAS by 2026.

On 31 October 2024, the Federal government presented a security package and the draft law to enhance security, alongside bringing into effect an asylum system that grants additional powers to the Federal Criminal Police Office.<sup>4159</sup> Such measures authorize the use of biometric data to authenticate the identity of asylum seekers to improve deportation procedures.

On 1 November 2024, Minister Faeser visited Germany’s largest airport in Frankfurt to observe and highlight the strengthened border security measures due to recent government directives for stricter border controls.<sup>4160</sup> These changes will support the country’s security measures by reducing illegal entry, irregular migration and the quantity of asylum applications received.

On 12 November 2024, Germany participated in the two-day 7th Ministerial Conference of the Budapest Process, working with EU members and partner countries to promote the Budapest Process Ministerial Declaration and the accompanying Call for Action 2025-2030, which focuses on improving areas of migration and asylum.<sup>4161</sup> This action will improve Germany’s regional dialogues and collaboration with international partners to address migration challenges and foster solutions.

On 22 November 2024, Minister Faeser met with the Spanish Interior Minister, Fernando Grande-Marlaska, in Madrid to discuss implementing the Common European Asylum System, which enhances migration management and strengthens collaboration against organized crime.<sup>4162</sup> This meeting highlights Germany’s efforts to strengthen border security by addressing irregular migration and organized crime bilaterally.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration..<sup>4163</sup>

On 2 December 2024, Foreign Minister Baerbock met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi to discuss a solution through strategic dialogue with the interconnectedness of security, economic and migration

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<sup>4157</sup> Federal Government develops national action plan to fight human trafficking, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 25 November 2024.

[https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/10/aktionsplan\\_menschenhandel.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/10/aktionsplan_menschenhandel.html)

<sup>4158</sup> Innenministerin Nancy Faeser besucht polnische Grenze zu Belarus, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 01 November 2024.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/DE/2024/10/polen.html>

<sup>4159</sup> Greater Security for Germany, The Federal Government (Berlin) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024.

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/security-package-of-federal-government-2305010>

<sup>4160</sup> “The measures we have taken are showing effect!”, Federal Ministry of the Interior (Berlin) 2 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/11/flughafen-frankfurt.html>

<sup>4161</sup> 7th Budapest process Ministerial conference: Adoption of the new Ministerial Declaration and Call for Action charts the course for five years of cooperation, ICMPD Budapest process (Budapest) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.budapestprocess.org/7th-budapest-process-ministerial-conference-adoption-of-the-new-ministerial-declaration-and-call-for-action-charts-the-course-for-five-years-of-cooperation/>

<sup>4162</sup> Europäische Asylreform gemeinsam voranbringen, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 22 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2024.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/DE/2024/11/madrid-spanien.html>

<sup>4163</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

management at the forefront.<sup>4164</sup> This meeting highlights Germany's commitment to enhancing border management through international cooperation.

On 3 December 2024, Minister Faeser travelled to Athens and Kos to speak with Greek representatives, including Greek Minister for Migration and Asylum Nikolas Panagiotopoulos to address limiting irregular migration and the implementation of the Common European Asylum System.<sup>4165</sup> This meeting illustrates Germany's efforts to enhance border protection and cooperation by tackling current refugee situations and policy issues bilaterally.

On 4 December 2024, German, UK and French law enforcement authorities targeted an Iraqi-Kurdish criminal network suspected to be involved in migrant smuggling activities through the English Channel.<sup>4166</sup> German Federal Police sent over 500 officers to execute search warrants, leading to the seizure of hundreds of equipment as well as 13 arrests with one High Value Target. This effective cooperation with British and French law enforcement authorities highlights Germany's commitment to bilateral coordination in combatting migrant smuggling and organized crime.

On 10 December 2024, Minister Faeser and British Home Secretary Cooper co-hosted the Calais Group's fourth meeting in London and together signed the "UK-Germany Joint Action Plan on Irregular Migration".<sup>4167</sup> This meeting and subsequent joint action plan prioritizes combatting migrant smuggling, particularly through the English Channel and reinforces areas of potential cooperation between British and German law enforcement authorities.

On 12 December 2024, Minister Faeser and Dutch Minister of Justice and Security, David van Weel, signed "a joint declaration of intent to increase bilateral police cooperation."<sup>4168</sup> This step furthers bilateral police and cross-border cooperation between Germany and the Netherlands, countering illegal migration, terrorism and organized crime.

On 20 December 2024, Chancellor Scholz, Foreign Minister Baerbock, Development Minister Svenja Schulze and other Federal Government representatives engaged in talks with representatives of the terrorist organization Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and members of the Syrian transitional government in Damascus to focus on the political and territorial transition process in Syria.<sup>4169</sup> The Federal Government stressed its engagement to work with a transitional government to support the safe return of refugees, aiming to mitigate the humanitarian and migration crisis in Syria.

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<sup>4164</sup> Außenministerin Baerbock vor ihrer Reise nach China, German Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/baerbock-china-2688482>

<sup>4165</sup> Federal Minister Faeser visits Greece for Talks, German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/12/griechenland.html>

<sup>4166</sup> 21 Boats Confiscated and 13 Arrested in Hit Against Migrant Smuggling Across the English Channel, Europol (Netherlands) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/21-boats-confiscated-and-13-arrested-in-hit-against-migrant-smuggling-across-english-channel>

<sup>4167</sup> Fighting Illegal Smuggling of Migrants, German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/12/london-jointaction-en.html>

<sup>4168</sup> Germany and the Netherlands to Strengthen Operational Cooperation Between Police Special Units, German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Brussels) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemittelungen/EN/2024/12/dt-ndl-vertrag.html>

<sup>4169</sup> Bundesregierung unterstützt geordneten und friedlichen Übergangsprozess, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 20 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 February 2025. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/support-syria-2328710>

On 12 February 2025, Minister Faeser extended checks at Germany's land borders for six months to help curb irregular migration and migrant smuggling.<sup>4170</sup>

On 15 February 2025, Chancellor Scholz and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky signed a declaration of intent at the Munich Security Conference to open "Unity Hubs."<sup>4171</sup> These centers and the broader initiative aim to manage migration and support refugees.

On 17 February 2025, Minister Faeser and Brandenburg's Interior Minister Katrin Lange officially agreed to open two "Dublin centres" in Germany to expedite the transfer of asylum seekers to the appropriate EU member states.<sup>4172</sup> This supports Germany's commitment to coordinated border control by strengthening cooperation within the EU to effectively manage irregular migration.

On 12 March 2025, Minister Faeser and Czech Interior Minister Rakusan signed a new bilateral border treaty to digitally map their shared borders, replacing existing treaties.<sup>4173</sup> This agreement will increase the precision and cross-border management, strengthen security and enhance bilateral collaboration between the two countries.

On 31 March 2025, Minister Faeser discussed cross-border cooperations at the Border Security Summit in London.<sup>4174</sup> The need for coordinated responses was emphasized to curb migrant smuggling operations and organized crime groups.

On 1 April 2025, Germany's Federal Ministry of the Interior presented a comprehensive review of the government's migration policy, highlighting progress in managing skilled immigration, reducing irregular migration and combating human smuggling.<sup>4175</sup> Key measures included the implementation of the Common European Asylum System, expanded border controls with neighboring countries, legal reforms to expedite returns and increased personnel for federal policing and asylum processing. Germany also opened joint Dublin centers with federal states to accelerate EU-coordinated returns.

On 24 April 2025, Germany and Colombia signed a joint declaration to deepen cooperation on migration management.<sup>4176</sup> The agreement focuses on expanding legal pathways for labor and education-related migration while reducing irregular migration and unfounded asylum claims. It also includes coordinated efforts to raise awareness about legal migration routes and improve return processes.

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<sup>4170</sup> Federal Minister Faeser orders checks at all of Germany's land borders to continue for another six months, Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Community (Berlin) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2025/02/binnengrenzkontrollen-EN.html>

<sup>4171</sup> Deutschland und Ukraine unterzeichnen Absichtserklärung für „Unity Hubs“, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 15 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2025/02/unity-hubs.html>

<sup>4172</sup> Dublin-Zentren in Hamburg und Eisenhüttenstadt eröffnet, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 17 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/DE/2025/02/dublin-center.html>

<sup>4173</sup> Digitale Grenzdaten: Bundesinnenministerin Faeser und Tschechiens Innenminister Rakušan unterzeichnen neuen Vertrag über die gemeinsame Staatsgrenze, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 12 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2025/03/dt-cz-grenze.html>

<sup>4174</sup> Stärkung der grenzüberschreitenden internationalen Zusammenarbeit, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 31 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 April 2025.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/DE/2025/03/bordersecurity-london.html>

<sup>4175</sup> Immigration by skilled workers up considerably, irregular migration drops significantly, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2025/04/bpk-bilanz-en.html>

<sup>4176</sup> Germany and Colombia strengthen their partnership on migration, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 24 April 2025. Access Date: 24 April 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2025/04/mou-kolumbien-en.html>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. Germany has taken strong action toward both commitment dimensions and partnered with countries of origin and transit within each dimension, notably by initiating talks for bilateral cooperation, focusing on enforcing border security and preventing irregular migration, as well as targeting migrant smuggling.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ananiya Narmathan*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 24 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni welcomed the Prime Minister of Hungary, Viktor Orbán, where they discussed the shared values between the two countries on strategies to enhance the management of migration flows.<sup>4177</sup> She highlighted the need for an improved defence of the European Union's external borders, action on combating illegal migration and a focus on targeting transnational trafficking groups. Both members also advocated for partnerships with the countries of origin to address the source of migration and new approaches to managing migration.

On 26 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni addressed the Chamber of Deputies where she emphasized her priority to partner with countries of origin and transit in addressing mass irregular immigration.<sup>4178</sup> She highlighted the success of Italy's initiative of signing memoranda of understanding with Egypt and Tunisia to address migration and called on other countries to follow this model to address the root cause of migration.

On 26 June 2024, the Italian national police force, Polizia di Stato, announced the success of the operation, "Chinese Shuttles" in apprehending members of a Chinese criminal organization that facilitated human smuggling.<sup>4179</sup> There were 77 illegal migrants found and nine individuals were arrested. The illegal migrants were subject to forced labour to pay off their debt to the smugglers who facilitated their trip. The successful operation demonstrated dedication to tackling transnational organized crime and reinforced the importance of dismantling smuggling networks that exploit vulnerable people.

On 28 June 2024, the Italian Government announced the visit of the Undersecretary of State to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Alfredo Mantovano to Albania where he toured facilities for the processing and deportation of illegal migrants.<sup>4180</sup> This is part of an agreement between Italy and Albania signed in 2023 as a new innovative approach to managing illegal migration flows.

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<sup>4177</sup> President Meloni's press statement with Prime Minister Orbán of Hungary, Italian Government (Rome) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-prime-minister-orb-n-hungary/26118>

<sup>4178</sup> President Meloni's address to the Chamber of Deputies ahead of the European Council meeting on 27-28 June, Italian Government (Rome) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-chamber-deputies-ahead-european-council-meeting-27-28-june/26151>

<sup>4179</sup> Trieste: operazione "Chinese Shuttles" contro immigrazione clandestina, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 26 June 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/15667c305d427c2069197247>

<sup>4180</sup> Undersecretary of State Mantovano visits Shengjin and Gjader: deadlines met, centre openings confirmed, Italian Government (Rome) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/undersecretary-state-mantovano-visits-shengjin-and-gjader-deadlines-met-centre-openings>

On 4 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President Alexander Stubb of the Republic of Finland.<sup>4181</sup> The pair discussed matters of importance to both countries, where managing irregular migration was on the agenda.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with Prime Minister Kier Starmer of the United Kingdom.<sup>4182</sup> The pair exchanged their views and intentions to boost collaboration on addressing irregular migration.

On 17 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke on the challenges of migration and provided her perspective on addressing the challenge at the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum.<sup>4183</sup> She emphasized the need to apprehend individuals engaged in migrant smuggling who profit off the desperation of fragile persons and place them at risk. Furthermore, she discussed the threat of illegal migration on legal migration and advocated the method of addressing the origin of the problem to solve illegal migration.

On 12 September 2024, Italy, alongside Germany, Austria, Denmark, France, Slovenia, Sweden, and Finland, reintroduced border checks within the Schengen zone.<sup>4184</sup> This action aims to protect border security.

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni held a meeting with UK Prime Minister Starmer, where they discussed the importance of enhancing cooperation regarding human smuggling and trafficking.<sup>4185</sup> The two Prime Ministers attributed a specific focus on “judicial dimensions,” notably regarding “assisted voluntary returns.”

On 26 September 2024, authorities in Italy and other countries, including Albania, Poland, and Switzerland, dismantled a large-scale cocaine-smuggling ring.<sup>4186</sup> Italian authorities arrested a total of 45 suspects, finding them to be part of an organized crime group based in Albania that sold Latin American cocaine in northern Italy. This demonstrates Italy’s efforts to secure its border through anti-smuggling campaigns aimed at disrupting well-established criminal networks.

On 26 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz over the phone concerning migration issues in Europe.<sup>4187</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Chancellor Scholz agreed to bolster partnerships with countries of origin and transit and tackle human trafficking.

On 1 October 2024, Chief of the Italian Defence Staff Admiral Giuseppe Cavo Dragone met with the Algerian Army’s Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Said Chanegriha, to bolster collaboration between Italy and Algeria in securing borders and combatting illegal migration.<sup>4188</sup> This meeting comes two months after both countries

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<sup>4181</sup> Meeting with the President of the Republic of Finland, Italian Government (Rome) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-republic-finland/26175>

<sup>4182</sup> President Meloni meets with Prime Minister Starmer at NATO Summit, Italian Government (Rome) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-prime-minister-starmer-nato-summit/26209>

<sup>4183</sup> President Meloni’s address at the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum, Italian Government (Rome) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-trans-mediterranean-migration-forum/26249>

<sup>4184</sup> EU Countries Tighten Border Checks Amid Security and Migration Fears, Radio France International, Radio France International (Rome) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/international/20240912-eu-countries-tighten-border-checks-amid-security-and-migration-fears>

<sup>4185</sup> President Meloni meets with UK Prime Minister Starmer, Italian Government (Rome) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-uk-prime-minister-starmer/26557>

<sup>4186</sup> Eurojust Supports Major Operation Against Albanian Drug-Trafficking Ring Italy: 66 Arrests, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Rome) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/eurojust-supports-major-operation-against-albanian-drug-trafficking-ring-italy-66-arrests>

<sup>4187</sup> President Meloni’s telephone conversation with Chancellor Scholz, Italian Government (Rome) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-chancellor-scholz/26665>

<sup>4188</sup> Third and last day of the official visit of General Said Chanegriha, Chief of PNA Staff of in Italy, People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria Ministry of National Defence (Algiers) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024. [https://www.mdn.dz/site\\_principal/sommaire/actualites/an/2024/octobre/cem03102024an.php](https://www.mdn.dz/site_principal/sommaire/actualites/an/2024/octobre/cem03102024an.php)

held the Strategic Dialogue conference in Rome, where they discussed the importance of sustaining their partnership, as well as their goals to increase cooperation on security issues in the Mediterranean.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers released an action plan to resolve border management issues.<sup>4189</sup> The G7 Action Plan included commitments to improve law enforcement capabilities, cooperation with both G7 member countries and countries of origin and transit and enhance general border management processes to prevent migrant smuggling and other transborder criminal activities.

On 16 October 2024, an Italian navy ship reached Albania to deliver refugees and migrants, completing the first mission under the new Italy-Albania agreement to send migrants to asylum centres in Albania.<sup>4190</sup> This is one of two processing centres which Italy has opened in Albania, processing up to 36,000 asylum seekers per year. This agreement with Albania demonstrates a plan for managing migration flows and reducing immediate pressure on Italy's immigration system.

On 29 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni participated in the Italy-Libya Business forum held in Tripoli, where she met with the Prime Minister of Libya, Abdul Hamid Dabaiba.<sup>4191</sup> The two leaders discussed strengthening the bilateral cooperation between Italy and Libya and touched on migration management and the prevention of human trafficking.

On 29 October 2024, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani attended a press conference with his Slovenian counterpart in Ljubljana, Slovenia to announce that the new border controls between Italy and Slovenia are to enhance security, stop illegal immigration, and crack down on human trafficking.<sup>4192</sup> This reflects Italy's commitment to improving border management through partnerships and government responses.

On 18 November 2024, Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi conversed over the telephone with his counterparts in Slovenia and Croatia to discuss the extension of Italy's land border controls with Slovenia.<sup>4193</sup> The minister said this extension will be for an additional six months due to increased concerns of terrorism and irregular migration.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia summit to address irregular migration.<sup>4194</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the Italian police blocked 3,339 work permits for non-EU workers during an investigation into migrant smuggling.<sup>4195</sup> It was discovered that criminal groups were using various companies to support illegal immigration.

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<sup>4189</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4190</sup> Italy Sends First Asylum Seekers to Albania Under Controversial Deal, Al-Jazeera (Rome) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 5 November 2024. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/10/16/italy-sends-first-asylum-seekers-to-albania-under-controversial-deal>

<sup>4191</sup> President Meloni attends Italy-Libya Business Forum in Tripoli, Italian Government (Rome) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-attends-italy-libya-business-forum-tripoli/26945>

<sup>4192</sup> Tajani: "Border Controls Between Italy and Slovenia Dictated by International Security Issues," Agenzia Nova (Ljubljana) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 6 November 2024. <https://www.agenzianova.com/en/news/tajani-the-border-controls-between-italy-and-slovenia-are-dictated-by-international-security-issues/>

<sup>4193</sup> Italy May Extend Border Controls with Slovenia for An Additional 6 Months, SchengenNews (Rome) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://schengen.news/italy-may-extend-border-controls-with-slovenia-for-additional-6-months/>

<sup>4194</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4195</sup> Italy Blocked over 3,300 Work Permits, Cracks Down on Mafia-Owned Migrant Trafficking Ring, FirstPost (Rome) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/italy-blocks-over-3300-work-permits-cracks-down-on-mafia-owned-migrant-trafficking-ring-13839859.html>



On 29 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke to the President of the European Council, Antonio Costa, over the telephone regarding migration in Europe.<sup>4196</sup> Prime Minister Meloni highlighted the importance of a legal framework which will allow for the return of irregular migrants and emphasized the partnerships between the EU and countries of origin and transit.

On 13 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni chaired a virtual meeting with the G7 leaders to discuss international issues and the handover of the Presidency to Canada.<sup>4197</sup> One of the key topics raised was for G7 leaders to continue fulfilling their commitments to address irregular migration, strengthen borders, and combat transnational crime.

On 19 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni attended the European Council meeting held in Brussels.<sup>4198</sup> During the meeting, Prime Minister Meloni demonstrated Italy's commitment to finding innovative solutions for managing migration and expressed interest in finding ways to strengthen the legal framework regarding the return of migrants.

On 19 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni hosted an informal meeting with Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Dutch Prime Minister, Dick Schoof, on the "margins of the European Council" meeting.<sup>4199</sup> The Prime Ministers agreed on strengthening the concepts of "safe country of origin" and "safe third country" as a foundation for the possible creation of "safety hubs" in third countries. Additionally, Prime Minister Meloni highlighted the need to counter irregular migration by breaking the "business model of human traffickers". This action demonstrates Italy's engagement in collaborative discussions on migration management.

On 23 December 2024, Prime Minister Meloni chaired a meeting on the implementation of the Italy-Albania Protocol, following the ruling by the Italian Court of Cassation, which reiterated the responsibilities of countries of origin in line with the European Council's "innovation solutions to the migration phenomenon".<sup>4200</sup> During this meeting, Prime Minister Meloni reinforced Italy's commitment to enforcing border control measures through the Italy-Albania Protocol.

On 24 January 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with European Commissioner for the Mediterranean Dubravka Suica and discussed strengthening the EU's relations with its "Southern Neighbourhood through the "Pact for the Mediterranean".<sup>4201</sup> Prime Minister Meloni emphasized the importance of the Pact being based on agreements centred around security and migration management.

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<sup>4196</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with incoming European Council President António Costa, Italian Government (Rome) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-incoming-european-council-president-antonio-costa>

<sup>4197</sup> President Meloni chairs a G7 Leaders' meeting. Focus on Ukraine, the Middle East, Venezuela and the handover of the G7 Presidency from Italy to Canada, Italian Government (Rome). 13 December 2024. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-chairs-g7-leaders-meeting-focus-ukraine-middle-east-venezuela-and-handover>

<sup>4198</sup> President Meloni attends European Council, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Brussels). 19 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-attends-european-council/27323>

<sup>4199</sup> Informal meeting in Brussels on Migration management and innovative solutions, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Brussels). 19 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/informal-meeting-brussels-migration-management-and-innovative-solutions/27321>

<sup>4200</sup> Meeting on implementation of the Italy-Albania Protocol, Italian Government: Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome). 23 December 2024. Access Date: 7 January 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-implementation-italy-albania-protocol/27372>

<sup>4201</sup> Meeting with the European Commissioner for the Mediterranean, Dubravka Suica, Italian Government (Rome). 24 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-european-commissioner-mediterranean-dubravka-suica/27539>

On 10 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Federal Chancellor of Austria Alexander Schallenberg and discussed the EU and international agendas, with an emphasis on migration issues and security.<sup>4202</sup>

On 18 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with European Commissioner for Internal Affairs Magnus Brunner to discuss migration policies. They discussed the importance of strengthening cooperation with the migrant's countries of origin, improving regulations on migrant returns in the EU, and upholding the Pact on Migration and Asylum.<sup>4203</sup>

On 26 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson and discussed irregular migration and the bilateral relations between Italy and Sweden to resolve migration issues.<sup>4204</sup> Specifically, Prime Minister Meloni thanked the Swedish Prime Minister for his support on the concept of the “safe country of origin” at the Court of Justice of the European Union.

On 27 February 2025, Prime Minister Meloni held a telephone meeting with the President of Egypt Abdel Fattah El-Sisi where they discussed the bilateral relations between Italy and Egypt.<sup>4205</sup> They focused specifically on the efforts by both countries in combatting irregular migration, based on the previously signed memorandum of understanding agreement between the EU and Egypt.

On 11 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Danish Prime Minister, Mette Frederiksen and discussed Italy and Denmark's cooperation on tackling irregular migration.<sup>4206</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reviewed possibilities to further strengthen Italy and Denmark's bilateral cooperation on migration.

On 12 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni met with Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof.<sup>4207</sup> Their meeting was centred around the shared coordination of Italy and the Netherlands in fighting against irregular migration. Both leaders expressed the importance of continuing to find solutions to strengthen border management, particularly through preliminary rulings at the Court of Justice of the European Union concerning the concept of a “safe country of origin.”

On 14 March 2025, Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani and the G7 foreign ministers of reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4208</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

On 20 March 2025, Prime Minister Meloni, alongside Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, attended an informal meeting on the margins of the European Council meeting

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<sup>4202</sup> Meeting with the Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, Italian Government (Rome). 10 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-federal-chancellor-republic-austria/27643>

<sup>4203</sup> President Meloni Meets with the European Commissioner for Internal Affairs, Magnus Brunner, Italian Government (Rome). 18 February 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-european-commissioner-internal-affairs-and-migration-magnus-brunner>

<sup>4204</sup> President Meloni Meets with the Swedish Prime Minister, Italian Government (Rome). 26 February 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-swedish-prime-minister/27748>

<sup>4205</sup> Telephone Conversation with President El-Sisi of Egypt, Italian Government (Rome). 27 February 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/telephone-conversation-president-el-sisi-egypt/27764>

<sup>4206</sup> President Meloni meets with Prime Minister Frederiksen of Denmark, Italian Government (Rome). 11 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-prime-minister-frederiksen-kingdom-denmark/27918>

<sup>4207</sup> President Meloni meets with Prime Minister Schoof of the Netherlands, Italian Government (Rome). 12 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-prime-minister-kingdom-netherlands/27935>

<sup>4208</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

to discuss the shared interests in strengthening the legal framework for migration returns.<sup>4209</sup> The meeting emphasized the urgent need to implement elements of the Pact on Migration and Asylum and for stronger commitments to improve coordination on issues of border management ahead of the June European Council meeting.

On 16 April 2025, Prime Minister Meloni announced her support for the EU list of safe countries of origin that were designated as part of a wider plan to combat irregular migration and strengthen migration procedures.<sup>4210</sup> These new efforts allow authorities to activate border procedures earlier so that irregular migration can be halted in other countries before entering Italy or elsewhere in the EU.

Italy has fully complied with enhancing border management enforcement and curbing transnational organized crime involving migrant smuggling and trafficking. Italy has taken strong action in enhancing border enforcement and addressing transnational organized crime related to migrant smuggling and trafficking notably through reintroducing border checks with multiple European countries, collaborating with countries of origin and transit, dismantling criminal networks, and engaging in bilateral talks.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Salma Amer Safarini*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 21 August 2024, the Government of Japan announced a new travel authorization system that will require travelers from 71 visa-exempt countries to declare personal information online before entry into the country.<sup>4211</sup> This system will reduce the number of illegal migrants from visa-exempt countries, providing screening measures before arrival in the country rather than after.

On 9 September 2024, Minister of the Political Section of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Takayuki Iriya spoke at “the United Nations Security Council Briefing on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons in the High Sea off the Coast of Libya).”<sup>4212</sup> Minister Iriya reaffirmed Japanese support for combatting criminal transnational smuggle of persons in the Mediterranean and expressed concern regarding the deaths of irregular migrants during transit.

On 16 September 2024, the Pacific Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) announced the delivery of safety equipment valued at USD500,000 to Palau’s International airport with support from the Government of Japan to enhance Palau’s border security as part of the UNDP Integrated Border

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<sup>4209</sup> European Council meeting of 20-21 March: informal meeting on migration management, Italian Government (Brussels). 20 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/european-council-meeting-20-21-march-informal-meeting-migration-management/28013>

<sup>4210</sup> Statement by President Meloni on EU list of safe countries of origin, Italian Government (Rome). 16 April 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/statement-president-meloni-eu-list-safe-countries-origin/28229>

<sup>4211</sup> 外国人観光客に渡航前審査導入へ「ビザ免除」悪用の不法滞在排除狙う, The Sankei Shimbun (Tokyo) 21 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.sankei.com/article/20240821-XBC5NDIJJVLYZIORXT2RZVHLSY/>

<sup>4212</sup> Statement by Minister IRIYA Takayuki, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, at the United Nations Security Council Briefing on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons in the High Sea off the Coast of Libya), Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (Tokyo) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 2 January 2025. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/iriya093024.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/iriya093024.html)

Management Project.<sup>4213</sup> This has strengthened cooperation between Palau, the UNDP, and the Government of Japan while improving border management.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers released the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4214</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 13 November 2024, Ambassador Naohisa Okuda participated in handing over advanced security equipment valued at USD120,000 to the Government of Vanuatu in partnership with the UNDP Pacific Office and the International Organization for Migration, as part of the UNDP's Integrated Border Management Project supported by the Government of Japan.<sup>4215</sup> This will strengthen border management in Vanuatu and work to facilitate safe and regular migration through international cooperation.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia Summit, to address illegal migration through cooperation with countries of origin and transit.<sup>4216</sup>

On 29 November 2024, the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines participated in a handover ceremony of 3D laser and mapping technology to the Philippines National Police through the Drugs and Human Trafficking in Southeast Asia program by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.<sup>4217</sup> This will help to increase regional security and strengthen the ability of the Philippines to respond to international organized crime, such as human trafficking.

On 7 February 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba Shigeru and US President Donald Trump met in Washington, D.C, to discuss further bilateral cooperation for security and defense.<sup>4218</sup> This commitment to share information to combat illegal migration strengthens the members' cooperation on migrant control.

On 26 February 2025, the Government of Japan contributed USD1.5 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to support humanitarian border management and healthcare initiatives in Sudan.<sup>4219</sup> This project involves cooperation between the IOM, the Sudan Federal and State Ministries of Health, the immigration authorities of Sudan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and local stakeholders to help increase security.

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<sup>4213</sup> UNDP Supports Enhanced Border Control Capacity and Security in Palau, UNDP Pacific Office (Koror) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.undp.org/pacific/press-releases/undp-supports-enhanced-border-control-capacity-and-security-palau>

<sup>4214</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4215</sup> UNDP Strengthens Border Security in Vanuatu with Advanced Equipment Handover, UNDP Pacific Office (Port Vila) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.undp.org/pacific/press-releases/undp-strengthens-border-security-vanuatu-advanced-equipment-handover>

<sup>4216</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4217</sup> Handover Ceremony of Investigative Equipment to the Philippine National Police, Embassy of Japan in the Philippines (Manila) 29 November 2024. Access date: 20 January 2025. [https://www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/11\\_000001\\_01717.html](https://www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_01717.html)

<sup>4218</sup> United States-Japan Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-japan-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>4219</sup> Japan Deepens its Support to Emergency Health and Border Management in Sudan, United Nations in Sudan (Port Sudan) 26 February 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://sudan.un.org/en/289862-japan-deepens-its-support-emergency-health-and-border-management-sudan?>

On 5 March 2025, Ambassador to Palau Orikasa Hiroyuki signed a deal to exchange notes on the introduction of an electronic machine-readable passport in Palau.<sup>4220</sup> This is part of a plan to enhance the capacity of border management through collaboration between Japan and the Republic of Palau.

On 12 March 2025, the Government of Japan pledged USD55 million to the IOM to support its operations.<sup>4221</sup> This will aid the IOM's ability to support migrants and implement border management solutions in 33 countries.

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Foreign Affairs Takeshi Iwaya and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4222</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking of persons. Japan has demonstrated strong actions in both commitment dimensions and has enhanced the building of partnerships in each dimension. It has enhanced border management and enforcement by supporting international partnerships to improve border security. Japan has facilitated partnerships to counter human trafficking and illegal migration, participating in initiatives that increase the capacity of other nations to deal with migration and border management.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maya Tran*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 7 July 2024, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper announced the launch of the Border Security Command (BSC), a new agency dedicated to strengthening Britain's border management.<sup>4223</sup> Border Security Command will cooperate with other law enforcement and intelligence agencies to secure borders and apprehend smuggling gangs. Additionally, the United Kingdom Home Office announced the preparation of new legislation that will provide more powers and stronger measures for law agencies to stop immigration crime.

On 12 July 2024, the National Crime Agency (NCA) announced the success of an investigation which convicted key members of the Teesside crime group for trafficking migrants into the UK.<sup>4224</sup> This demonstrates the law enforcement agencies' continued commitment to dismantling criminal networks and securing UK borders.

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<sup>4220</sup> Grant Assistance to the Republic of Palau: Signing and Exchange of Notes on "the Project for Enhancing Border Management Capacity through the introduction of eMRP (Electronic Machine-Readable Passport)", Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Koror) 5 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01049.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01049.html)

<sup>4221</sup> Japan Pledges USD 55 Million in Support of IOM's Operations in 33 Countries, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 12 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-pledges-usd-55-million-support-ioms-operations-33-countries>

<sup>4222</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4223</sup> Home Secretary launches new Border Security Command, Home Office (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-launches-new-border-security-command>

<sup>4224</sup> Teesside crime group convicted of trafficking migrants into the UK, National Crime Agency (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/teesside-crime-group-convicted-of-trafficking-migrants-into-the-uk>

On 18 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO) announced a funding package worth GBP84 million over three years to support projects in Africa and the Middle East to address the source of illegal migration.<sup>4225</sup> This funding will support projects that address the reasons motivating individuals to flee their homes. Furthermore, Prime Minister Kier Starmer committed to working with Global South and European countries to tackle illegal migration.

On 24 July 2024, the NCA announced the jailing of Eglantin Doksani, a migrant smuggler who arranged crossings to the UK in small boats.<sup>4226</sup> Stopping organized immigration crime is a key priority for the NCA and this arrest illustrates the ongoing efforts made to apprehend criminals.

On 25 July 2024, the Home Office announced the removal of 46 foreign criminals and immigration offenders on charter flights to Vietnam and Timor-Leste.<sup>4227</sup> This marks a shift in immigration policy to end irregular migration, with the removal of flight planning for Rwanda and instead partnering with nations to return individuals to their home countries.

On 26 July 2024, the FCDO announced commitments to tackle migrant smuggling and organized crime at the fourth European Political Community summit.<sup>4228</sup> This was the first summit where leaders held discussions on migration producing deals between the UK, Slovakia, and Slovenia to tackle organized crime. The UK additionally agreed to increase involvement in stopping migrant smuggling in Europe by expanding their involvement at Europol and allocating an additional GBP84 million.

On 26 July 2024, the NCA announced the arrest of an individual as part of an investigation into an organized human smuggling ring.<sup>4229</sup> The NCA has designated dismantling and disrupting organized immigration crime networks as a top priority, vowing to stop smugglers who operate for profit while placing migrant lives in danger.

On 30 July 2024, the British High Commission in Nairobi announced training exercises for the Kenyan Marine Commando Unit hosted by the UK Royal Marines.<sup>4230</sup> These training exercises will provide the Kenyan Marines with the skills to counter piracy, terrorism and smuggling, and represents the UK and Kenya's continued partnership in supporting regional stability.

On 30 July 2024, the NCA announced the arrest of a man who is suspected of facilitating illegal immigration that led to a fatal Channel crossing.<sup>4231</sup> The NCA collaborated with French authorities in this investigation to hold the suspected smuggler accountable.

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<sup>4225</sup> UK steps up work to reduce illegal migration, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-steps-up-work-to-reduce-illegal-migration>

<sup>4226</sup> People smuggler who arranged spaces on Channel boat crossings jailed following NCA investigation, National Crime Agency (London) 24 July 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/people-smuggler-who-arranged-spaces-on-channel-boat-crossings-jailed-following-nca-investigation>

<sup>4227</sup> Criminals and immigration offenders removed on charter flight, Home Office (London) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/criminals-and-immigration-offenders-removed-on-charter-flight>

<sup>4228</sup> The fourth European Political Community summit held at Blenheim in the United Kingdom: UK statement to the OSCE, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-fourth-european-political-community-summit-held-at-blenheim-in-the-united-kingdom-uk-statement-to-the-osce>

<sup>4229</sup> NCA arrest man in Wolverhampton in people smuggling investigation, National Crime Agency (London) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/nca-arrest-man-in-wolverhampton-in-people-smuggling-investigation>

<sup>4230</sup> All aboard – Kenyan Marines getting into Ship-shape, British High Commission Nairobi (Nairobi) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-aboard-kenyan-marines-getting-into-ship-shape>

<sup>4231</sup> Arrest follows fatal Channel crossing, National Crime Agency (London) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/arrest-follows-fatal-channel-crossing>

On 21 August 2024, the Home Office declared that it would recruit 100 additional investigations officers to counter gangs involved in smuggling migrants into the United Kingdom.<sup>4232</sup> Furthermore, the Home Office said it would impose financial sanctions and legal action on employers caught recruiting “illegal workers,” who would also be deported if appropriate.

On 23 August 2024, the Home Office announced the imprisonment of three members of a people-smuggling ring who were arrested after they were caught smuggling migrants between France and the UK.<sup>4233</sup> This arrest and sentencing are part of an ongoing effort at the Home Office to combat migrant smuggling.

On 27 August 2024, the UK government pledged GBP10.5 million to provide new technologies to three border checkpoints needed for the European Union’s new biometric border identification system.<sup>4234</sup> The ports, which have already heavily invested in preparation for the change, will be upgraded with photo and fingerprinting capabilities.

On 6 September 2024, the Home Office announced that a migrant smuggler had been sentenced to 3 years in prison after a Home Office investigation revealed that he had smuggled five Afghan nationals into the UK.<sup>4235</sup> This sentencing demonstrates the UK’s commitment to punishing smugglers and those who commit immigration crimes to make a profit.

On 9 September 2024, NCA personnel seized approximately 600 hazardous lifejackets intended for use by criminal groups smuggling migrants over the English Channel.<sup>4236</sup> The lifejackets, seized with help from European partners such as Denmark and Italy, were unsafe and would not have saved the migrants in the event of a capsized.

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced that the UK and Italy would collaborate to subdue migrant smuggling gangs by exchanging intelligence and cooperating strategically.<sup>4237</sup> He insisted on the efficiency of bilateral approaches to the countries’ “common challenge” of irregular migration.

On 17 September 2024, Home Secretary Cooper announced that the BSC would receive GBP75 million from the UK government, taken from the Rwanda deportation project.<sup>4238</sup> The BSC, which aims to take down migrant smuggling gangs and trafficking networks in the UK and across Europe, will receive surveillance technologies and intelligence resources.

On 9 October 2024, the UK government pledged GBP4 million to the United Nations Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MMPTF) to tackle irregular migration, smuggling and trafficking.<sup>4239</sup> The MMPTF fights

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<sup>4232</sup> UK government to boost staff, crack down on employers, in bid to fight people smuggling, Reuters (Toronto) 21 August 2024. Access Date: <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-government-boost-staff-crackdown-employers-bid-fight-people-smuggling-2024-08-20/>

<sup>4233</sup> People smuggling ring jailed for cramming migrants in boot of car, Home Office (London) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/people-smuggling-ring-jailed-for-cramming-migrants-in-boot-of-car>

<sup>4234</sup> UK to spend £10.5m on new EU border checks, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gz9n06rxdo>

<sup>4235</sup> People smuggler jailed for stashing migrants inside motorhome, Home Office (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/people-smuggler-jailed-for-stashing-migrants-inside-motorhome>

<sup>4236</sup> NCA and European partners seize dangerous lifejackets destined for people smugglers, National Crime Agency (London) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/nca-and-european-partners-seize-dangerous-lifejackets-destined-for-people-smugglers>

<sup>4237</sup> UK PM Starmer pledges to work with Italy on migration, Reuters (Toronto) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-pm-starmer-pledges-migration-cooperation-ahead-italy-talks-2024-09-15/>

<sup>4238</sup> UK uses funds from scrapped Rwanda deportation plan to boost border security, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/international/20240917-uk-uses-funds-from-scrapped-rwanda-deportation-asylum-plan-to-boost-border-security>

<sup>4239</sup> New UK money to combat human trafficking, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-money-to-combat-human-trafficking>

transnational crime related to migrant smuggling, by providing humanitarian and logistical aid in countries of origin.

On 4 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced an additional GBP58 million in funding for the NCA.<sup>4240</sup> This extra funding will help the agency expand its intelligence technologies, such as security equipment and greater access to data, to protect border security.

On 4 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced the funding of GBP75 million for the BSC.<sup>4241</sup> This funding will provide the agency with staff and technology and will be supplemented by legislation that grants the BSC additional powers.

On 8 November 2024, following an investigation by the NCA, Preston Crown Court sentenced Amanj Hasan Zada to 17 years in prison.<sup>4242</sup> Zada had been smuggling migrants from France into the UK.

On 13 November 2024, as part of a joint operation with Dutch and Belgian agencies, the NCA arrested a man accused of supplying boats and engines to smugglers.<sup>4243</sup> The supposedly “highly dangerous” boats were intended for use in Belgium and France.

On 16 November 2024, following an NCA investigation, the Canterbury Crown Court convicted a group of three smugglers.<sup>4244</sup> The smugglers had been trying to smuggle migrants into the UK from France.

On 20 November 2024, the NCA arrested 5 men suspected of smuggling migrants from the UK to France.<sup>4245</sup> The men allegedly organized the smuggling and transported migrants in large trucks.

On 20 November 2024, the NCA arrested Arsen Feci with help from Spanish authorities for allegedly helping smuggle migrants into the UK.<sup>4246</sup> He is accused of buying equipment and organizing crossings in association with smuggling gangs.

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<sup>4240</sup> PM announces further funding for the National Crime Agency (NCA) and new migration returns figures, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-further-funding-for-the-national-crime-agency-nca-and-new-migration-returns-figures>

<sup>4241</sup> Prime Minister unveils game changing investment to tackle national security threat from people smuggling gangs, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-unveils-game-changing-investment-to-tackle-national-security-threat-from-people-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4242</sup> Man feted as “the best smuggler” convicted of organising Channel small boat crossings, National Crime Agency (London) 8 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/man-feted-as-the-best-smuggler-convicted-of-organising-channel-small-boat-crossings>

<sup>4243</sup> Joint investigation sees suspected small boat supplier arrested in the Netherlands, National Crime Agency (London) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/joint-investigation-sees-suspected-small-boat-supplier-arrested-in-the-netherlands>

<sup>4244</sup> People smuggling gang tried to use rundown boats for cross Channel migrant journeys, National Crime Agency (London) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/people-smuggling-gang-tried-to-use-rundown-boats-for-cross-channel-migrant-journeys>

<sup>4245</sup> Suspected members of people smuggling network arrested in NCA dawn raids across London, National Crime Agency (London) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/suspected-members-of-people-smuggling-network-arrested-in-nca-dawn-raids-across-london>

<sup>4246</sup> Suspected people smuggler extradited to the UK after fleeing to Spain, National Crime Agency (London) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/suspected-people-smuggler-extradited-to-the-uk-after-fleeing-to-spain>



On 20 November 2024, Foreign Secretary David Lammy signed an agreement with Moldova that aims to tackle irregular migration and create a strategic defense partnership between the two countries.<sup>4247</sup> The agreement will promote stronger border security and help facilitate the voluntary and enforced return of Moldovan migrants.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia summit to address irregular migration.<sup>4248</sup>

On 28 November 2024, Minister for Development Anneliese Dodds, pledged a total of GBP1.98 billion to the International Development Association.<sup>4249</sup> The association aims to combat the causes of irregular migration by providing financial assistance to countries with low income.

On 28 November 2024, Home Secretary Cooper signed an agreement with Iraq to combat transnational organized crime involved in smuggling, reinforce border security, and assist with organized crime.<sup>4250</sup> The agreement will help address migration in a country of origin and facilitate the return of irregular Iraqi migrants.

On 10 December 2024, the Home Office published a policy paper outlining a new approach to tackling Organized Immigration Crime (OIC) and enhancing border security through the BSC.<sup>4251</sup> Recognizing the growing threat of OIC, the BSC is investing GBP150 million for new technology, law enforcement capabilities, and specialist officers to combat OIC. Additionally, they note that the BSC's scope will expand beyond irregular migration to address broader threats such as illicit commodity trafficking and technological advancements used by criminals to exploit borders.

On 10 December 2024, British Home Secretary Cooper and German Minister Faeser co-hosted the Calais Group's fourth meeting in London and together signed the "UK-Germany Joint Action Plan on Irregular Migration".<sup>4252</sup> This meeting and subsequent joint action plan prioritizes combatting migrant smuggling, particularly through the English Channel, and reinforces areas of potential cooperation between British and German law enforcement authorities.

On 30 December 2024, NCA officials, in collaboration with the Belgian police, arrested the last member of a fugitive smuggling trio in Hertfordshire.<sup>4253</sup> The trio, including the other two members who were arrested earlier in the month, were accused of smuggling migrants into Europe and sexually abusing some of them.

On 2 January 2025, the Home Office announced serious crime laws were updated to deter migrant smuggling gangs.<sup>4254</sup> These changes give more power to law enforcement authorities who can now immediately place

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<sup>4247</sup> UK signs new agreements on migration, defence & security with Moldova, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-new-agreements-on-migration-defence-security-with-moldova>

<sup>4248</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4249</sup> New UK investment to unlock billions to tackle root causes of irregular migration, climate change and growth crises, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-investment-to-unlock-billions-to-tackle-root-causes-of-irregular-migration-climate-change-and-growth-crises--2>

<sup>4250</sup> UK/Iraq border security pact to target smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-iraq-border-security-pact-to-target-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4251</sup> Delivering Border Security, Home Office (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivering-border-security-statement/delivering-border-security>

<sup>4252</sup> Fighting Illegal Smuggling of Migrants, German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/12/london-jointaction-en.html>

<sup>4253</sup> Fugitive members of small boat people smuggling network who transported thousands and sexually abused migrants arrested, National Crime Agency (London) 30 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/fugitive-members-of-small-boat-people-smuggling-network-who-transported-thousands-and-sexually-abused-migrants-arrested>

<sup>4254</sup> Serious crime laws to be overhauled to combat people-smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 2 January 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/serious-crime-laws-to-be-overhauled-to-combat-people-smuggling-gangs>

temporary restrictions on people suspected of human smuggling, without having to go through complex processes. This new policy, which allows law enforcement to take urgent actions earlier, will help to deter organized crime and strengthen border security.

On 14 January 2025, Prime Minister Starmer declared that the UK would collaborate with Iraq on migration in a joint statement with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia Al-Sudani.<sup>4255</sup> The two agreed to facilitate irregular migrant returns from the UK, cooperating in strengthening border security and fighting transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

On 16 January 2025, the Prime Minister's Office announced that Prime Minister Starmer will travel to Poland to meet with the Polish Prime Minister, Donald Tusk, to discuss the UK-Poland Treaty.<sup>4256</sup> A part of the treaty focuses on fighting illegal migration and organized immigration crime from across the borders, highlighting the UK's efforts to strengthen borders via cooperation.

On 30 January 2025, Home Secretary Cooper introduced the "Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill" to Parliament.<sup>4257</sup> The bill would provide UK authorities with greater, "counter-terror style" powers to fight smuggling gangs and secure the border. The new laws would allow authorities to act earlier, criminalize actions that may potentially aid smugglers, and introduce harsher sentences for those who assist in smuggling operations.

On 31 January 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy stated that the UK would provide funding to skill-building and migrant repatriation programs in Tunisia to combat irregular migration.<sup>4258</sup> The UK hopes to lower migration numbers by improving the living conditions in the country of origin, Tunisia, and allowing returning migrants to be better reintegrated.

On 24 February 2025, the Birmingham Crown Court convicted six men who were involved in migrant trafficking.<sup>4259</sup> The men were part of a group that kept and forced trafficked migrants to work in cannabis farms where the migrants suffered poor conditions and were subject to violent treatment.

On 28 February 2025, Secretary Cooper and French Minister of the Interior Bruno Retailleau announced that France and the UK would prolong a pre-existing agreement on irregular migration by one year.<sup>4260</sup> This agreement extends the Sandhurst Agreement on irregular immigration and border control to 2027, allowing authorities to make use of unused funds.

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<sup>4255</sup> Joint Statement between the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the Prime Minister of Iraq, Prime Minister's Office (London) 14 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-prime-minister-of-the-united-kingdom-and-the-prime-minister-of-iraq>

<sup>4256</sup> UK and Poland to launch new defence and security treaty in Warsaw, Prime Minister's Office (London). 16 January 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-poland-to-launch-new-defence-and-security-treaty-in-warsaw>

<sup>4257</sup> Counter terror-style powers to strengthen ability to smash smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/counter-terror-style-powers-to-strengthen-ability-to-smash-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4258</sup> UK partnership with Tunisia to target root causes of irregular migration, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-partnership-with-tunisia-to-target-root-causes-of-irregular-migration>

<sup>4259</sup> NCA investigation leads to conviction of gang who forced migrants to work in cannabis farms, National Crime Agency (London) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/nca-investigation-leads-to-conviction-of-gang-who-forced-migrants-to-work-in-cannabis-farms>

<sup>4260</sup> New UK-French action to go after smuggler gangs, Home Office (London) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-french-action-to-go-after-smuggler-gangs>

On 4 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom signed a communique with the Government of Vietnam that signals a desire to tackle irregular immigration.<sup>4261</sup> The governments will work together to deter migrants from using irregular means of entry, share intelligence and cooperate in law enforcement and return unauthorized Vietnamese migrants in the UK to Vietnam.

On 4 March 2025, the Home Office announced that its digital advertising campaign in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq had begun.<sup>4262</sup> The campaign aims to clear up misinformation about irregular migration and to discourage individuals from making the voyage. The government claims the campaign protects would-be migrants and warns them of the risks they face.

On 6 March 2025, Border Security Commander Hewitt and US Special Representative on Immigration Patrick Stefani signed a roadmap intended to promote cooperation between the UK and US on fighting human smuggling.<sup>4263</sup> The agreement aimed to disrupt irregular migration by deterrence through reminding migrants of risks, ensuring the swift return of migrants to their countries of origin and apprehending criminal organizations involved.

On 12 March, NCA officers supported Libyan authorities in arresting a man accused of helping smuggle hundreds of migrants across the Mediterranean.<sup>4264</sup> The network he is a part of is said to have smuggled over two thousand migrants. This arrest fits into a larger collaborative effort with the Libyan government to fight immigration crime in countries of origin.

On 14 March 2025, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs David Lammy and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4265</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

On 23 March 2025, NCA officers arrested three people involved in a smuggling operation.<sup>4266</sup> The three individuals allegedly smuggled a woman and a minor into the UK in a truck.

On 30 March 2025, Home Secretary Cooper announced that gig economy companies would be legally required to verify that their workers are allowed to work in the UK.<sup>4267</sup> Companies caught not complying could face penalties including fines, closures and even prison sentences for responsible personnel. The government claims this legislation will protect workers and discourage irregular immigration.

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<sup>4261</sup> UK and Vietnam sign joint communiqué at annual migration dialogue, Home Office (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-vietnam-sign-joint-communique-at-annual-migration-dialogue>

<sup>4262</sup> UK expands campaign to stop migrant smugglers and their lies, Home Office (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expands-campaign-to-stop-migrant-smugglers-and-their-lies>

<sup>4263</sup> The UK deepens cooperation with France on people smuggling, Home Office (London) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-deepens-cooperation-with-france-on-people-smuggling>

<sup>4264</sup> Four arrested as NCA works with Libyan authorities to target people smugglers in North Africa, National Crime Agency (London) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/four-arrested-as-nca-works-with-libyan-authorities-to-target-people-smugglers-in-north-africa>

<sup>4265</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4266</sup> Three arrested in North Lincolnshire as part of NCA people smuggling investigation, National Crime Agency (London) 24 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/three-arrested-in-north-lincolnshire-as-part-of-nca-people-smuggling-investigation>

<sup>4267</sup> Crackdown on illegal working and rogue employers in 'gig economy', Home Office (London) 30 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crackdown-on-illegal-working-and-rogue-employers-in-gig-economy>

On 31 March 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom hosted the Organized Immigration Summit in London.<sup>4268</sup> The summit hosted officials from countries of origin and transit and destination countries to share information on the equipment and supplies involved in “organized international crime.” The same day, Home Secretary Cooper pledged GBP30 million from the Border Security Command budget to tackle organized immigration crime and collaborate with France to fund educational campaigns on the dangers of irregular migration.

On 31 March 2025, the Home Office announced GBP1 million in funding to Iraq, which will be dedicated to strengthening border security and tackling organized crime networks related to human smuggling.<sup>4269</sup> This funding demonstrates the UK’s efforts in building partnerships and boosting collaboration.

On 1 April 2025, the Home Office released a joint statement along with representatives from Albania, Sweden, Tunisia, the United States and Vietnam on combating OIC related to human smuggling and irregular migration, particularly through online sources.<sup>4270</sup> They also reaffirmed their shared responsibility and commitment towards fighting OIC through collaboration and action.

On 1 April 2025, the Home Office announced the signing of a joint action plan between the UK and Vietnam.<sup>4271</sup> This plan aims to reduce human trafficking and further strengthen collaboration and information sharing.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. The UK has taken strong action in both commitment dimensions by providing substantial funding both for the strengthening of its border control and security capabilities and for its fight against organized criminal smuggling and trafficking groups. The UK has also collaborated with countries of origin and transit through diplomatic agreements and financial aid to achieve its two commitments, while also leading enforcement operations against smugglers such as seizures and prosecutions.

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

*Analyst: Olivier d’Aragon Flores*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 18 June 2024, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the rescue of migrants in distress who were stuck in the Peloncillo Mountain range.<sup>4272</sup> These humanitarian missions are in response to the growing

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<sup>4268</sup> Landmark summit agrees new measures against organised immigration crime, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-summit-agrees-new-measures-against-organised-immigration-crime>

<sup>4269</sup> New government fund to go after people smuggling gang bosses, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-government-fund-to-go-after-people-smuggling-gang-bosses>

<sup>4270</sup> The use of online platforms in enabling organised immigration crime, Home Office (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-organised-immigration-crime>

<sup>4271</sup> UK and Vietnam sign agreement to tackle human trafficking, Home Office (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-vietnam-sign-agreement-to-tackle-human-trafficking>

<sup>4272</sup> Tucson Air Branch Aircrews Lift Migrants in Distress, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/tucson-air-branch-aircrews-lift-migrants-distress>

transnational criminal smuggling organizations endangering the lives of migrants. Rescues are one of the many responsibilities of the CBP, which engages in securing borders and responding to security threats.

On 25 June 2024, the CBP announced the implementation of new inspection systems at the Juarez-Lincoln Bridge.<sup>4273</sup> The new Low Energy Portal scanning systems will be installed in the queuing areas at the border, which will allow the CBP to identify vehicles carrying illicit narcotics and other illegal items. These efforts form part of a USD59 million funding package from Congress to secure the US border and prevent illegal items from entering the country.

On 28 June 2024, the US and European Union reaffirmed their cooperation on home affairs such as migration, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and more.<sup>4274</sup> The meeting highlighted the ongoing efforts and methods being used to combat these issues such as information sharing. Moreover, the representatives increased the discussion of irregular migration to further build on the Global Alliance to Counter Migrant Smuggling initiative.

On 11 July 2024, the US Department of State announced a total of USD12 million in reward offers for information that will successfully lead to the arrests of leaders of the Tren de Aragu organization.<sup>4275</sup> The Tren de Aragu is a transnational criminal organization, and its criminal network is involved in activities in Central and South America as well as the US. This initiative aims to disrupt transnational crime by offering rewards and coordinating with the Government of Columbia to apprehend fugitives.

On 12 July 2024, the Department of Justice announced commitments made at the US-Canada Cross Border Crime Forum to enhance border management.<sup>4276</sup> Both countries agreed to increase law enforcement cooperation to stop firearm smuggling and drug trafficking. Areas of coordination include increased information sharing and joint operations to stop criminal activities.

On 12 July 2024, the CBP rescued migrants locked in a train compartment.<sup>4277</sup> Border patrol agents are responsible for conducting train checks among many other responsibilities to secure the US border.

On 15 July 2024, the CBP announced the success of border patrol agents in stopping illegal entries into the US from Canada, among which were human smuggling attempts.<sup>4278</sup> These cases showed the success of imaging technology and collaboration between the US CBP and local law enforcement in stopping illegal entry into the country.

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<sup>4273</sup> New Non-Intrusive Inspection Systems to Be Added to Juarez Lincoln Bridge, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/new-non-intrusive-inspection-systems-be-added-juarez-lincoln-bridge>

<sup>4274</sup> Joint Press Release Following the EU-U.S Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs, 21 June 2024, U.S Department of Homeland Security (Washington) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/06/28/joint-press-release-following-eu-us-ministerial-justice-and-home-affairs-21-june>

<sup>4275</sup> Up to \$12 Million in Reward Offers for Information Leading to Arrests and/or Convictions of Three Leaders of the Tren de Aragua Transnational Criminal Organization, U.S Department of State (Washington) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/up-to-12-million-in-reward-offers-for-information-leading-to-arrests-and-or-convictions-of-three-leaders-of-the-tren-de-aragua-transnational-criminal-organization/>

<sup>4276</sup> Joint Communique From the 2024 U.S-Canada Cross Border Crime Forum (CBCF), U.S Department of Justice (Washington) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/joint-communique-2024-us-canada-cross-border-crime-forum-cbcf>

<sup>4277</sup> Border Patrol Agents Rescue Migrants Stowed Away in a Locked Train Compartment at Laredo Sector, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-agents-rescue-migrants-stowed-away-locked-train>

<sup>4278</sup> USBP Foils Human Smuggling Attempts, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/usb-foils-human-smuggling-attempts>

On 15 July 2024, the CBP implemented measures to ensure a smooth and secure flow of border traffic at the Laredo Port of Entry due to an increase in international travelers.<sup>4279</sup> Travellers were encouraged to take advantage of facial biometrics technology and use the CBP app to reduce wait times while helping CBP maintain border security standards.

On 16 July 2024, the CBP released details on the arrest of four individuals who illegally entered the US from Canada on the St. Clair River.<sup>4280</sup> The success of this operation was enabled by the close law enforcement partnership between the US and Canada.

On 22 July 2024, the CBP announced the expansion of operations to stop the criminal activities of transnational crime organizations.<sup>4281</sup> The expansion of Operation Plaza Spike will stop and prevent illegal drug trafficking, exploitation of vulnerable migrants, and violence in communities at the US-Mexico border. This increase in law enforcement coverage will help better secure the southwest border and allow the CBP to target plaza bosses and cartels to reduce criminal activity.

On 8 August 2024, the CBP announced that Air and Marines Operations aircrews and Border Patrol agents had successfully rescued wounded undocumented migrants.<sup>4282</sup> This action reaffirms the US's commitment to confronting security threats, securing the border and responding to emergency situations.

On 22 August 2024, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Justice Department in collaboration with Guatemalan law enforcement under the Joint Task Force Alpha, executed multiple search and arrest warrants throughout Guatemala, leading to the arrest of a Guatemalan national indicted in Texas for alleged involvement in a human smuggling network.<sup>4283</sup> This involvement is tied to the 2022 San Antonio incident that resulted in the deaths of 53 migrants. This extensive bilateral cooperation disrupted such transnational smuggling networks that aimed to exploit migrants and undermine the security of US borders, also enhancing international cooperation.

On 28 August 2024, the DHS, along with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and CBP, announced over USD380 million for Shelter and Service Programs.<sup>4284</sup> This supports migrant-hosting communities by reducing burdens on short-term holding facilities, and humanely addressing and stabilizing migration while also effectively managing border facilities.

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<sup>4279</sup> Laredo Port of Entry Prepares and Implements Facilitation Measures for Increased Summer Traffic, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/laredo-port-entry-prepares-and-implements-facilitation-measures-2>

<sup>4280</sup> Border Patrol Stops Cross-Border Smuggling Event on St. Clair River, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-stops-cross-border-smuggling-event-st-clair-river>

<sup>4281</sup> ICYMI: CBP Announces Expanded Operations Targeting Transnational Criminal Organizations, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/icymi-cbp-announces-expanded-operations-targeting-transnational>

<sup>4282</sup> Air and Marine Operations and Border Patrol Agents work together to rescue wounded undocumented migrants, U.S Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/air-and-marine-operations-and-border-patrol-agents-work-together>

<sup>4283</sup> Major Enforcement Operation in Guatemala Secures Arrest of Human Smuggler Indicted by Joint Task Force Alpha for Links to 2022 Mass Casualty Event in Texas, Homeland Security (Washington) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/08/22/major-enforcement-operation-guatemala-secures-arrest-human-smuggler-indicted-jtfa>

<sup>4284</sup> Department of Homeland Security Announces \$380 Million in Additional Funding to Communities Receiving Migrants, Homeland Security (Washington) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/08/28/department-homeland-security-announces-380-million-additional-funding-communities>

On 29 August 2024, the CBP and the Government of Mexico announced the continuation of their law enforcement partnership to arrest criminals wanted by both countries and to stop transnational crime.<sup>4285</sup> Five new criminal targets were announced who are involved in human smuggling, drug trafficking, and other crimes.

On 5 September 2024, the Department of State announced the Aumoana Regional Law Enforcement Initiative, which will train and provide support to Pacific allies to improve law enforcement capabilities.<sup>4286</sup> This initiative will help stop illegal maritime activities such as drug and migrant trafficking, and other crimes.

On 9 September 2024, the House of Representatives passed the Subterranean Border Defense Act to strengthen border security by detecting and destroying illegal tunnel activity under the US-Mexico border.<sup>4287</sup> This legislation ensures Congress can forge another layer of defense and other necessary means to address growing threats of illicit cross-border tunnels.

On 13 September 2024, the CBP announced a multilayered enforcement strategy to enhance border security through stricter regulation on de minimis shipments.<sup>4288</sup> Such shipments include low-value imports that are often exploited and thus bypass trade and safety laws. These actions improve the monitoring and enforcement of borders, increasing the capacity to combat illicit trade and practices, particularly in narcotics and forced labor.

On 13 September 2024, the CBP announced the signing of a Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement with Uzbekistan aimed at improving cooperation on law enforcement and customs support between the two countries.<sup>4289</sup> This new agreement allows both countries to exchange information, combat drug trafficking, and halt the operations of transnational criminal organizations together.

On 25 September 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced over USD686 million in “new humanitarian, development, economic and security assistance to support partner countries.”<sup>4290</sup> This allows for resource mobilization to increase the prosecutions of human smuggling and trafficking networks, impose greater restrictions on irregular migration and expand lawful pathways for migration and border protection.

On 30 September 2024, President Joe Biden issued an updated Proclamation and a joint final rule with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General to restrict asylum eligibility for individuals entering the country and enforce timely consequences for those who cross unlawfully at the southern border.<sup>4291</sup> This

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<sup>4285</sup> U.S. Custom and Border Protection, Government of Mexico counterparts in Chihuahua continue law enforcement partnership on Se Busca Informacion initiative to find wanted criminals, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/us-customs-and-border-protection-government-mexico-counterparts>

<sup>4286</sup> Aumoana Regional Law Enforcement Initiative Announced in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/aumoana-regional-law-enforcement-initiative-announced-in-nukualofa-tonga/>

<sup>4287</sup> Rep. Eli Crane's Bipartisan Border Security Bill Passes U.S. House, Representative Eli Crane House (United States) 09 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://crane.house.gov/2024/09/09/rep-eli-cranes-bipartisan-border-security-bill-passes-u-s-house/>

<sup>4288</sup> DHS Workforce on the Frontlines of Biden-Harris Administration's New Executive Actions to Address Surge in De Minimis Shipments and Protect American Consumers, Workers, and Businesses, Homeland Security (Washington) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/09/13/dhs-workforce-frontlines-biden-harris-administrations-new-executive-actions-address>

<sup>4289</sup> US, Uzbekistan sign Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/us-uzbekistan-sign-customs-mutual-assistance-agreement>

<sup>4290</sup> Fact sheet: Fourth Ministerial Meeting on the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection, The White House (Washington) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/26/fact-sheet-fourth-ministerial-meeting-on-the-los-angeles-declaration-on-migration-and-protection/>

<sup>4291</sup> FACT SHEET: Joint DHS-DOJ Final Rule Issued to Restrict Asylum Eligibility for Those Who Enter During High Encounters at the Southern Border, Homeland Security (Washington) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/09/30/fact-sheet-joint-dhs-doj-final-rule-issued-restrict-asylum-eligibility-those-who>

implementation builds on a previous interim rule that emphasizes limited entries of noncitizens at this border and swift removal of such persons, thus aiming to enhance border security and decrease illegal migration.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4292</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 21 October 2024, DHS Investigations and the Taiwan Criminal Investigation Bureau announced the arrest of five suspects through a joint weapon smuggling investigation in both countries.<sup>4293</sup> Through such cooperation, the first instance of cross-border transportation of seized weapons under a Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement for prosecutorial evidence was successfully carried out. This cross-border collaboration effectively worked to dismantle this organized trafficking and crime network and enhance border security.

On 22 October 2024, the DHS, with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), deported Indian nationals who lacked legal grounds to stay in the US through a charter flight.<sup>4294</sup> In collaboration with the Indian government, this action combats irregular migration.

On 31 October 2024, the CBP released details of the “Global Entry partnership” with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which allows expedited immigration processing for “pre-vetted, low-risk” UAE citizens.<sup>4295</sup> This agreement will promote efficient and safe travel for both countries while strengthening bilateral diplomatic relations.

On 1 November 2024, the CBP successfully intercepted vessels connected to various maritime smuggling attempts in San Diego, resulting in the arrest of over 40 individuals.<sup>4296</sup> This operation aligns with the US’ dedication to enhancing border security and combat trafficking and migrant smuggling operations.

On 7 November 2024, the CBP strengthened border security and surveillance in the Big Bend Sector of Texas with the addition of two new solar-powered Autonomous Surveillance Towers equipped with “long-range sensors” and “night thermal technology.”<sup>4297</sup> These installations make use of new innovations to increase efficiency and the ability to monitor border crossings, reduce illegal border activity and disrupt smuggling operations.

On 8 November 2024, the CBP’s Douglas Border Patrol Station collaborated with the Mexican Consulate to rescue an injured, non-citizen from Mexico abandoned by his group in Rucker Canyon, Arizona.<sup>4298</sup> This rescue

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<sup>4292</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4293</sup> HSI, Asia Partners Announce Historic Weapons Smuggling Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations (Washington) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/hsi/news/2024/10/28/hsi-asia-partners-announce-historic-weapons-smuggling-investigation>

<sup>4294</sup> DHS Conducts Removal Flight to the Republic of India, Department of Homeland Security (Washington) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/10/25/dhs-conducts-removal-flight-republic-india>

<sup>4295</sup> CBP Announces Global Entry Partnership with the UAE, US Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-announces-global-entry-partnership-uae>

<sup>4296</sup> CBP’s San Diego Border Patrol Sector and Air and Marine Branch arrest over 40 individuals in maritime smuggling, US Customs and Border Protection (San Diego) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-s-san-diego-border-patrol-sector-and-air-and-marine-branch-arrest>

<sup>4297</sup> Big Bend Sector expands high-tech border security with new autonomous surveillance towers, US Customs and Border Protection (Texas) 07 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/big-bend-sector-expands-high-tech-border-security-new-autonomous>

<sup>4298</sup> Man from Mexico abandoned by group rescued from Rucker Canyon, US Customs and Border Protection (Tucson) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/man-mexico-abandoned-group-rescued-rucker-canyon>



effort and cooperation with Mexican partners illustrates the US's commitment to preventing the loss of migrant life through international cooperation.

On 14 November 2024, the CBP announced and deployed biometric tests with the use of the “Simplified Arrival-Vehicle Biometric” system at the Peace Bridge Port of Entry, automating document checks required for entry into the US.<sup>4299</sup> The test will be in place until March 2025 and then reevaluated for continuation. This advanced scanning will strengthen border management, security and control systems.

On 16 November 2024, Border Patrol agents and National Park Service Rangers rescued 13 migrants, including several children, abandoned by human smugglers in Big Bend National Park, located along the US-Mexican border.<sup>4300</sup> This highlights the US's dedication to combatting migrant smuggling networks and protecting the lives affected.

On 18 November 2024, the CBP expanded the “Global Entry Enrollment” program by launching an “Enrollment on Departure” program at Atlanta International Airport.<sup>4301</sup> This program will streamline traveler programs and thus bolster border management systems while enhancing international mobility.

On 18 November 2024, the DHS, along with ICE, deported Chinese nationals who were not permitted to lawfully remain in the US on a charter flight.<sup>4302</sup> This will decrease and prevent irregular migration, thereby countering the smuggling and exploitation of individuals.

On 18 November 2024, the CBP announced it will expand its hours of operations at border crossings with Canada in collaboration with the CBSA to improve border security and facilitate more convenient trade and travel across the border.<sup>4303</sup> These changes will help to bolster the security of both countries and include efforts to increase border resources at busier ports of entry.

On 26 November 2024, the CBP announced a “Global Entry partnership” with Japan, leading to expedited entry for low-risk Japanese travelers coming to the US.<sup>4304</sup> This partnership will uplift security, encourage bilateral relations between the two countries, and promote modernizing border security and efficiency.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the commitment made at the Apulia summit to address irregular migration.<sup>4305</sup>

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<sup>4299</sup> CBP Announces Facial Biometric Test for Inbound Vehicle Travelers at Buffalo, Peace Bridge Port of Entry, US Customs and Border Protection (Buffalo) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-announces-facial-biometric-test-inbound-vehicle-travelers-buffalo>

<sup>4300</sup> Thirteen migrants rescued in Big Bend National Park, US Customs and Border Protection (Texas) Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/thirteen-migrants-rescued-big-bend-national-park>

<sup>4301</sup> CBP Launches Global Entry Enrollment on Departure at Atlanta International Airport, US Customs and Border Protection (Atlanta) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-launches-global-entry-enrollment-departure-atlanta-international>

<sup>4302</sup> DHS Conducts Removal Flight to the People's Republic of China, Homeland Security (Washington) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/11/18/dhs-conducts-removal-flight-peoples-republic-china>

<sup>4303</sup> CBP Aligns Hours of Operations at Northern Border Ports of Entry, US Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-aligns-hours-operations-northern-border-ports-entry>

<sup>4304</sup> CBP Announces Global Entry Partnership with Japan, US Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-announces-global-entry-partnership-japan>

<sup>4305</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 3 December 2024, US Border Patrol Agents searched a vessel suspected to be a part of a migrant smuggling operation, yielding 39 non-citizen arrests.<sup>4306</sup> This seizure reaffirms the US's commitment to strengthening border security and preventing migrant smuggling.

On 20 January 2025, the Government of the United States enacted policies to close the Southern Border and tighten border security.<sup>4307</sup> This policy demonstrates the US's commitment to curbing illegal migration, organized crime and potential migrant trafficking.

On 29 January 2025, US CBP discovered a smuggling attempt at the Douglas Port of Entry and took a man into custody in connection with the attempt.<sup>4308</sup> This demonstrates the US's efforts to strengthen border security and curb migrant smuggling.

On 2 February 2025, US CBP partnered with Royal Caribbean to implement and conduct biometric facial comparison technologies for cruise operations.<sup>4309</sup> This move will lead to enhanced and efficient border security.

On 7 February 2025, President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Ishiba met in Washington, D.C, to discuss further bilateral cooperation for security and defense.<sup>4310</sup> This commitment to share information to combat illegal migration strengthens the members' cooperation on migrant control.

On 12 February 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio spoke with Mexican Foreign Secretary Juan Ramón de la Fuente about potential joint actions to enhance the security of the US-Mexican border and target trafficking efforts.<sup>4311</sup> Secretary Rubio emphasized efforts to curb illegal migration and utilize cross-border patrol efforts.

On 13 February 2025, President Trump met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to launch the "U.S.-India COMPACT" initiative and sign a new ten-year "Framework for the U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" to advance bilateral defense ties further.<sup>4312</sup> The leaders committed to strengthening law enforcement cooperation against illegal migration and transnational organized crime.

On 18 February 2025, DHS Secretary Noem signed a memorandum to strengthen immigration enforcement by allowing a maximum of 600 special agents from the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service, as well as employees from the Department of Justice, to assist in arresting and deporting illegal migrants.<sup>4313</sup> These deputations expand law enforcement coordination and reinforce the commitment to enhancing border security.

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<sup>4306</sup> US Border Patrol apprehends 39 non-citizens from the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Venezuela after landing in Isabela, Puerto Rico, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Aguadilla) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 10 February 2025.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/us-border-patrol-apprehends-39-non-citizens-dominican-republic-haiti>

<sup>4307</sup> Forum Analysis: President Trump's Executive Actions on Border Security, National Immigration Forum (United States) 24 January 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://immigrationforum.org/article/u-s-southern-border-president-trumps-executive-actions-on-border-security/>

<sup>4308</sup> Area Port of Douglas CBP Officers Foil an Alien Smuggling Attempt, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/area-port-douglas-cbp-officers-foil-alien-smuggling-attempt>

<sup>4309</sup> CBP and Royal Caribbean Implement Biometric Facial Comparison Technology for Cruise Passengers in Puerto Rico, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (San Juan) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-and-royal-caribbean-implement-biometric-facial-comparison>

<sup>4310</sup> United States-Japan Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-japan-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>4311</sup> Secretary Rubio's Call with Mexican Foreign Secretary de la Fuente, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-call-with-mexican-foreign-secretary-de-la-fuente-2/>

<sup>4312</sup> United States-India Joint Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington) 13 February 2025. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-india-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>4313</sup> ICYMI: Secretary Noem Deputized State Department Officials as Immigration Officers, Homeland Security (Washington) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/02/20/secretary-noem-deputized-state-department-officials-immigration-officers>

On 18 February 2025, US CBP Air and Marine Operations intercepted a maritime smuggling attempt leading to 24 arrests near the Florida Coast.<sup>4314</sup> This seizure aligns with the US's commitment to combatting trafficking and migrant smuggling operations while tightening border security.

On 21 February 2025, Secretary Rubio spoke with Uzbekistan Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov to discuss continued cooperation in support of the greater Central Asia.<sup>4315</sup> Both representatives stressed continued cooperation and bilateral efforts towards dismantling illegal migration and counterterrorism.

On 12 February 2025, US CBP Air and Marine Operations halted a maritime smuggling attempt nearby the Florida Coast, stopping 13 individuals from entering the US unlawfully.<sup>4316</sup> This demonstrates the US's commitment to tightening border security.

On 25 February 2025, Secretary Noem announced that the DHS is enforcing the Immigration and Nationality Act to deport illegal migrants.<sup>4317</sup> This strengthens the country's border security and control measures.

On 3 March 2025, the Department of Justice arrested a Guatemalan national and several co-conspirators for operating one of the largest human smuggling organizations in the US, which smuggled approximately 20,000 refugees through unsafe methods.<sup>4318</sup> This directly upholds the US's commitment to combating migrant smuggling by dismantling transnational organized crime networks.

On 5 March 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Joly discussed the two countries' plans to collaborate on shared goals of border control and national safety.<sup>4319</sup> This call highlights the importance of US-Canadian relations and is a step towards enhancing US border security.

On 5 March 2025, Secretary Rubio announced a visa restriction policy applicable to foreign government officials allegedly responsible for facilitating illegal migration into the country.<sup>4320</sup> By enacting this policy, the US holds foreign officials accountable and strengthens border security by targeting implicated figures of authority.

On 10 March 2025, Secretary Noem announced that the DHS is launching the CBP Home mobile application, which allows illegal migrants to undergo the process of self-deportation.<sup>4321</sup> By compelling self-deportation, the US works towards adding additional options to improve border management and combat irregular migration.

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<sup>4314</sup> Air and Marine Operations Interdicts Maritime Smuggling Attempt Off the Florida Coast, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Miami) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/air-and-marine-operations-interdicts-maritime-smuggling-attempt>

<sup>4315</sup> Secretary Rubio's Call with Uzbekistan Foreign Minister Saidov, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 21 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-call-with-uzbekistan-foreign-minister-saidov/>

<sup>4316</sup> Air and Marine Operations Intercepts Maritime Smuggling Attempt Off Florida Coast, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 12 February 2025. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/air-and-marine-operations-intercepts-maritime-smuggling-attempt>

<sup>4317</sup> Secretary Noem Announces Agency Will Enforce Laws that Penalize Aliens in the Country Illegally, Homeland Security (Washington) 25 February 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/02/25/secretary-noem-announces-agency-will-enforce-laws-penalize-aliens-country-illegally>

<sup>4318</sup> Guatemalan National Arrested on Indictment Charging Him with Leading One of the Largest Human Smuggling Rings in U.S., Department of Justice (Los Angeles) 3 March 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/guatemalan-national-arrested-indictment-charging-him-leading-one-largest-human>

<sup>4319</sup> Secretary Rubio's Call with Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-call-with-canadian-minister-of-foreign-affairs-melanie-joly/>

<sup>4320</sup> Announcement of a Visa Restriction Policy Targeting Foreign Officials and Others Facilitating Illegal Migration into the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/announcement-of-a-visa-restriction-policy-targeting-foreign-officials-and-others-facilitating-illegal-migration-into-the-united-states/>

<sup>4321</sup> DHS Launches CBP Home App with Self-Deport Reporting Feature, Homeland Security (Washington) 10 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/03/10/dhs-launches-cbp-home-app-self-deport-reporting-feature>

On 14 March 2025, Secretary Rubio and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4322</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

On 28 March 2025, Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau spoke with Spanish State Secretary for Foreign and Global Affairs Diego Martinez Belio.<sup>4323</sup> They reaffirmed the importance of the US-Spain partnership and discussed deepening ties on mutual interests, such as cooperation on migration.

On 25 March 2025, Secretary Rubio traveled to Jamaica, Guyana and Suriname to meet with heads of state from Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Haiti.<sup>4324</sup> During this discussion, they addressed illegal immigration by seeking bilateral partnerships to dismantle transnational criminal networks.

On 1 April 2025, representatives from the US, Albania, Sweden, Tunisia, the UK and Vietnam released a joint statement on combating OIC related to human smuggling and irregular migration, particularly through online sources.<sup>4325</sup> They also reaffirmed their shared responsibility and commitment towards fighting OIC through collaboration and action.

On 4 April 2025, Deputy Secretary Landau spoke with Panamanian Foreign Minister Javier Martinez.<sup>4326</sup> Together, they reaffirmed shared US-Panamanian priorities in halting illegal immigration and expressed gratitude for current bilateral relations.

On 7 April 2025, Deputy Secretary Landau and Uzbekistani National Security Council Deputy Chairman Abdulaziz Kamilov met to reiterate continued bilateral cooperation for countering illegal immigration and counterterrorism.<sup>4327</sup> This action supports the US' commitment to collaborating internationally to counter migrant smuggling and irregular migration.

On 7 April 2025, Secretary Rubio spoke with Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar.<sup>4328</sup> Together, they underscored the importance of bilateral cooperation on law enforcement initiatives to address illegal immigration.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. The U.S. has taken strong actions in both commitment dimensions by effectively working

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<sup>4322</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4323</sup> Deputy Secretary Landau's Call with Spanish State Secretary for Foreign and Global Affairs Martinez Belio, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-landaus-call-with-spanish-state-secretary-for-foreign-and-global-affairs-martinez-belio/>

<sup>4324</sup> On-the-Record Briefing on Secretary of State Marco Rubio's Travel to Jamaica, Guyana, and Suriname, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 11 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/on-the-record-briefing-on-secretary-of-state-marco-rubios-travel-to-jamaica-guyana-and-suriname/>

<sup>4325</sup> The use of online platforms in enabling organised immigration crime, Home Office (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 20 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-organised-immigration-crime>

<sup>4326</sup> Deputy Secretary Landau's Call with Panamanian Foreign Minister Martinez Acha, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-landaus-call-with-panamanian-foreign-minister-martinez-acha/>

<sup>4327</sup> Deputy Secretary Landau's Meeting with Uzbekistan National Security Council Deputy Chairman Kamilov, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 7 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-landaus-meeting-with-uzbekistan-national-security-council-deputy-chairman-kamilov/>

<sup>4328</sup> Secretary Rubio's Call with Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Dar, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 7 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-rubios-call-with-pakistani-deputy-prime-minister-foreign-minister-dar/>

with countries of origin and transit to manage illegal migration, launch joint operations and actively dismantle smuggling networks. Additionally, the US worked to enhance border security and controls through various forms of bilateral cooperation.

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

*Analyst: Ananiya Narmathan*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

On 19 June 2024, the European Council announced the expanded role of Europol in fighting migrant smuggling in member states.<sup>4329</sup> Changes to the Europol regulations will increase information sharing, use of biometric data, and assist national law enforcement bodies to reduce transnational crime and terrorism. This will strengthen European border security as well, with closer collaboration between Europol and EU's border agency Frontex.

On 20 June 2024, the European Union Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the success of the meeting of the EU Network of National Coordinators and Rapporteurs on trafficking in human beings.<sup>4330</sup> The meeting highlighted the importance of cross-border and EU agency collaboration to combat human trafficking.

On 21 June 2024, the European Council announced the success of the EU-US Ministerial meetings where both sides confirmed their support and need to address irregular migration.<sup>4331</sup> The parties focused on addressing migrant smuggling and trafficking.

On 24 June 2024, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency Frontex announced the success of the coordinated operations with Romania, Austria, Europol and INTERPOL in cracking down on criminal networks engaged in human trafficking.<sup>4332</sup> These successful operations are fundamental in securing EU borders and disrupting cross-border crime. In a period of 7 days, authorities arrested 219 smugglers and rescued 1374 victims.

On 24 June 2024, the Council of the EU announced a EUR20 million assistance measure under the European Peace Facility for Kenya Defence Forces.<sup>4333</sup> This funding will enhance the capabilities of the Kenya Defence Forces to respond to threats and maintain regional stability while securing border areas.

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<sup>4329</sup> Migrant smuggling: Enhanced role of Europol in fighting migrant smuggling, Council of the EU (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/19/migrant-smuggling-enhanced-role-of-europol-in-fighting-migrant-smuggling/>

<sup>4330</sup> National Coordinators and Rapporteurs discussed trafficking for labour exploitation and forced criminality, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/national-coordinators-and-rapporteurs-discussed-trafficking-labour-exploitation-and-forced-2024-06-20\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/national-coordinators-and-rapporteurs-discussed-trafficking-labour-exploitation-and-forced-2024-06-20_en)

<sup>4331</sup> Joint press release following the EU-U.S Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs 21 June 2024 (Brussels), Council of the EU (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/21/joint-press-release-following-the-eu-us-ministerial-meeting-on-justice-and-home-affairs-21-june-2024-brussels/>

<sup>4332</sup> Frontex teams up to combat human trafficking, Frontex European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Warsaw) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-teams-up-to-combat-human-trafficking-Y4Mt2H>

<sup>4333</sup> European Peace Facility: Council adopts the first ever assistance measure in support of Kenya Defence Forces, Council of the EU (Brussels) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/24/european-peace-facility-council-adopts-the-first-ever-assistance-measure-in-support-of-kenya-defence-forces/>

On 25 June 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs signed an agreement with Serbia to increase cooperation on issues of migration and border management.<sup>4334</sup> This allows Frontex to deploy border guards to areas in Serbia and its borders to increase border security.

On 25 June 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the discussion for the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum at the European Migration Conference.<sup>4335</sup> The implementation of the Pact will set a common approach to managing immigration for the EU. It serves as a roadmap which will push EU countries to create their own implementation plans and provides stakeholders with a to-do list of top priorities.

On 26 June 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced key details of the “Priorities of the Home affairs funds” conference where representatives outlined the European Commission’s funding and policy plans for coming years.<sup>4336</sup> With the home affairs funds being nearly doubled recently, the conference provided an opportunity to signal successful techniques and proper fund management for projects supporting migration, border management, and organized crime.

On 26 June 2024, the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations announced the delivery of a mobile cargo scanner valued at EUR2.5 million to the Hungarian-Ukrainian border.<sup>4337</sup> This EU-funded scanner will improve the flow of trade while detecting prohibited items and speeding up border controls.

On 27 June 2024, President of the European Council Charles Michel highlighted the serious challenge of migration during his remarks following the European Council meeting.<sup>4338</sup> He highlighted the immense progress undertaken with the migration pact but drew attention to the need for more cooperation with third countries to address migration.

On 1 July 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the details of the meeting of the Focus Group of specialized prosecutors combating trafficking in human beings.<sup>4339</sup> The meeting convened EU and non-EU prosecutors to share experiences on the challenges and best practices for the prosecution of human trafficking cases.

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<sup>4334</sup> EU signs agreement with Serbia to strengthen collaboration in migration and border management, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-signs-agreement-serbia-strengthen-collaboration-migration-and-border-management-2024-06-25\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-signs-agreement-serbia-strengthen-collaboration-migration-and-border-management-2024-06-25_en)

<sup>4335</sup> European Migration Conference on the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-migration-conference-implementation-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-06-25\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-migration-conference-implementation-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-06-25_en)

<sup>4336</sup> European Commission helps EU-funded projects in migration, security, and borders strive for excellence, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-helps-eu-funded-projects-migration-security-and-borders-strive-excellence-2024-06-26\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-helps-eu-funded-projects-migration-security-and-borders-strive-excellence-2024-06-26_en)

<sup>4337</sup> Commission announces delivery of EU-funded scanner to increase capacity at Hungarian-Ukrainian border, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-announces-delivery-eu-funded-scanner-increase-capacity-hungarian-ukrainian-border-2024-06-26\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-announces-delivery-eu-funded-scanner-increase-capacity-hungarian-ukrainian-border-2024-06-26_en)

<sup>4338</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel following the European Council meeting of 27 June 2024, Council of the EU (Brussels) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/28/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-following-the-european-council-meeting-of-27-june-2024/>

<sup>4339</sup> Specialised anti-trafficking prosecutors meet for the third time to reinforce judicial cooperation, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/specialised-anti-trafficking-prosecutors-meet-third-time-reinforce-judicial-cooperation-2024-07-01\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/specialised-anti-trafficking-prosecutors-meet-third-time-reinforce-judicial-cooperation-2024-07-01_en)

On 5 July 2024, Eurojust announced coordinated efforts from Romanian and French law enforcement agencies to dismantle a human trafficking network.<sup>4340</sup> This transnational crime group operated in both France and Romania where authorities were able to apprehend the criminals with the support of Eurojust and Europol.

On 10 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the signing of a new agreement with the prosecution services of Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Peru to fight against organized crime.<sup>4341</sup> This increased collaboration between countries will work to disrupt transnational criminal activities, stop drug trafficking, and terrorism.

On 12 July 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the implementation of stronger EU rules to combat human trafficking with the revision of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive.<sup>4342</sup> These new changes make it easier for authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals and add a wider array of items that count as trafficking. Also, the changes will provide better assistance and support to victims of human trafficking.

On 19 July 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the increased funding of EUR50 million for Bulgaria and Cyprus to upgrade their sea border management technologies.<sup>4343</sup> EUR20 million will be allocated to Bulgaria to upgrade their surveillance system with new radars and cameras while EUR30 million will be provided for Cyprus to enhance their radar surveillance system. These upgrades will increase the capabilities of the European Border Surveillance system and allow border management agencies such as Frontex to better respond to issues at external borders.

On 30 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight individuals involved in migrant smuggling in an operation with the Romanian Police and Border Police.<sup>4344</sup> The operation benefited from cross-border cooperation between agencies that led to the successful dismantling of the organized criminal network that was smuggling Syria and Romanian nationals.

On 31 July 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the acceptance of Ireland's opt-in to participate in seven legislative instruments within the Pact on Migration and Asylum.<sup>4345</sup> This makes Ireland a participant in a joint European approach to managing migration in the EU through cooperation on policies on migration, asylum and integration. Ireland will receive operational and technical support from the European Commission and EU Agencies to support contributions to the common implementation plan.

On 1 August 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced key details on the EU Technical Support Instrument that will provide tailored guidance on asylum procedures, internal and

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<sup>4340</sup> Coordinated actions from Romanian and French authorities to stop a human trafficking network, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024.

<https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/actions-taken-stop-romanian-human-trafficking-network>

<sup>4341</sup> An important step against organised crime: Eurojust signs Working Arrangements with five Latin American countries, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024.

<https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/important-step-against-organised-crime-eurojust-signs-working-arrangements-five-latin-american>

<sup>4342</sup> Stronger EU rules to fight trafficking in human beings enter into force, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/stronger-eu-rules-fight-trafficking-human-beings-enter-force-2024-07-12\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/stronger-eu-rules-fight-trafficking-human-beings-enter-force-2024-07-12_en)

<sup>4343</sup> Bulgaria and Cyprus receive funding to upgrade external sea borders, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/bulgaria-and-cyprus-receive-funding-upgrade-external-sea-borders-2024-07-19\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/bulgaria-and-cyprus-receive-funding-upgrade-external-sea-borders-2024-07-19_en)

<sup>4344</sup> 8 arrested in Romania for smuggling migrants along Balkan route, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/8-arrested-in-romania-for-smuggling-migrants-along-balkan-route>

<sup>4345</sup> Ireland will participate in the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 13 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/ireland-will-participate-eu-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-07-31\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/ireland-will-participate-eu-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-07-31_en)

external migration management, resettlement, and the use of EU funds for nine EU Member States to support the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.<sup>4346</sup> The support instrument will assist in the operationalization of a common implementation plan for managing migration in the EU.

On 2 August 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 21 individuals suspected of smuggling Algerian and Syrian nationals into the EU in an operation by the Spanish National Police with support from Europol.<sup>4347</sup> The operation dismantled a transnational organized crime network spanning the EU through collaboration between agencies, disrupting the migrant smuggling route from Algeria to Spain.

On 6 August 2024, the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM) announced details on the second meeting of the Joint Committee with Libyan counterparts.<sup>4348</sup> Parties focused on the reinforcement of commitments with the EUBAM partnership to improve border management and expand the capabilities of Libyan authorities to counter cross-border crime.

On 21 August 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight suspected gang members involved in migrant smuggling by Bulgarian authorities supported by Europol.<sup>4349</sup> Four of the suspects were High Value Targets. The operation benefitted from the transnational collaboration between Bulgaria, Moldova, and Romania to raid suspected locations and dismantle a part of the organized criminal network smuggling migrants from Turkey into Bulgaria through the Western Balkan route.

On 3 September 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the detainment of 19 migrant smugglers in an operation with by law enforcement, supported by Europol.<sup>4350</sup> The operation was the result of cooperation on the investigation by Hungarian, Italian, Romanian, and Slovenian law enforcement authorities.

On 4 September 2024, the EUBAM in Libya announced details on a five-day training program facilitated by the EUBAM in Libya to enhance the operational capabilities of Libya's border agencies by improving information analysis and anti-corruption measures.<sup>4351</sup> This will improve border management in Libya and allow for legitimate cross-border movements.

On 9 September 2024, the European Commission and the Republic of Armenia announced the launch of a visa liberalisation dialogue, allowing for short visa-free stays in the EU.<sup>4352</sup> This will further efforts to support

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<sup>4346</sup> Nine EU countries receive technical support for the implementation of the Pact, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/nine-eu-countries-receive-technical-support-implementation-pact-2024-08-01\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/nine-eu-countries-receive-technical-support-implementation-pact-2024-08-01_en)

<sup>4347</sup> 21 arrested in Spain for smuggling Algerian and Syrian migrants into the EU, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Madrid) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/21-arrested-in-spain-for-smuggling-algerian-and-syrian-migrants-eu>

<sup>4348</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE REINFORCES EUBAM PARTNERSHIP WITH LIBYAN COUNTERPARTS, EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (Tripoli) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/2nd-meeting-joint-committee-reinforces-eubam-partnership-libyan-counterparts-tripoli-6-august-2024\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/2nd-meeting-joint-committee-reinforces-eubam-partnership-libyan-counterparts-tripoli-6-august-2024_en)

<sup>4349</sup> Four High Value Targets leading migrant smuggling ring arrested in Bulgaria, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Sofia) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/four-high-value-targets-leading-migrant-smuggling-ring-arrested-in-bulgaria>

<sup>4350</sup> 19 migrant smugglers detained in Romania, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Rome) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/19-migrant-smugglers-detained-in-romania>

<sup>4351</sup> Libya enhances border security through EUBAM training, EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (Tripoli) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/libya-enhances-border-security-through-eubam-training\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/libya-enhances-border-security-through-eubam-training_en)

<sup>4352</sup> EU and Armenia Launch Visa Liberalisation Dialogue, Delegation of the European Union to Armenia (Yerevan) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/armenia/eu-and-armenia-launch-visa-liberalisation-dialogue\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/armenia/eu-and-armenia-launch-visa-liberalisation-dialogue_en)



the security and management of travel documentation to counter organized crime involved with migration through EU-Armenia cooperation.

On 10 September 2024, the European Commissioner for Home Affairs and the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs announced details of a meeting discussing the cooperation between the EU and Egypt on migration.<sup>4353</sup> The meeting highlighted the success of Egypt in managing irregular migration and the importance of cooperation to establish a holistic and bilateral approach to border management and the return of migrants.

On 11 September 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the adoption of a harmonized list of supporting documents for visa applicants to the European Union from Mauritania between EU Member States.<sup>4354</sup> This will increase EU-Mauritania partnerships and dialogue on migration as well as increase border management cooperation between EU Member States.

On 17 September 2024, the European Border and Coastal Guard Agency and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees signed an agreement to enhance collaboration across Europe on border management and humanitarian issues through the exchange of expertise<sup>4355</sup> This will strengthen cooperation to improve border security and respond to migration challenges in Europe.

On 18 September 2024, Ambassador Katarína Mathernová and the Ukrainian First Deputy Head of the State Border Guard Service Volodymyr Nikiforenko jointly performed the handover of five advanced border surveillance systems acquired.<sup>4356</sup> This will allow increased efficiency and coverage for monitoring green borders in Ukraine, supporting integrated border management.

On 18 September 2024, the Vice-President of the European Commission announced that the European Union would allocate EUR14 million to the Canary Islands in Spain for the accommodation of the influx of migrants.<sup>4357</sup> This will enhance the capabilities of the Canary Islands to manage the external border of the EU.

On 20 September 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight migrant smugglers in an operation with Bulgarian, Greek, and Romanian authorities within the framework of the regional Operational Task Force.<sup>4358</sup> The dismantling of the criminal network smuggling Turkish nationals through Bulgaria and Serbia into south-western Europe benefitted from the joint cross-border actions of agencies facilitated by Europol.

On 25 September 2024, the EU's Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the launch of the European Judicial Organised Crime Network to enhance transnational judicial cooperation, involving special

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<sup>4353</sup> Joint Press Statement on the occasion of the official visit of Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson to Egypt, Delegation of the European Union to Egypt (Cairo) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 13 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-press-statement-occasion-official-visit-commissioner-home-affairs-ylva-johansson-egypt\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-press-statement-occasion-official-visit-commissioner-home-affairs-ylva-johansson-egypt_en)

<sup>4354</sup> The Commission adopts new rules simplifying visa applications for Mauritanian citizens, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-adopts-new-rules-simplifying-visa-applications-mauritanian-citizens-2024-09-11\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-adopts-new-rules-simplifying-visa-applications-mauritanian-citizens-2024-09-11_en)

<sup>4355</sup> Frontex Strengthens Cooperation with the UNHCR for Enhanced Border Management, Frontex (Geneva) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-strengthens-cooperation-with-unhcr-for-enhanced-border-management-11Bq4X>

<sup>4356</sup> Better vision for SBGS to prevent conventional and new threats at the green border, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Kyiv) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/better-vision-sbgs-prevent-conventional-and-new-threats-green-border\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/better-vision-sbgs-prevent-conventional-and-new-threats-green-border_en)

<sup>4357</sup> EU to allocate €14 million to help Canary Islands host migrants, Euronews (Santa Cruz de Tenerife) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/2024/09/18/eu-to-allocate-14-million-help-canary-islands-host-migrants>

<sup>4358</sup> 8 arrested for smuggling migrants across the Turkish-Bulgarian border, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Sofia) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/8-arrested-for-smuggling-migrants-across-turkish-bulgarian-border>

prosecutors from all EU Member States.<sup>4359</sup> This will address multifaceted criminal operations and uncover weaknesses in the system, improving the ability of EU Member States to prosecute criminal groups involved in migrants smuggling and human trafficking.

On 26 September 2024, the European Union transferred Video Spectral Comparator equipment and other border surveillance technologies to Immigration authorities at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.<sup>4360</sup> This supports the EU and International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) project to strengthen border management in Bangladesh, aiding in countering irregular migration and building institutional capacity for border security.

On 30 September 2024, the Head of the EU Delegation to Egypt announced EUR12.2 million in funding from the European Union for the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees initiative by the Government of Egypt and the United Nations.<sup>4361</sup> This will support migration challenges experienced by Egypt and contribute to the bilateral partnership between the EU and Egypt.

On 1 October 2024, the European External Action Service announced the details of Operation European Union Naval Force IRINI operation, indicating 98 suspect flights and 25 airports were monitored in September 2024, which is to be shared with FRONTEX and national authorities to disrupt migrant smuggling operations.<sup>4362</sup> This will allow border management agencies to better address trafficking operations and demonstrate enforcement efforts, contributing to the reduction of transnational organized crime in the Mediterranean.

On 3 October 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh announced details of a EUR12 million regional project to build human and institutional capacity for border management in the region, in partnership with the ICMPD, by providing training and supporting detection services that prevent irregular migration.<sup>4363</sup> This will improve efforts to counter transnational organized crime in the region, such as human trafficking, and prevent irregular departures.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers' Meeting committed to an action plan comprised of five dimensions, which aim at bolstering law enforcement and cooperation largely.<sup>4364</sup>

On 4 October 2024, the EU and the Government of Canada signed the "Agreement on the Transfer and Processing of Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data".<sup>4365</sup> The agreement legalizes the sharing of PNR

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<sup>4359</sup> European prosecutors join forces to systematically fight organised criminal groups in new network, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024.

<https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/european-prosecutors-join-forces-systemically-fight-organised-criminal-groups-new-network>

<sup>4360</sup> The European Union supports Bangladesh Integrated Border Management with Equipment to Strengthen Border Security, Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh (Dhaka) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security_en)

<sup>4361</sup> Official Launch of the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees, Delegation of the European Union to Egypt (Cairo) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/official-launch-joint-platform-migrants-and-refugees\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/official-launch-joint-platform-migrants-and-refugees_en)

<sup>4362</sup> EUNAVFOR MED IRINI Activity Report for September 2024, The Diplomatic Service of the European Union (Rome) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eunavfor-med-irini-activity-report-september-2024\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eunavfor-med-irini-activity-report-september-2024_en)

<sup>4363</sup> The European Union supports Bangladesh Integrated Border Management with Equipment to Strengthen Border Security, Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh (Dhaka) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security_en)

<sup>4364</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4365</sup> Canada and the European Union sign agreement to enhance border security, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/10/canada-and-the-european-union-sign-agreement-to-enhance-border-security.html>

information of passengers used in managing “pre-arrival risk assessments,” demonstrating partnerships between the EU and Canada.

On 7 October 2024, the European Commission adopted a proposal to digitize travel credentials for individuals travelling to and from the Schengen area.<sup>4366</sup> This will allow increased border security and efficiency through advance checks to reduce migrant smuggling, once adopted by the Council and European Parliament.

On 14 October 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna announced key information on the discussion at the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.<sup>4367</sup> Discussion included topics on smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, reiterating the EU’s commitment to continuing to work with partners to improve cross-border law enforcement, particularly with third countries.

On 17 October 2024, President Michel announced the success of the meeting of the European Council, reaffirming the determination of EU members to improve the control of EU borders and combat organized crime and human trafficking.<sup>4368</sup> President Michel noted convergent interests on border management and security amongst EU members.

On 19 October 2024, Ambassador Vesna Kos attended the European Parliamentary Association Event on EU-Council of Europe Cooperation.<sup>4369</sup> She called for greater collaboration between the Council of Europe and the EU on various issues, including migrant smuggling.

On 21 October 2024, the Diplomatic Service of the European Union announced the details of the fourth annual Strategic Consultation meeting between the EU and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.<sup>4370</sup> The meeting highlighted the intent for continued discussions on human rights and migration issues.

On 24 October 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 16 migrant smugglers in an operation with law enforcement authorities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>4371</sup> The operation benefited from transnational analytical, operational, and financial support between agencies to take down parts of a criminal network smuggling Bosnian nationals to Croatia across the Sava River.

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<sup>4366</sup> Commission proposes an EU Digital Travel application for easier and safer travel, European Commission (Strasbourg) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_5047](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5047)

<sup>4367</sup> EU Statement delivered at the opening of the Twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna (Vienna) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-delivered-opening-twelfth-session-conference-parties-united-nations-convention-against\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-delivered-opening-twelfth-session-conference-parties-united-nations-convention-against_en)

<sup>4368</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel at the press conference following the European Council meeting of 17 October 2024, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/17/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-at-the-press-conference-following-the-european-council-meeting-of-17-october-2024/>

<sup>4369</sup> EU Ambassador Participates in the European Parliamentary Association Event on EU-Council of Europe Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/eu-ambassador-participates-european-parliamentary-association-event-eu-council-europe-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/eu-ambassador-participates-european-parliamentary-association-event-eu-council-europe-cooperation_en)

<sup>4370</sup> Human Rights: EU and OHCHR held fourth annual Strategic Consultations, The Diplomatic Service of the European Union (Geneva) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/human-rights-eu-and-ohchr-held-fourth-annual-strategic-consultations\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/human-rights-eu-and-ohchr-held-fourth-annual-strategic-consultations_en)

<sup>4371</sup> 16 arrests as police target migrant smuggling across the Sava River, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Zagreb) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/16-arrests-police-target-migrant-smuggling-across-sava-river>

On 24 October 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 11 individuals with suspected involvement in migrant smuggling in an operation with the Polish Border Guard within the Europol Operational Task Force framework.<sup>4372</sup> This collaboration between agencies resulted in the dismantling of a criminal network of Polish and non-EU nationals, smuggling Belarusian and Russian nationals into the EU through Poland.

On 28 October 2024, the European Commission and the Ministry of Interior of North Macedonia signed an Administrative Arrangement to make North Macedonia an Observer Country in the European Migration Network and commit to collaborating in the network by exchanging current information on asylum and migration in North Macedonia.<sup>4373</sup> This will reinforce regional cooperation and allow for informed policymaking within EU institutions on migration, asylum, and border management.

On 28 October 2024, the European Commissioner for Justice and the Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina signed a cooperation agreement with the EU's agency for criminal justice cooperation, Eurojust, to increase coordination with EU judicial bodies.<sup>4374</sup> This will increase the efficiency of cross-border investigations and prosecutions on transnational organized crime and human trafficking, as well as the capacity for Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in investigations. It signals the integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the EU's framework of standards for judicial cooperation.

On 29 October 2024, the European Council announced the success of the meeting of the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs where commitments on joint efforts to counter transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking of migrants, and improving border management were reaffirmed.<sup>4375</sup> The meeting highlighted the importance of cross-border criminal justice cooperation to combat human trafficking and regional cooperation on border security.

On 5 November 2024, the Council of the European Union announced the adoption of an EU law that will regulate the conditions for criminal case proceedings to be transferred between member states.<sup>4376</sup> This will improve the ability of EU member states to combat cross-border crime, such as migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

On 6 November 2024, the International Criminal Police Organization announced the rescue of 3,200 potential victims of human trafficking and identified 17,800 irregular migrants in Operation Liberterra II, a global operation.<sup>4377</sup> The operation was coordinated by Interpol and supported by Europol, Frontex, EU4FAST, and others, along with projects funded by the European Commission, the EU, and other organizations. This

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<sup>4372</sup> Network smuggling migrants via Belarus busted in Poland, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Warsaw) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/network-smuggling-migrants-belarus-busted-in-poland>

<sup>4373</sup> North Macedonia becomes observer country to the European Migration Network, European Commission (Budva) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/north-macedonia-becomes-observer-country-european-migration-network-2024-10-28\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/north-macedonia-becomes-observer-country-european-migration-network-2024-10-28_en)

<sup>4374</sup> BiH signs Eurojust agreement on judicial cooperation with the EU, Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina & European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Budva) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/bih-signs-eurojust-agreement-judicial-cooperation-eu\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/bih-signs-eurojust-agreement-judicial-cooperation-eu_en)

<sup>4375</sup> Joint press statement EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs, Council of the European Union (Budva) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/29/joint-press-statement-eu-western-balkans-ministerial-forum-on-justice-and-home-affairs-budva-montenegro-28-29-october-2024/>

<sup>4376</sup> Fighting cross-border crime: Council adopts EU law about transfer proceedings, Council of the EU (Brussels) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/fighting-cross-border-crime-council-adopts-eu-law-about-transfer-of-proceedings/>

<sup>4377</sup> Global raids rescue 3,200 potential victims of trafficking and identify 17,800 irregular migrants, International Criminal Police Organization (Glasgow) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2024/Global-raids-rescue-3-200-potential-victims-of-trafficking-and-identify-17-800-irregular-migrants>

international effort benefitted from the joint cross-border coordination and cooperation to curb human trafficking and illegal migration.

On 12 November 2024, the Delegation of the EU to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina announced the donation of approximately EUR173,234 worth of IT equipment from the EU to the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the State Investigation and Protection Agency.<sup>4378</sup> This will enhance the capabilities of border security in Bosnia and Herzegovina through international cooperation.

On 14 November 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan announced key information on the discussion at the roundtable on transnational threats affecting the EU and Kazakhstan, exchanging strategies to strengthen border security and combat human trafficking.<sup>4379</sup> This was a major step in enhancing EU-Kazakhstan cooperation and collaboration to manage illegal migration and transnational organized crime.

On 14 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the arrest of a major supplier of small boats to migrant smugglers in a joint investigation facilitated by Eurojust and Europol between Belgian, UK, and Dutch authorities.<sup>4380</sup> The investigation benefitted from the cross-border cooperation between agencies, as part of an effort to combat migrant smuggling in the English Channel. On

16 November 2024, the European Parliament announced that a provisional deal had been reached with the European Council on the 2025 EU budget, allocating an additional EUR10 million to border management projects and an additional EUR2 million to the Asylum and Migration Pact.<sup>4381</sup> This will improve the implementation of commitments to enhance border security and manage migration in the EU.

On 19 November 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to Albania announced the adoption of a Security and Defence partnership between the EU and Albania.<sup>4382</sup> This will strengthen EU-Albania cooperation on integrated border management, promoting increased border security.

On 19 November 2024, the Diplomatic Service of the European Union announced the signing of a Security and Defence partnership between the EU and North Macedonia.<sup>4383</sup> This will strengthen EU-North Macedonia cooperation on integrated border management, promoting increased border security.

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<sup>4378</sup> European Union donates IT equipment to Border Police BiH and SIPA, Delegation of the EU to Bosnia and Herzegovina & EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-donates-it-equipment-border-police-bih-and-sipa\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/european-union-donates-it-equipment-border-police-bih-and-sipa_en)

<sup>4379</sup> Astana Hosted a Roundtable on Transnational Threats Affecting the EU and Kazakhstan, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan (Astana) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan_en)

<sup>4380</sup> Supplier of small boats to human smugglers arrested, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Amsterdam) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/supplier-small-boats-human-smugglers-arrested>

<sup>4381</sup> EU Budget 2025 deal: EP reinforces EU programmes and manages borrowing costs, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 16 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20241111IPR25334/eu-budget-2025-deal-ep-reinforces-eu-programmes-and-manages-borrowing-costs>

<sup>4382</sup> Albania: New Security and Defence Partnership with the EU to strengthen capabilities and cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Albania (Tirane) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/albania/albania-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/albania/albania-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation_en)

<sup>4383</sup> North Macedonia: New Security and Defence Partnership with the EU to strengthen capabilities and cooperation, The Diplomatic Service of the European Union (Skopje) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/north-macedonia-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/north-macedonia-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation_en)

On 21 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 25 migrant smugglers in a joint investigation by Germany, Austria, Bosnia, Herzegovina, the Netherlands, Poland, Serbia, the UK, and other European states, within the framework of a Europol Operational Task Force.<sup>4384</sup> The dismantling of the criminal network spanning 20 countries into the EU benefitted from the cross-border collaboration between countries and the Joint Investigation Team facilitated by Europol to organize judicial cooperation.

On 25 November 2024, the EUBAM in Libya announced the completion of a Risk Management Training program in partnership between the Libyan Customs Authority and EUBAM.<sup>4385</sup> The program aimed to enhance border management and security through cross-border cooperation.

On 28 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 26 migrant smugglers and the seizure of EUR11 million in assets in an investigation by France supported by Luxembourg, Portugal, the UK, and other EU and non-EU states, in the Indian subcontinent.<sup>4386</sup> The dismantling of the migrant smuggling criminal network spanning the Indian subcontinent, the UK, and North America benefitted from the cross-border cooperation facilitated by Europol.

On 11 December 2024, the European Commission proposed measures to strengthen border security and counter hybrid threats, particularly at the EU's external borders with Russia and Belarus.<sup>4387</sup> Additionally, the EU will allocate EUR170 million to enhance border surveillance, improve telecommunication networks, deploy mobile detection equipment and counter drone intrusions at the borders with Russia and Belarus.

On 12 December 2024, the European Council announced the adoption of two new regulations for air passengers arriving in the EU, with airlines having to provide all passenger information to authorities before passenger arrival to allow for advance checks.<sup>4388</sup> This will improve the EU's border security and ability to fight transnational crime.

On 13 December 2024, Europol announced the arrest of 796 people in connection with organized crimes such as human trafficking and migrant smuggling as part of the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats Joint Action Days South East Europe 2024.<sup>4389</sup> The operation benefitted from cross-border cooperation between 26 countries, coordinating numerous investigations and arrests to combat transnational organized crime.

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<sup>4384</sup> 25 arrests in EU-wide operation against Syrian migrant smuggling network, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Berlin) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/25-arrests-in-eu-wide-operation-against-syrian-migrant-smuggling-network>

<sup>4385</sup> EUBAM Libya supports Libyan Customs Authority to Strengthen National Staff's Capabilities, EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (Tripoli) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/eubam-libya-supports-libyan-customs-authority-strengthen-national-staff's-capabilities\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/eubam-libya-supports-libyan-customs-authority-strengthen-national-staff's-capabilities_en)

<sup>4386</sup> France arrests 26 for smuggling migrants from Indian sub-continent, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Paris) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/france-arrests-26-for-smuggling-migrants-indian-sub-continent>

<sup>4387</sup> Commission proposes measures to strengthen border security and counter hybrid threats, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://commission.europa.eu/news/commission-proposes-measures-strengthen-border-security-and-counter-hybrid-threats-2024-12-11\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/news/commission-proposes-measures-strengthen-border-security-and-counter-hybrid-threats-2024-12-11_en)

<sup>4388</sup> Passenger information: EU adopts regulations to improve border security and fight terrorism, Council of the European Union (Strasbourg) 12 December 2024. Access date: 28 January 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/12/passenger-information-eu-adopts-regulations-to-improve-border-security-and-fight-terrorism/>

<sup>4389</sup> 796 arrests in massive EU action against organized crime, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Sarajevo) 13 December 2024. Access date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/796-arrests-in-massive-eu-action-against-organised-crime>

On 16 December 2024, the Head of the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina Luigi Soreca allocated EUR1.1 million to Bosnia and Herzegovina to enhance border infrastructure and inter-agency cooperation.<sup>4390</sup> This will improve the efficiency of border management and aid in combatting irregular migration.

On 19 December 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan released details on the roundtable on transnational threats affecting the EU and Kazakhstan. Discussions centered on security concerns such as human trafficking and migrant smuggling, reaffirming the need for cross-border collaboration through joint efforts.<sup>4391</sup> This strengthens the commitment between the EU and Kazakhstan to cooperate on issues of migration and security.

On 23 January 2025, Europol announced the dismantling of an international human trafficking network in Hungary and Germany in a joint operation by the German Criminal Inspectorate and the Hungarian National Bureau of Investigation THB Unit with support from Europol.<sup>4392</sup> The operation benefitted from the coordination between agencies, facilitated by Europol, to combat international human trafficking.

On 27 January 2025, Europol announced the arrest of 30 human traffickers involved in a Chinese criminal organization in Spain and Croatia, in an operation conducted by the Spanish National Police and the Croatian National Police as part of a Europol taskforce.<sup>4393</sup> This investigation benefitted from cross-border cooperation between experts and agencies, to combat illegal immigration and human trafficking.

On 3 February 2025, Europol announced the expansion of the Secure Information Exchange Network Application from 3000 to 3500 partner.<sup>4394</sup> This enhances the cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies as well as provides tools to better combat transnational crime, strengthening the capabilities of the European Union to increase security.

On 6 February 2025, the Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation released details on the first meeting of the General Directors of Criminal Investigations and Intelligence involving Europol, the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, GCCPOL, and EU member states, with discussions centering on shared security concerns such as human trafficking.<sup>4395</sup> This aided in enhancing cross-border cooperation on tackling transnational crime networks involved in human trafficking, through the exchange of expertise.

On 7 February 2025, the Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation released details on the Industry and Research Days organized by Europol, allowing national law enforcement officials and Europol to connect with

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<sup>4390</sup> The EU supports BiH Border Police with additional equipment worth £1.1 million, Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina & European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo) 16 December 2024. Access date: 10 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/eu-supports-bih-border-police-additional-equipment-worth-%E2%82%AC11-million\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/eu-supports-bih-border-police-additional-equipment-worth-%E2%82%AC11-million_en)

<sup>4391</sup> Astana Hosts a Roundtable on Transnational Threats Affecting the EU and Kazakhstan, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan (Astana) 19 December 2024. Access date: 28 January 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan-0_en)

<sup>4392</sup> Violent human traffickers halted in Germany and Hungary, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 23 January 2025. Access date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/violent-human-traffickers-halted-in-germany-and-hungary>

<sup>4393</sup> 30 arrested in crackdown on Chinese human trafficking ring in Spain and Croatia, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 27 January 2025. Access date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/30-arrested-in-crackdown-chinese-human-trafficking-ring-in-spain-and-croatia>

<sup>4394</sup> Casting a wider net: 3500 authorities now linked via Europol, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 3 February 2025. Access date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/casting-wider-net-3-500-authorities-now-linked-europol>

<sup>4395</sup> First meeting of the GCC-European Directors General of Criminal Investigations, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Abu Dhabi) 6 February 2025. Access date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/first-meeting-of-gcc-european-directors-general-of-criminal-investigations>

the newest advancements in security technology, contributing to the Europol Tool Repository.<sup>4396</sup> This allows access to innovative tools that aid in border security and management for countries across Europe through cross-border collaboration.

On 10 February 2025, the Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation released details on the national workshop on principles of Integrated Border Management Strategy organized by the EU-funded Border Management Programme in Central Asia hosted in Turkmenistan.<sup>4397</sup> These workshops aimed to familiarize Turkmenistan state institutions involved in border security and migration control on the integrated approach. The workshop aids in addressing the role of national agencies in combatting cross-border crime, illegal migration, and human trafficking.

On 13 February 2025, the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya announced that fourteen members of the Libyan border security authorities participated in a training program run by the European Union Border Assistance Mission in Libya.<sup>4398</sup> This will improve Libya's integrated border management and security capabilities.

On 14 February 2025, the Delegation for the European Union to Ukraine announced the allocation of equipment to Ukraine's State Customs Service with ten Automated Weighing Wireless Systems and training on their use as part of the EU Support in Strengthening Integrated Border Management in Ukraine project.<sup>4399</sup> This allows the enhancement of border security and the simplification of the customs process by linking vehicle information to its weight data.

On 21 February 2025, Europol announced that it had halted an international criminal organization forging official documents in Poland and Ukraine in an operation by the Polish Border Guards with support from Europol.<sup>4400</sup> This operation benefitted from cross-border cooperation between agencies to end an organized crime group facilitating illegal immigration and migrant smuggling.

On 25 February 2025, Frontex's Executive Director Hans Leijten and European Commission's Acting Director-General for Migration and Home Affairs, Beate Gminder, signed a working arrangement to strengthen cooperation in migration management.<sup>4401</sup> The agreement focused on enhancing information sharing about migration patterns across the EU, strengthening the Migration Preparedness and Crisis Blueprint Network, and supporting the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

On 23 February 2025, the Delegation of the European Union to Jordan announced that the EU funded Integrated Border Management Training Centre in Aqaba had been officially handed over to Jordanian

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<sup>4396</sup> Europol hosts its second Industry and Research Days, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 7 February 2025. Access date: 10 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/europol-hosts-its-second-industry-and-research-days>

<sup>4397</sup> Turkmenistan hosts national workshop on principles of Integrated Border Management Strategy, Delegation of the European Union in Turkmenistan (Ashgabat) 10 February 2025. Access date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/turkmenistan/turkmenistan-hosts-national-workshop-principles-integrated-border-management-strategy\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/turkmenistan/turkmenistan-hosts-national-workshop-principles-integrated-border-management-strategy_en)

<sup>4398</sup> EUBAM Enhances Libyan Border Security with Intensive Training, EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (Tripoli) 13 February 2025. Access date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/eubam-enhances-libyan-border-security-intensive-training\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/eubam-enhances-libyan-border-security-intensive-training_en)

<sup>4399</sup> EU Strengthens Ukraine's Customs Control with Advanced Dynamic Weighing Technology, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Kyiv) 14 February 2025. Access date: 16 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-strengthens-ukraine%E2%80%99s-customs-control-advanced-dynamic-weighing-technology\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/eu-strengthens-ukraine%E2%80%99s-customs-control-advanced-dynamic-weighing-technology_en)

<sup>4400</sup> Criminal group forging over 12000 official documents halted in Poland, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Warsaw) 21 February 2025. Access date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/criminal-group-forging-over-12-000-official-documents-halted-in-poland>

<sup>4401</sup> Commission and Frontex sign working arrangement to strengthen cooperation on migration management, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-and-frontex-sign-working-arrangement-strengthen-cooperation-migration-management-2025-03-04\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-and-frontex-sign-working-arrangement-strengthen-cooperation-migration-management-2025-03-04_en)



authorities.<sup>4402</sup> This project is part of a new Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership that will enhance capacity for border management in Jordan and security cooperation between agencies in the EU and Jordan.

On 25 February 2025, the Europol announced the conclusions from the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group with members of the European Parliament, discussing Europol's progress and further efforts to curb migrant smuggling.<sup>4403</sup> This report underscores the EU's commitment to and progress towards countering irregular migration and migrant smuggling.

On 28 February 2025, the Europol announced the results of an international operational action targeted at detecting and dismantling human trafficking networks focused on exploiting Ukrainian nationals.<sup>4404</sup> This action benefitted from transnational cooperation between twelve countries, facilitated by Europol and focused on disrupting networks using online platforms.

On 3 March 2025, the Europol announced that Frontex's Executive Director and the European Commission's Acting Director-General for Migration and Home Affairs have signed an agreement to strengthen a partnership on migration management.<sup>4405</sup> This transnational cooperation will improve coordination for migrant crises and enhance border management.

On 5 March 2025, the Council of the European Union announced that it has established an approach to introduce an entry and exit digital border management system in member states.<sup>4406</sup> This will enhance border security by recording information on non-EU nationals entering and exiting member states.

On 6 March 2025, the Europol announced the signing of an agreement between the European Union and Brazil to increase cooperation between the Europol and Brazilian authorities through exchanging operational information.<sup>4407</sup> This will improve partnerships for curbing transnational organized crime and human trafficking.

On 14 March 2025, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas and the G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, following the 2024 G7 Action Plan.<sup>4408</sup> This will enhance cooperation between member states to curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling.

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<sup>4402</sup> EU-Funded IBM Training Centre in Aqaba Officially Handed Over to Jordanian Authorities, Delegation of the European Union to Jordan (Aqaba) 23 February 2025. Access date: 10 March 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/jordan/eu-funded-ibm-training-centre-aqaba-officially-handed-over-jordanian-authorities\\_en?s=201](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/jordan/eu-funded-ibm-training-centre-aqaba-officially-handed-over-jordanian-authorities_en?s=201)

<sup>4403</sup> Europol engages with European lawmakers at the 16<sup>th</sup> JPSG meeting in Warsaw, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Warsaw) 25 February 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/europol-engages-european-lawmakers-16th-jpsg-meeting-in-warsaw>

<sup>4404</sup> Digital sprint to disrupt sexual exploitation of Ukrainian nationals, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 28 February 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/digital-sprint-to-disrupt-sexual-exploitation-of-ukrainian-nationals>

<sup>4405</sup> Frontex signs working arrangement with the European Commission to Strengthen Cooperation on Migration Management, European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Warsaw) 5 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-signs-working-arrangement-with-the-european-commission-to-strengthen-cooperation-on-migration-management-FFUOUf>

<sup>4406</sup> Council establishes position for the progressive launch of a new digital border management system, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 5 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/05/council-establishes-position-for-the-progressive-launch-of-a-new-digital-border-management-system/>

<sup>4407</sup> EU and Brazil sign international agreement to fight organised crime and terrorism, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 6 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/eu-and-brazil-sign-international-agreement-to-fight-organised-crime-and-terrorism>

<sup>4408</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

On 20 March 2025, the Europol announced the arrest of 7 migrant smugglers operating in the English Channel.<sup>4409</sup> This operation benefited from cooperation between authorities in Belgium, Germany, Italy, Eurojust and Europol to dismantle the network smuggling Middle Eastern and East African migrants.

On 21 March 2025, the Europol announced that it had helped dismantle a criminal network that had smuggled migrants from Spain to France in a joint operation with the French National Police and the Spanish National Police.<sup>4410</sup> The operation benefited from the cross-border cooperation facilitated by Europol to make arrests and seize vehicles.

On 27 March 2025, the Council of the European Union announced details of the 20<sup>th</sup> EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting.<sup>4411</sup> The meeting reaffirmed commitments to joint cooperation against organized crime, migrant smuggling, human trafficking and the continued implementation of the Border Management Programme in Central Asia.

On 2 April 2025, the European Parliament announced the adoption of the priorities for the 2026 EU budget, emphasizing investments in migration, border security and increased implementation of the Asylum and Migration Pact.<sup>4412</sup> This reaffirms past commitments by EU members towards border management and humane conditions for migrants.

On 4 April 2025, the Delegation of the European Union to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva announced that senior officials from the International Organization for Migration and the European Union had met for the Eleventh Strategic Cooperation Meeting on Migration under the EU-IOM Strategic Cooperation Framework.<sup>4413</sup> They reaffirmed commitments to strengthening migration management policies to curb illegal migration, migrant smuggling, and human trafficking.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of enhancing cooperation by promoting a three-pronged approach, in partnership with countries of origin and transit, focusing on efforts to enhance border management and enforcement and curb transnational organized crime involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking of persons. The EU has demonstrated strong actions in both commitment dimensions and enhanced cooperation through the building of partnerships in each dimension. It has facilitated partnerships to counter migrant smuggling and participated in operations that dismantle transnational organized crime. Enhancing border security by participating in forums and training programs, that increase border management capabilities. The EU has provided, alongside partnerships with countries of origin and transit, surveillance technologies, training, and supports for commitments to increase border security and counter transnational organized crime. Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maya Tran*

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<sup>4409</sup> 7 arrests for facilitating migrant smuggling across the English Channel, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 20 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/7-arrested-for-facilitating-migrant-smuggling-across-english-channel>

<sup>4410</sup> Network smuggling migrants between Spain and France busted in Marseille, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Marseille) 21 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/network-smuggling-migrants-between-spain-and-france-busted-in-marseille>

<sup>4411</sup> Joint communiqué – 20<sup>th</sup> EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting, Council of the European Union (Ashgabat) 27 March 2025. Access date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/27/joint-communique-20th-eu-central-asia-ministerial-meeting/>

<sup>4412</sup> EU budget priorities for 2026: resilience and preparedness, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 2 April 2025. Access date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250331IPR27554/eu-budget-priorities-for-2026-resilience-and-preparedness>

<sup>4413</sup> EU, IOM Senior Officials in Brussels for Eleventh Strategic Cooperation Meeting on Migration, Delegation of the European Union to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva (Brussels) 4 April 2025. Access date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-iom-senior-officials-brussels-eleventh-strategic-cooperation-meeting-migration\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-iom-senior-officials-brussels-eleventh-strategic-cooperation-meeting-migration_en)

## 19. Migration and Refugees: Preventing Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking

“In line with the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, we will also strengthen our actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.”

*G7 Apulia Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

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

### Background

Both human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants have been consistently addressed in the G7 agenda. However, while both terms are related to migratory flows, they refer to two distinct phenomena. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees defines “smuggling of migrants” as the facilitation of a person’s illegal entry into a state<sup>4414</sup> and distinguishes that “trafficking in persons” is the intention to exploit the individual concerned.<sup>4415</sup> At the 2024 Apulia Summit, the G7 acknowledged the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and committed to strengthening actions to tackle the organized criminal networks that derive profit from migrant smuggling and human trafficking.<sup>4416</sup> To this end, the G7 has closely worked with the United Nations since the 2000 Okinawa Summit, where leaders promoted the UNTOC to counter migrant smuggling. At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, the G7 partnered with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to combat transnational organized crime, including human trafficking. Thus, cooperation has been central to discussions surrounding this issue. Highlights on G7 action relating to this commitment follow.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders committed to act against the trafficking and smuggling of migrants, particularly of women and children.<sup>4417</sup> Leaders also committed to joining efforts to deter trafficking, protect victims, and take legal action against criminal facilitating enterprises.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders supported the implementation of the United Nations Transnational Organized Crime Convention and other associated protocols on weapons trafficking and people smuggling.<sup>4418</sup> This was an effort to develop effective legislation against transnational organized crime. Leaders also stated the importance of acting against individuals who profit from facilitating irregular migration and human trafficking.

<sup>4414</sup> People Smuggling, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 16 September 2024.

<https://www.unhcr.org/what-we-do/protect-human-rights/asylum-and-migration/people-smuggling>

<sup>4415</sup> What is Human Trafficking, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 16 September 2024.

<https://help.unhcr.org/iran/en/more-information/what-is-human-trafficking/>

<sup>4416</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4417</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 4 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>4418</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 4 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders committed to fight against transnational organized crime, supporting the efforts towards tackling human trafficking.<sup>4419</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Summit, G8 leaders committed to enhancing cooperation to counter human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.<sup>4420</sup>

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders affirmed their commitment to endorse measures of technical support in countries that face destabilizing threats such as human trafficking.<sup>4421</sup>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of cooperating to address international challenges such as human trafficking and organized crime.<sup>4422</sup>

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders committed to putting an end to the trafficking of women and girls.<sup>4423</sup>

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders committed to assisting regional and international organizations working with countries to strengthen the security of their borders and counter transnational organized crime and human trafficking.<sup>4424</sup> Leaders also acknowledged the efforts of the UNODC on this issue.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to fighting against the trafficking of migrants, and to identifying and hindering human trafficking.<sup>4425</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their intention to cooperate with countries of origin, transit, and destination to combat the smuggling of migrants, modern slavery, and ensure the safety of victims of human trafficking.<sup>4426</sup> Leaders also expressed their concern about the increase in human trafficking in Libya. Leaders remained supportive of regional organizations in Africa and their actions to tackle human trafficking.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders recognized the importance of nations protecting migrants and implementing mechanisms such as increasing law enforcement collaboration and border controls, which are crucial to counter human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants.<sup>4427</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders stressed the importance of taking action to eliminate human trafficking and urged the international community to fight against this abuse of human rights.<sup>4428</sup>

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<sup>4419</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>4420</sup> G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

<sup>4421</sup> G8 Declaration on Counter Terrorism, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 2009. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-counterterrorism.html>

<sup>4422</sup> G8/Africa Joint Declaration: Shared Values, Shared Responsibilities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-africa-en.html>

<sup>4423</sup> Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

<sup>4424</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communiqué.html>

<sup>4425</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Summit (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4426</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4427</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqué.html>

<sup>4428</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqué.html>

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders recognized the need to fight against human trafficking and smuggling of migrants and committed to increasing their efforts to combat this issue.<sup>4429</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to strengthening their actions to hinder the operating schemes of organized criminal networks by upsetting the supply chains of human traffickers and migrant smugglers.<sup>4430</sup> Leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to fight against transnational organized crime and human trafficking.

At the 2022 Apulia Summit, leaders committed that “in line with the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, we will also strengthen our actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.”<sup>4431</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment can be understood as having four components. G7 members have committed to take action to 1) prevent, 2) counter and 3) dismantle organized criminal networks engaged in the smuggling of migrants and trafficking of persons. As well, members have committed to 4) disrupting the business models of these criminal organizations.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Actions” is understood to mean an “accomplishment of a thing usually over a period of time, in stages, or with the possibility of repetition.”<sup>4432</sup>

“Business model of transnational criminal networks” is understood to mean a structured method, which incorporates strategies used by these organizations to facilitate, and enhance their illicit activities across borders. Those models tend to mirror legitimate business operations, focusing on supply and demand, market expansion, and profit maximization, but within the realm of illegal goods and services.<sup>4433</sup>

“Counter” is understood to mean “to meet attacks or arguments with defensive or retaliatory steps.”<sup>4434</sup>

“Disrupt” is understood to mean “to interrupt the normal course or unity of.”<sup>4435</sup>

“Dismantle” is understood to mean to “destroy the integrity or functioning of.”<sup>4436</sup> In the context of this commitment, this relates to “destroying the integrity and functioning of” smuggling and trafficking infrastructure.

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<sup>4429</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

<sup>4430</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communication.html>

<sup>4431</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>4432</sup> Action, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/action>

<sup>4433</sup> Adapted from United Nations on Drugs and Crime, E4J University Module Series: Organized Crime, n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2024. <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/organized-crime/module-7/key-issues/enterprise-or-business-model.html>

<sup>4434</sup> Counter, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/counter>

<sup>4435</sup> Disrupt, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/disrupt>

<sup>4436</sup> Dismantle, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dismantle>

“Organised Crime” is understood to mean “a group of professional criminals who work together as part of a powerful and secret organization.”<sup>4437</sup>

“Prevent” is understood to mean “to deprive of power or hope of acting or succeeding.”<sup>4438</sup>

“Smuggling” is understood to mean “to move individuals from one country to another secretly and illegally.”<sup>4439</sup>

“Strengthen” is understood to mean “to make stronger.”<sup>4440</sup>

“Trafficking in persons” is understood to mean “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”<sup>4441</sup>

“UNTOC and its protocols” are understood to refer to the convention adopted by General Assembly of United Nations resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, it represents one of the main international instruments in the fight against transnational organized crime. The convention has been enhanced by multiple Protocols focusing on dedicated challenges.<sup>4442</sup>

### **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action in all four commitment dimensions specified in the UNTOC and its protocols, with actions towards organized criminal networks that:

1. Prevent: Such measures may involve regulatory policies, awareness programs, and community initiatives to reduce the appeal or feasibility of joining or forming such networks.
2. Counter: Such measures can include law enforcement actions, legal prosecutions, intelligence gathering, and resource allocation to mitigate the activities of existing criminal organizations.
3. Dismantle Networks: Such action may involve specific operations to arrest leaders, seize assets, and disrupt internal communication channels, effectively rendering the network non-functional.
4. Disrupt Business Models: Such actions can involve asset seizures, preventing money laundering, and making it more difficult for these networks to sustain profitable illegal enterprises.

Examples of strong actions to strengthen data exchange include entering intelligence sharing agreements, signing mutual legal assistance agreements, and strengthening cooperation with international organizations, such as Interpol, to this end. Examples of strong actions to strengthen financial investigation include improving anti-money laundering laws to the end of dismantling organized crime, strengthening domestic anti-corruption mechanisms through funding or training, pursuing parallel financial investigations, and enhancing cooperation

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<sup>4437</sup> Organised Crime, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/organized%20crime>

<sup>4438</sup> Prevent, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prevent>

<sup>4439</sup> Adapted from Smuggle, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/smuggle>

<sup>4440</sup> Strengthen, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/strengthen>

<sup>4441</sup> What is Trafficking in Persons?, International Organization for Migration (Grand-Saconnex) n.d. Access Date: 17 September 2024. <https://indonesia.iom.int/what-trafficking-persons>

<sup>4442</sup> Adapted from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. n.d. Access Date: 10 October 2024. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/UNTOC.html>

on asset confiscation. Examples of strong actions to strengthen awareness raising include undertaking robust public awareness campaigns. In order to assess compliance with this commitment separately from Commitment 18 (Migration and Refugees: Border Management), law enforcement actions and arrests made at the border are excluded from this commitment.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action in between one and three commitment dimensions, or weak action in at least two dimensions. Examples of weak action include discussions on tackling smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, statements of support, and general restatements of the commitment.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that fail to take any action, take only weak action in just one dimension, or take action that is contradictory to the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not taken any action to prevent, counter, dismantle networks or disrupt business models, the G7 member has taken only weak action in one dimension or the G7 member has taken action contradictory to the commitment.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action in between one and three of the four commitment dimensions: to prevent, to counter, to dismantle networks, or to disrupt business models, as they relate to migrant smuggling and trafficking, or the G7 member has taken weak action in at least three of these dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has strong action in all four commitment dimensions: to prevent, to counter, to dismantle networks, and to disrupt business models, as they relate to migrant smuggling and trafficking.

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*Lead Analyst: Anali Arambula Galindo*

### Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 12 July 2024, Canadian Ministers met with US officials at the 2024 US-Canada Cross Border Crime Forum to discuss their commitment to bolster partnerships in law enforcement, national security and trafficking.<sup>4443</sup> The US and Canada reiterated their commitment to optimizing information sharing regarding law enforcement and intelligence to combat transnational organized crime.

On 18 September 2024, the Government amended its Criminal Code on the Offences Against the Person and Reputation focusing on Kidnapping, Trafficking in Persons, Hostage Taking and Abduction section C-15 to counter trafficking with a focus to counter sexual exploitation of children involving the internet.<sup>4444</sup>

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4445</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication

<sup>4443</sup> The 2024 U.S.–Canada Cross Border Crime Forum (CBCF), Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/07/the-2024-uscanada-cross-border-crime-forum-cbcf.html>

<sup>4444</sup> Offences Against the Person and Reputation (continued): Kidnapping, Trafficking in Persons, Hostage Taking and Abduction (continued), Justice Laws Website (n/a) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-46/page-43.html>

<sup>4445</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 4 October 2024, the Government of Canada and the European Union announced their signing of the Agreement on the Transfer and Processing of Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data.<sup>4446</sup> This agreement provides a legal basis for PNR data exchange for flights incoming to Canada from countries in the EU to increase the countering and preventing measures against human trafficking.

On 17 October 2024, the RCMP announced a successful operation alongside the US Federal Bureau of Investigation that targeted a Mexican drug cartel network which trafficked drugs to North America.<sup>4447</sup> The operation resulted in many arrests in the US and Canada, along with drug seizures, indicating their strong commitment to stopping trafficking across borders.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4448</sup>

On 17 December 2024, Minister of Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Marc Miller and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Ya'ara Saks published Canada's Border Plan, which is supported by a CAD1.3 billion investment.<sup>4449</sup> The plan proposes strengthening intelligence sharing between domestic authorities and international partners such as the United States. The plan aims to dismantle transnational organised crime by blocking their access to the profits resulting from people smuggling.

On 3 January 2025, Minister of Public Safety David McGuinty announced that the federal government will begin exercises with the Canadian provinces and territories, starting with Ontario, to further enhance their efforts to address border affairs.<sup>4450</sup> The exercise is an addition to Canada's CAD 1.3 billion Border Plan, aimed at improving the Canada Border Services Agency and the RCMP's prevention abilities against both drug and migrant trafficking.

On 4 February 2025, Minister McGuinty, announced further measures to expand the CAD 1.3 billion Border Plan released in December.<sup>4451</sup> The new measures include the launch of the Canada-US Joint Strike Force and the 24/7 border surveillance to increase efforts to dismantle organized crime.

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<sup>4446</sup> Canada and the European Union sign agreement to enhance border security, Canada Border Services Agency (Ottawa) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2024/10/canada-and-the-european-union-sign-agreement-to-enhance-border-security.html>

<sup>4447</sup> Significant transnational organized crime group disrupted by RCMP, FBI and police across Canada and the Americas, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Ottawa) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://rcmp.ca/en/news/2024/10/significant-transnational-organized-crime-group-disrupted-rcmp-fbi-and-police-across-canada-and>

<sup>4448</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4449</sup> Government of Canada announces its plan to strengthen border security and our immigration system, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-announces-its-plan-to-strengthen-border-security-and-our-immigration-system.html>

<sup>4450</sup> Government of Canada announces border security exercises with provinces and territories, starting with Ontario, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 3 January 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2025/01/government-of-canada-announces-border-security-exercises-with-provinces-and-territories-starting-with-ontario.html>

<sup>4451</sup> Government of Canada expands plan to strengthen border security, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 21 February 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2025/02/government-of-canada-expands-plan-to-strengthen-border-security.html>



On 14 March 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly issued a joint statement alongside the G7 foreign ministers, reaffirming the G7's commitment to maritime security and combating illegal maritime crimes.<sup>4452</sup> These commitments include combating human trafficking.

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. Canada has taken strong action to both prevent and counter migrant smuggling but has not adequately addressed the dismantling of criminal networks or the disruption of these networks' business models.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: TianTian Dong*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 5 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) announced the seizure of a human trafficking network operating in France and Romania.<sup>4453</sup> The French authorities, aided by Eurojust and Europol, collaborated with the Romanian authorities to successfully track down and arrest the suspected members of the trafficking group that had been smuggling Romanian women into France for sexual exploitation.

On 30 September 2024, Political Coordinator for France at the United Nations Isis Jaraud Darnault reaffirmed France's commitment to fight against human trafficking in the Mediterranean, closely collaborating with the African Union (AU) and the United Nations through the EU/AU/UN task force.<sup>4454</sup> France aims to assist Libya to tackle trafficking organisms by enhancing coordination between EU member states and endorsing the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration.

On 1 October 2024, Prime Minister Michel Barnier outlined the French government's stance on immigration moving forward.<sup>4455</sup> He affirmed that France will impose stricter measures to control immigration, such as lengthening the maximum holding time of irregular immigrants to facilitate their exit from the country, improving border security through collaboration with countries of origin and transit, imposing harsher sentences for individuals involved in smuggling and trafficking, and re-establishing border checks. This initiative shows France's commitment to countering migrant smuggling and trafficking.

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<sup>4452</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4453</sup> Coordinated actions from Romanian and French authorities to stop a human trafficking network, Eurojust (The Hague) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/actions-taken-stop-romanian-human-trafficking-network>

<sup>4454</sup> Libya: France continues to take action to prevent tragedies in the Mediterranean, Mission Permanente de la France Auprès des Nations Unies à New York (New York) 1 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 14 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/libya-france-continues-to-take-action-to-prevent-tragedies-in-the-mediterranean>

<sup>4455</sup> Déclaration de politique générale de M. Michel Barnier, Premier ministre, sur la feuille de route gouvernementale en matière de niveau de vie, de logement, de sécurité et d'immigration, ainsi que sur la réduction des dettes budgétaire et écologique, à l'Assemblée nationale le 1er octobre 2024, Direction de l'information légale et administrative (Paris) 3 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/295574-michel-barnier-01102024-declare-politique-generale-assemblee-nationale>

On 4 October 2024, the Minister of the Interior Bruno Retailleau and Italian Minister of the Interior Matteo Piantedosi signed a document indicating their determination to share information about migrant trafficking.<sup>4456</sup> The governments intend to investigate and take down criminal migrant trafficking networks.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4457</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 4 October 2024, Minister Retailleau signed a declaration of intent aiming to establish an 'Italian-French Operational Research Unit' to combat illegal immigration.<sup>4458</sup> The purpose of the initiative is to counter illegal migration but also to identify possible criminal networks dedicated to aiding and abetting illegal immigration by land across the Ventimiglia border and neighbouring areas.

On 11 October 2024, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced the completion of an anti-human trafficking exercise based in Italy.<sup>4459</sup> The governments of Italy, the United States, France and Germany contributed funds and equipment for the exercise.

On 18 October 2024, the French authorities tried alleged trafficking mastermind Mirkhan Rasoul, who is accused of organizing and controlling one of the biggest smuggling gangs that facilitated migrant crossings in the English Channel from 2020-2022.<sup>4460</sup> His trial is part of an overarching European smuggling trial concerning the gang's members, who were arrested during a previous joint operation against smugglers led by France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

On 30 October 2024, President Emmanuel Macron announced that France and Morocco signed a bilateral agreement to fight against clandestine immigration and trafficking.<sup>4461</sup> The countries will also collaborate on fighting transnational organized crime and providing a more effective framework for returning irregular migrants from France to Morocco.

On 5 November 2024, a French court convicted members of an English Channel smuggling group.<sup>4462</sup> The individuals were sentenced to multiple years of jail time, with up to 15 years for the group mastermind Mirkhan Rasoul.

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<sup>4456</sup> France, Italy launch project to exchange migrant trafficking information, Reuters (Toronto) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/france-italy-launch-project-exchange-migrant-trafficking-information-2024-10-04/>

<sup>4457</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4458</sup> G7 of Interior Ministers in Mirabella Eclano, bilateral between Piantedosi and his French counterpart Retailleau, Ministero dell'Interno (Rome) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/stampa-e-comunicazione/comunicati-stampa/g7-dei-ministri-dellinterno-mirabella-eclano-bilaterale-piantedosi-e-suo-omologo-francese-retailleau>

<sup>4459</sup> Anti-trafficking practitioners meet in Italy for first Mediterranean regional simulation-based training exercise, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Vienna) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.osce.org/cthb/578104>

<sup>4460</sup> 'Merchants of death' trial steps up fight against Channel smugglers, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cden09n621wo>

<sup>4461</sup> Paris et Rabat ont noué "un partenariat renforcé" contre "l'immigration clandestine", France 24 (Paris) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.france24.com/fr/afrique/20241030-paris-et-rabat-ont-nou%C3%A9-un-partenariat-renforc%C3%A9-contre-l-immigration-clandestine>

<sup>4462</sup> 18 convicted in France for small boat people smuggling following joint operation involving NCA, National Crime Agency (London) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/18-convicted-in-france-for-small-boat-people-smuggling-following-joint-operation-involving-nca>

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4463</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the French National Police, supported by EU members, dismantled a transnational criminal group engaged in migrant smuggling.<sup>4464</sup> The group, active in France since 2022, allegedly profited hundreds of millions of euros from smuggling thousands of migrants.

On 29 November 2024, Director of Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior Simon Fetet, Diplomatic Advisor Mathilde Grammont, Deputy Ambassador in charge of Migration at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs Frédéric Rimoux and Chief of the removal centre at the Directorate of Immigration Delphine Montuelle with Moroccan Migration, Border and Foreign Affairs Ministers to discuss migration between the two states.<sup>4465</sup> Building upon their previous meeting, the representatives conversed about facilitating legal immigration to France, fighting against irregular immigration, and cooperating on the return of irregular Moroccan migrants.

On 4 December 2024, French security services conducted a joint operation with Europol and German law enforcement to crack down on an alleged Iraqi-Kurdish migrant smuggling network.<sup>4466</sup> This action dismantled a transnational migrant smuggling operation and strengthened international police cooperation.

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot issued a joint statement alongside the G7 foreign ministers, reaffirming the G7's commitment to maritime security and combating illegal maritime crimes.<sup>4467</sup> These commitments include combating human trafficking.

On 1 April 2025, an estimated 300 officers from the French Gendarmerie Nationale cooperated with Europol to dismantle a migrant-smuggling organised criminal network along the European Union border in the Balkans.<sup>4468</sup> The operations led to 24 house searches, arrests and 3 vehicle seizures.

France has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. France has taken strong action to both prevent and counter migrant smuggling. It has also dismantled criminal networks involved in human trafficking and migrant smuggling but has not taken sufficient action to disrupt these organizations' business models.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: TianTian Dong*

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<sup>4463</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4464</sup> France arrests 26 for smuggling migrants from Indian sub-continent, Europol (The Hague) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/france-arrests-26-for-smuggling-migrants-indian-sub-continent>

<sup>4465</sup> Maroc-France : une réunion inédite pour améliorer les procédures migratoires, Ministère de l'Intérieur (Paris) 30 November 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués-de-presse/maroc-france-reunion-inedite-pour-ameliorer-procedures-migratoires>

<sup>4466</sup> German police conduct raids on alleged people smugglers, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.dw.com/en/german-police-conduct-raids-on-alleged-people-smugglers/a-70957059>

<sup>4467</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4468</sup> Migrant-smuggling driver cell intercepted in France, Europol (The Hague) 10 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/migrant-smuggling-driver-cell-intercepted-in-france>

## Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 27 June 2024, the Federal Minister of the Interior and Community Nancy Faeser welcomed the Minister of Interior of Türkiye Ali Yerlikaya for a discussion on German and Turkish cooperation.<sup>4469</sup> The Ministers focused on enhancing their collaboration on issues regarding organized crime, migrant smuggling and terrorism.

On 28 June 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, Nasser Bourita, to discuss the partnerships between Germany and Morocco.<sup>4470</sup> The Ministers voiced their support for the bilateral Mixed Migration Working Group and concurred on efforts to address irregular migration through facilitating legal migration and returns with support from the EU Talent Partnerships, the Rabat Process, and the Global Compact for Migration.

On 2 July 2024, the Government of Germany and the Government of Poland came together to discuss partnerships and cooperation between Germany and Poland in areas regarding organized crime and illegal immigration.<sup>4471</sup> Minister Faeser spoke with Poland's Interior Minister Tomasz Siemoniak and Sport Minister Sławomir Nitras on ways to bolster border police coordination, tackle migrant smuggling and improve collaboration in cross-border disaster management efforts.

On 11 July 2024, the German government signed the German-Polish Action Plan underscoring the robust relationship between Poland and Germany.<sup>4472</sup> The recently established joint task force against smuggling and the collaborative patrols on Polish territory will help Germany and Poland more effectively combat the illegal smuggling of migrants and irregular migration, in line with their international obligations.

On 9 September 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community announced the temporary expansion of border controls to all of Germany's land borders to counter irregular migration and strengthen homeland security.<sup>4473</sup> The expansion of border control measures includes joint cross-border cooperation with neighboring authorities to combat cross-border crimes, migrant smuggling and terrorism.

On 12 September 2024, the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) published a study on Vietnamese migrant smuggling and exploitation in Germany.<sup>4474</sup> The BKA's report analyzes migrant trafficking networks, forms of exploitation and the practices of human traffickers facilitating these migrant smuggling networks. Law

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<sup>4469</sup> Promoting German–Turkish cooperation, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/06/tuerk-innenminister.html>

<sup>4470</sup> Joint statement on the Moroccan-German Strategic Dialogue, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2665270>

<sup>4471</sup> German-Polish cooperation, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/07/dt-pol-regierungskonsultationen.html>

<sup>4472</sup> Deutsch-Polnischer Aktionsplan, Bundesregierung (Berlin) July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/resource/blob/992814/2295276/b5e9e128f9d0909349fd9a57f04cb/e69/2024-07-02-deu-pol-aktionsplan-de-data.pdf>

<sup>4473</sup> Limiting irregular migration and protecting internal security: Border checks at all German land borders to start 16 September 2024, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. [https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen\\_en.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/09/binnengrenzkontrollen_en.html)

<sup>4474</sup> BKA-Forschungsbericht zeigt Strukturen des Menschenhandels und der Ausbeutung vietnamesischer Staatsangehöriger in Deutschland, Bundeskriminalamt (Berlin) 12 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 November 2024.

[https://www.bka.de/DE/Presse/Listenseite\\_Pressemitteilungen/2024/Presse2024/240912\\_IJ\\_SO\\_Menschenhandel.html](https://www.bka.de/DE/Presse/Listenseite_Pressemitteilungen/2024/Presse2024/240912_IJ_SO_Menschenhandel.html)

enforcement authorities and European partners will be presented with the results of the report to assist them in developing plans to counter migrant trafficking and exploitation.

On 17 September 2024, Minister Faeser met with her counterparts from the governments of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Slovenia, and the UK to discuss increased cooperation in combating irregular migration and organised crime.<sup>4475</sup> Increased cooperation could include joint police patrols, data exchange, and the incorporation of financial and social authorities to stop the flow of funds to criminal organizations.

On 24 September 2024, German police arrested at least four individuals associated with migrant smuggling and smuggling people from the Middle East and the Caucasus into Germany.<sup>4476</sup> Around 400 law enforcement officers took part in the operation involving the federal police, prosecutors and customs authorities. This demonstrates Germany's commitment to combatting irregular migration and dismantling organized crime.

On 4 October 2024, Minister Faeser travelled to Mirabella Eclano for the meeting of G7 interior ministers to discuss migration policy and ongoing efforts to combat human smuggling.<sup>4477</sup> The ministers stressed the importance of tackling these issues and engaging with third countries to fight against trafficking and irregular migration.

On 11 October 2024, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced the completion of an anti-human trafficking exercise based in Italy.<sup>4478</sup> The governments of Italy, the United States, France and Germany contributed funds and equipment for the exercise.

On 13 October 2024, the Federal Government of Germany announced its first comprehensive national action plan to fight human trafficking, incorporating prevention, prosecution, and victim support measures that are expected to be adopted in spring 2025.<sup>4479</sup> This plan aims to improve “structural conditions” to effectively combat human and cross-border trafficking in the country with greater success.

On 30 October 2024, Minister Faeser and Polish Minister of the Interior and Administration Tomasz Siemoniak traveled to the Polish-Belarusian border and discussed ongoing issues with European migration.<sup>4480</sup> In her discussion with Minister Siemoniak, Minister Faeser reaffirmed German-Polish law enforcement collaboration in their common goals of countering migrant smuggling, criminals and Islamic extremists as well as curtailing irregular migration.

On 12 November 2024, Germany participated in the two-day 7th Ministerial Conference of the Budapest Process, working with EU members and partner countries to promote the Budapest Process Ministerial Declaration and the accompanying Call for Action 2025-2030, which focuses on improving areas of migration

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<sup>4475</sup> Federal Minister of the Interior Nancy Faeser continues talks on the Western Balkans, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/09/berliner-prozess.html>

<sup>4476</sup> German police arrest four over alleged people smuggling, Euronews (Lyon) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/09/24/german-police-arrest-four-suspects-for-alleged-human-smuggling>

<sup>4477</sup> “We are potentially direct targets for terrorist organisations”, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/10/g7.html>

<sup>4478</sup> Anti-trafficking practitioners meet in Italy for first Mediterranean regional simulation-based training exercise, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Vienna) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.osce.org/cthb/578104>

<sup>4479</sup> Federal Government develops national action plan to fight human trafficking, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 25 November 2024. [https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/10/aktionsplan\\_menschenhandel.html](https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/10/aktionsplan_menschenhandel.html)

<sup>4480</sup> Federal Minister of the Interior Nancy Faeser visits Poland's border with Belarus, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/10/polen.html>

and asylum.<sup>4481</sup> This action will improve Germany's regional dialogues and collaboration with international partners to address migration challenges and foster solutions.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4482</sup>

On 4 December 2024, German law enforcement authorities conducted a joint operation with Europol and French security services to crack down on an alleged Iraqi-Kurdish migrant smuggling network.<sup>4483</sup> This action dismantled a transnational migrant smuggling operation and strengthened international police cooperation.

On 10 December 2024, Minister Faeser and UK Home Secretary Yvette Cooper co-hosted the fourth meeting of the Calais Group on combating migrant smuggling.<sup>4484</sup> At the meeting, members of the Calais Group identified five key priorities to address migrant smuggling, including increasing international cooperation and investigations, strengthening financial investigations, improving insights into migration movements, initiating public awareness campaigns and taking joint action against the social media presence of smuggling networks.

On 10 December 2024, Minister Faeser and UK Home Secretary Yvette Cooper signed the Joint Action Plan on Irregular Migration.<sup>4485</sup> The plan aims to strengthen bilateral cooperation by establishing a permanent framework for German-UK cooperation against irregular migration and migrant smuggling, enhancing law enforcement coordination between the two countries, emphasizing multilateral partnerships with European allies, pursuing financial investigations on migrant smuggling networks and setting up international channels to the new British Border Security Command.

On 11 December 2024, Germany adopted its first National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and Protect Trafficked Persons.<sup>4486</sup> The plan addresses all forms of human trafficking, including sexual exploitation, labor exploitation and child trafficking. Additionally, it incorporates forms of exploitation added in the revised EU Anti-Trafficking Directive, namely the exploitation of surrogacy and adoption as well as forced marriage.

On 14 March 2025, Minister for Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock issued a joint statement alongside the G7 foreign ministers, reaffirming the G7's commitment to maritime security and combating illegal maritime crimes.<sup>4487</sup> These commitments include combating human trafficking.

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<sup>4481</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Budapest process Ministerial conference: Adoption of the new Ministerial Declaration and Call for Action charts the course for five years of cooperation, ICMPD Budapest process (Budapest) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.budapestprocess.org/7th-budapest-process-ministerial-conference-adoption-of-the-new-ministerial-declaration-and-call-for-action-charts-the-course-for-five-years-of-cooperation/>

<sup>4482</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4483</sup> German police conduct raids on alleged people smugglers, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.dw.com/en/german-police-conduct-raids-on-alleged-people-smugglers/a-70957059>

<sup>4484</sup> The Calais Group agrees on priorities in fighting illegal migrant smuggling, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/12/calais-group.html>

<sup>4485</sup> Fighting illegal smuggling of migrants, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2024/12/london-jointaction-en.html>

<sup>4486</sup> National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and Protect Trafficked Persons, Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 5 June 2025. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/258214/1dbf23a291e87ad569dadbb77e97c369/nationaler-aktionsplan-menschenhandel-englische-version-data.pdf>

<sup>4487</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

On 19 March 2025, German law enforcement authorities carried out a joint operation with Belgian authorities and Europol targeting a Germany-based transnational migrant smuggling network.<sup>4488</sup> The operation helped to counter human smuggling operations across Europe and enhanced international law enforcement cooperation.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. Germany has taken strong action to both prevent and counter migrant smuggling and human trafficking. It has also taken strong action to dismantle criminal networks involved in migrant smuggling and human trafficking but has not taken sufficient action to disrupt these organizations' business models.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ryan Do*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen its actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 24 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni welcomed the Prime Minister of Hungary, Viktor Orbán. They discussed the shared values between the two countries on strategies to enhance the management of migration flows.<sup>4489</sup> Prime Minister Meloni focused on targeting transnational trafficking groups. Both members also advocated for partnerships with the countries of origin to address the source of migration and new approaches to managing migration.

On 26 June 2024, Prime Minister Meloni addressed the Chamber of Deputies where she emphasized her priority to partner with countries of origin and transit in addressing mass irregular immigration.<sup>4490</sup> She highlighted the success of Italy's initiative of signing memoranda of understanding with Egypt and Tunisia to address migration and called on other countries to follow this model to address the root cause of migration.

On 26 June 2024, the Italian national police force, Polizia di Stato, announced the success of the operation, "Chinese Shuttles" in apprehending members of a Chinese criminal organization that facilitated human smuggling.<sup>4491</sup> There were 77 illegal migrants found and nine individuals were arrested. The illegal migrants were subject to forced labour to pay off their debt to the smugglers who facilitated their trip. The successful operation demonstrated dedication to tackling transnational organized crime and reinforced the importance of dismantling smuggling networks that exploit vulnerable people.

On 4 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President Alexander Stubb of the Republic of Finland.<sup>4492</sup> The pair discussed matters of importance to both countries, where managing irregular migration was on the agenda.

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<sup>4488</sup> 7 arrested for facilitating migrant smuggling across the English Channel, Europol (The Hague) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/7-arrested-for-facilitating-migrant-smuggling-across-english-channel>

<sup>4489</sup> President Meloni's press statement with Prime Minister Orbán of Hungary, Italian Government (Rome) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-prime-minister-orb-n-hungary/26118>

<sup>4490</sup> President Meloni's address to the Chamber of Deputies ahead of the European Council meeting on 27-28 June, Italian Government (Rome) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-chamber-deputies-ahead-european-council-meeting-27-28-june/26151>

<sup>4491</sup> Trieste: operazione "Chinese Shuttles" contro immigrazione clandestina, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 26 June 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/15667c305d427c2069197247>

<sup>4492</sup> Meeting with the President of the Republic of Finland, Italian Government (Rome) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-republic-finland/26175>

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with Prime Minister Kier Starmer of the United Kingdom.<sup>4493</sup> The pair exchanged their views and intentions to boost collaboration on addressing irregular migration.

On 6 August 2024, State Police investigators executed an order of custody under house arrest against two individuals in Terni investigated for association criminal conspiracy, aiding and abetting the illegal stay of foreigners on the national territory and false.<sup>4494</sup>

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni met with Prime Minister Starmer. The two leaders declared their intention to strengthen cooperation in the fight against human trafficking.<sup>4495</sup> In this field, the leaders placed an emphasis on judicial proceedings.

On 24 September 2024, the Council of Ministers approved a draft law which ratifies a cooperation agreement between Italy and Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>4496</sup> In the agreement, a key priority is cooperation in addressing trafficking of persons and illicit trafficking of migrants.

On 26 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz over the phone concerning migration issues in Europe.<sup>4497</sup> Prime Minister Meloni and Chancellor Scholz agreed to bolster partnerships with countries of origin and transit and tackle human trafficking.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers met in Mirabella Eclano where they formulated an action plan to resolve border management issues.<sup>4498</sup> The G7 Action Plan included commitments to improve law enforcement capabilities, cooperation with both G7 member countries and countries of origin and transit and enhance general border management processes to prevent migrant smuggling and other transborder criminal activities.

On 4 October 2024, Minister of the Interior Matteo Piantedosi signed a declaration of intent aiming to establish an 'Italian-French Operational Research Unit' to combat illegal immigration.<sup>4499</sup> The purpose of the initiative is to counter illegal migration but also to identify possible criminal networks dedicated to aiding and abetting illegal immigration by land across the Ventimiglia border and neighbouring areas.

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<sup>4493</sup> President Meloni meets with Prime Minister Starmer at NATO Summit, Italian Government (Rome) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-prime-minister-starmer-nato-summit/26209>

<sup>4494</sup> Illegal immigration: 2 arrests in Terni, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 6 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/153066b20b91632b1253071797>

<sup>4495</sup> Incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Primo Ministro del Regno Unito Starmer, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-il-primo-ministro-del-regno-unito-starmer/26554>

<sup>4496</sup> Press release of the Council of Ministers no. 97, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/comunicato-stampa-del-consiglio-dei-ministri-n-97/26672>

<sup>4497</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with Chancellor Scholz, Italian Government (Rome) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-chancellor-scholz/26665>

<sup>4498</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4499</sup> G7 of Interior Ministers in Mirabella Eclano, bilateral between Piantedosi and his French counterpart Retailleau, Ministero dell'Interno (Rome) 4 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/stampa-e-comunicazione/comunicati-stampa/g7-dei-ministri-dellinterno-mirabella-eclano-bilaterale-piantedosi-e-suo-omologo-francese-retailleau>



On 11 October 2024, Minister Piantedosi met with the Brazilian Minister of Justice and Public Security Ricardo Lewandowski.<sup>4500</sup> Minister Piantedosi confirmed future cooperation between Italy and Brazil in addressing transnational organized crime such as human and migrant trafficking.

On 11 October 2024, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced the completion of an anti-human trafficking exercise based in Italy.<sup>4501</sup> The governments of Italy, the United States, France and Germany contributed funds and equipment for the exercise.

On 16 October 2024, State Police investigators carried out a detention of a subject in Milan under investigation for association aimed at aiding and abetting illegal immigration.<sup>4502</sup> The investigation was a part of a broader joint investigation initiative including Italian, Dutch, British and Spanish authorities.

On 18 October 2024, the Department for Equal Opportunities (DEO) carried out a communication campaign which aimed to raise public awareness of human trafficking.<sup>4503</sup> The DEO also offered a toll-free number that victims of trafficking can call.

On 29 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni participated in the Italy-Libya Business forum held in Tripoli, where she met with the Prime Minister of Libya, Abdul Hamid Dabaiba.<sup>4504</sup> The two leaders discussed strengthening the bilateral cooperation between Italy and Libya and touched on migration management and the prevention of human trafficking.

On 19 November 2024, the Department of Public Security of the Minister of the Interior co-organized with the United Nations Office for Drug and Crime Control in Central and West Africa the 'Fourth Regional Conference on the Fight Against Migrant Trafficking and Human Trafficking' hosted in Rome.<sup>4505</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4506</sup>

On 16 January 2025, the State Police arrested the leader of the criminal group 'Arrow Baga' for evading an arrest warrant related to human trafficking, extortion, and sexual violence.<sup>4507</sup> The Italian Police stated the arrest was a part of the ongoing intensification of the fight against illegal immigration. This arrest contributes to efforts to dismantle criminal networks.

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<sup>4500</sup> Piantedosi incontra il Ministro della Giustizia e della Sicurezza Pubblica del Brasile Ricardo Lewandowski, Ministero dell'Interno (Rome) 11 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 November 2024.

<sup>4501</sup> Anti-trafficking practitioners meet in Italy for first Mediterranean regional simulation-based training exercise, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Vienna) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.osce.org/cthb/578104>

<sup>4502</sup> Aiding and abetting illegal immigration, 11 arrests, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 16 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/1996670f7a1e535af196996647>

<sup>4503</sup> Campagna di comunicazione "Giornata contro la tratta degli esseri umani," Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/media/campagna-di-comunicazione-giornata-contro-la-tratta-degli-esseri-umani/26850>

<sup>4504</sup> President Meloni attends Italy-Libya Business Forum in Tripoli, Italian Government (Rome) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 12 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-attends-italy-libya-business-forum-tripoli/2694>

<sup>4505</sup> Roma ospita la Quarta Conferenza sulla lotta al traffico di migranti, Ministero dell'Interno (Rome) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/roma-ospita-quarta-conferenza-sulla-lotta-traffico-migranti>

<sup>4506</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4507</sup> Crotone: la Polizia di Stato arresta pericoloso latitante condannato per il reato di associazione a delinquere finalizzata al traffico di esseri umani, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 17 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 10 February 2024. <https://questure.poliziadistato.it/it/Crotone/articolo/1146678a01bb0de7a077272444>

On 20 January 2025, Minister Piantedosi signed a Memorandum on Joint Patrols with his Croatian and Slovenian counterparts.<sup>4508</sup> Under this agreement, Italian forces will support Croatian border security to combat illegal migration.

On 14 March 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani issued a joint statement alongside the G7 foreign ministers, reaffirming the G7's commitment to maritime security and combating illegal maritime crimes.<sup>4509</sup> These commitments include combating human trafficking.

On 22 March 2025, the Central Operation Service arrested six individuals in an operation to take down a criminal network engaged in human and migrant smuggling.<sup>4510</sup> This operation was conducted simultaneously in Italy and Iceland, due to the transnational presence of the network.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. Italy has taken strong action to both prevent and counter migrant smuggling and human trafficking, such as through diplomatic meetings. It has also taken strong action to dismantle criminal networks involved in migrant smuggling and human trafficking but has not taken sufficient action to disrupt these organizations' business models.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Samantha de Verteuil*

## **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 30 September 2024, Minister of the Political Section of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Takayuki Iriya called for further efforts by international and regional organizations and UN members to prevent combat human trafficking and smuggling, and assist Libya in building capacity, according to relevant and applicable international law.<sup>4511</sup> Japan emphasized the importance of working to protect migrants from these human rights abuses, particularly in Libya.

On 30 September 2024, First Secretary Iriya Takayuki of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations expressed Japan's support for efforts to tackle migrant smuggling and human trafficking in conflict zones, particularly as pertinent to the high sea off the coast of Libya, in the UN Security Council.<sup>4512</sup> To this end, First Secretary Takayuki particularly underscored Japan's support for multilateral engagement, including through the

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<sup>4508</sup> Il ministro Piantedosi a Nova Gorica incontra gli omologhi di Slovenia e Croazia, Ministero dell'Interno (Rome) 20 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.interno.gov.it/it/stampa-e-comunicazione/comunicati-stampa/ministro-piantedosi-nova-gorica-incontra-omologhi-slovenia-e-croazia>

<sup>4509</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4510</sup> Tratta di esseri umani, favoreggiamento immigrazione clandestina: 6 arresti, Polizia di Stato (Rome) 22 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/152667dea85c794c8628070445>

<sup>4511</sup> Statement by Minister IRIYA Takayuki, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, at the United Nations Security Council Briefing on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons in the High Sea off the Coast of Libya), Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 16 November 2024. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/iriya093024.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/iriya093024.html)

<sup>4512</sup> Statement by Minister IRIYA Takayuki, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, at the United Nations Security Council Briefing on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons in the High Sea off the Coast of Libya), Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York), 30 September 2024. Access Date: April 10 2025 [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/iriya093024.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/iriya093024.html)

European Union's Naval Operation IRINI and the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, as means to address human trafficking and smuggling in the region.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4513</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4514</sup>

On 29 November 2024, the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines oversaw the handing over of investigative equipment purchased by the Japanese government for the Philippine National Police.<sup>4515</sup> The Government of Japan purchased this equipment to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's "Drugs and Human Trafficking in Southeast Asia" project, countering criminal networks that smuggle persons.

On 7 February 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba Shigeru and US President Donald Trump issued a United States-Japan Joint Leaders' Statement.<sup>4516</sup> Prime Minister Ishiba and President Trump underscored their mutual commitment to preserving the integrity of travel systems and agreed to deepen cooperation on traveler screening and information exchange to counter criminal movements and irregular migration.

On 11 March 2025, Foreign Minister Iwaya Takeshi held a press conference in which he addressed the further measures that the Japanese government was planning on taking to prevent human trafficking of minors, following the rescue of two Japanese nationals from a scam-based human trafficking operation at the Myanmar-Thailand border.<sup>4517</sup> Amongst the measures announced were closer coordination with the National Police Agency and greater outreach to minors at Japanese airports through campaigns aimed at warning them regarding the threat of scam based trafficking, indicating strong action towards the prevention and countering of the illegal smuggling of persons.

On 14 March 2025, Minister Iwaya issued a joint statement alongside the G7 foreign ministers, reaffirming the G7's commitment to maritime security and combating illegal maritime crimes.<sup>4518</sup> These commitments include combating human trafficking.

On 20 March 2025, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka Kamoshida Naoaki, inaugurated the renovated Bureau for the Prevention and Investigation of Abuse of Children and Women (PCWB) of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).<sup>4519</sup> The project, which was financed by the Government of Japan, brought about the renovation of the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children

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<sup>4513</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4514</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4515</sup> Handover Ceremony of Investigative Equipment to the Philippine National Police, Embassy of Japan in the Philippines (Manila), 29 November 2024. Access Date: 19 April 2025. [https://www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/11\\_000001\\_01717.html](https://www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_01717.html)

<sup>4516</sup> United States-Japan Joint Leaders' Statement, White House(Washington), 7 February 2025. Access Date: April 10 2025 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/02/united-states-japan-joint-leaders-statement/>

<sup>4517</sup> Press Conference by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 11 March 2025. Access Date: April 10 2025 [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/kaiken/kaikenwe\\_000001\\_00151.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/kaiken/kaikenwe_000001_00151.html)

<sup>4518</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security and Prosperity, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 14 March 2025. Access date: 21 March 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/250314-declaration.html>

<sup>4519</sup> IOM and Japan Strengthen the Bureau for the Prevention and Investigation of Abuse of Children and Women to Combat Trafficking and Abuse, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo), 20 March 2025. Access Date: April 10 2025 [https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/11\\_000001\\_00588.html](https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00588.html)

and the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit based at the PCWB, which support the IOM's broader work with the National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force in Sri-Lanka.

On 10 April 2025, the Embassy of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, alongside the IOM, announced a new initiative to strengthen border management and protect vulnerable migrants in the country.<sup>4520</sup> Japan's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia Ueno Atsushi noted that this new initiative would enhance the capacity of Cambodian authorities in addressing trafficking and transnational organized crime.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen its actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. Japan has taken strong actions to prevent and counter trafficking and organised crime, both issuing strong statements in international fora and taking strong action to address threats of migrant smuggling and human trafficking within its own borders and in collaboration with regional partners. However, Japan has not taken strong action to dismantle criminal networks or disrupt their business models.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. Japan has taken action to support initiatives against human trafficking and recognizes the importance of collaborating with other countries and international organizations. However, Japan has taken mostly weak action and has not addressed the dismantling of criminal organizations or the disruption of their business models.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Anali Arambula Galindo and Lorenzo Songsare Sherry*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 7 July 2024, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper announced the launch of the Border Security Command, a new agency dedicated to strengthening Britain's border management.<sup>4521</sup> Border Security Command will cooperate with other law enforcement and intelligence agencies to secure borders and apprehend smuggling gangs. Additionally, the United Kingdom Home Office announced the preparation of new legislation that will provide more powers and stronger measures for law agencies to stop immigration crime.

On 12 July 2024, the National Crime Agency (NCA) announced the success of an investigation which convicted key members of the Teesside crime group for trafficking migrants into the UK.<sup>4522</sup> This demonstrates the law enforcement agencies' continued commitment to dismantling criminal networks and securing UK borders.

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<sup>4520</sup> New Initiative to Strengthen Border Management and Protect Vulnerable Migrants, Embassy of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia (Phnom Penh), 10 April 2025. Access Date: April 10 2025 <https://www.kh.emb-japan.go.jp/files/100828154.pdf>

<sup>4521</sup> Home Secretary launches new Border Security Command, Home Office (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-launches-new-border-security-command>

<sup>4522</sup> Teesside crime group convicted of trafficking migrants into the UK, National Crime Agency (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/teesside-crime-group-convicted-of-trafficking-migrants-into-the-uk>

On 17 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer committed to assist the fight against criminal organizations engaging in smuggling and trafficking people.<sup>4523</sup> This effort is a collaboration between the UK, Europol, Frontex, and other partners.

On 18 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO) announced a funding package worth GBP84 million over three years to support projects in Africa and the Middle East to address the source of illegal migration.<sup>4524</sup> This funding will support projects that address the reasons motivating individuals to flee their homes. Furthermore, the Prime Minister Starmer committed to working with Global South and European countries to tackle illegal migration.

On 18 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer announced new measures in collaboration with Slovenia and Slovakia to combat organized crime and smuggling of people during the UK-lead fourth European Political Community Summit in Woodstock, UK. Furthermore, the UK is to provide up to GBP 85 million over the next three years for projects focusing on Africa as well as the Middle East to address challenges that lead for individuals to cross the Mediterranean Sea with small

On 24 July 2024, the NCA announced the jailing of Eglantin Doksan, a migrant smuggler who arranged crossings to the UK in small boats.<sup>4525</sup> Stopping organized immigration crime is a key priority for the NCA and this arrest illustrates the ongoing efforts made to apprehend criminals.

On 25 July 2024, Home Office announced the removal of 46 foreign criminals and immigration offenders on charter flights to Vietnam and Timor-Leste.<sup>4526</sup> This marks a shift in immigration policy to end irregular migration, with the removal of flight planning for Rwanda and instead partnering with nations to return individuals to their home countries.

On 26 July 2024, the FCDO announced commitments to tackle migrant smuggling and organized crime at the fourth European Political Community summit.<sup>4527</sup> This was the first summit where leaders held discussions on migration producing deals between the UK, Slovakia, and Slovenia to tackle organized crime.

On 21 August 2024, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper announced plans to hire at least 100 new law enforcement agents for the NCA.<sup>4528</sup> These agents will focus solely on limiting the impact of organised crime networks and benefit from the illicit migration while exploiting individuals that are to seek asylum.

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<sup>4523</sup> 'Security at the heart of UK's reset with Europe': PM to tell world leaders as he pledges closer cooperation to dismantle European smuggling rings and bring order to British borders, Prime Minister's Office (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/security-at-the-heart-of-uks-reset-with-europe-pm-to-tell-world-leaders-as-he-pledges-closer-cooperation-to-dismantle-european-smuggling-rings-and>

<sup>4524</sup> UK steps up work to reduce illegal migration, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-steps-up-work-to-reduce-illegal-migration>

<sup>4525</sup> People smuggler who arranged spaces on Channel boat crossings jailed following NCA investigation, National Crime Agency (London) 24 July 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/people-smuggler-who-arranged-spaces-on-channel-boat-crossings-jailed-following-nca-investigation>

<sup>4526</sup> Criminals and immigration offenders removed on charter flight, Home Office (London) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/criminals-and-immigration-offenders-removed-on-charter-flight>

<sup>4527</sup> The fourth European Political Community summit held at Blenheim in the United Kingdom: UK statement to the OSCE, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-fourth-european-political-community-summit-held-at-blenheim-in-the-united-kingdom-uk-statement-to-the-osce>

<sup>4528</sup> 'Home Secretary to recruit 100 specialist to target people smuggling gangs, The Guardian (London) August 23 2024. Access Date: 10 December 2024 <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/aug/21/home-secretary-to-recruit-100-specialists-to-target-people-smuggling-gangs>

On 23 August 2024, Home Office Criminal and Financial inspectors detained a group of migrant smugglers as part of the UK's efforts towards strengthening its borders and combating people smuggling activities.<sup>4529</sup> The smugglers had been transporting migrants in unsafe conditions.

On 27 August 2024, the UK government pledged GBP10.5 million to provide new technologies to three border checkpoints needed for the European Union's new biometric border identification system.<sup>4530</sup> The ports, which have already heavily invested in preparation for the change, will be upgraded with photo and fingerprinting capabilities.

On 6 September 2024, Home Secretary Cooper stated the importance of eliminating and holding accountable people smuggling networks, reporting 100 new expert inspectors to track and dismantle these organizations internationally.<sup>4531</sup> Additionally, NCA Director General Graeme Biggar presented the results of collaborative efforts with Libyan forces to fight against migrant trafficking groups.

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Starmer met with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. The two leaders declared their intention to strengthen cooperation in the fight against human trafficking, with an emphasis on judicial proceedings.<sup>4532</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Home Secretary Cooper announced that the new Border Security Command (BSC) agency would receive GBP75 million from the UK government, taken from the Rwanda deportation project.<sup>4533</sup> The BSC, which aims to take down migrant smuggling gangs and trafficking networks in the UK and across Europe, will receive surveillance technologies and intelligence resources.

On 9 October 2024, the UK government pledged GBP4 million to the United Nations Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MMPTF) to tackle irregular migration, smuggling and trafficking.<sup>4534</sup> The MMPTF fights transnational crime related to migrant smuggling, by providing humanitarian and logistical aid in countries of origin.

On 4 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer reiterated his commitment to eliminate criminal organizations involved in people smuggling.<sup>4535</sup> To do so, the Prime Minister allocated an additional GBP75 million to a total of GBP150 million to increase resources towards the investigation and dismantling of people smuggling criminal organizations. Moreover, the Home Office will spend an additional GBP24 million to counter serious organised crime which include but are not limited to trafficking and exploitation.

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<sup>4529</sup> People smuggling ring jailed for cramming migrants in boot of car, Home Office (London) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/people-smuggling-ring-jailed-for-cramming-migrants-in-boot-of-car>

<sup>4530</sup> UK to spend £10.5m on new EU border checks, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 27 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gz9n06rxdo>

<sup>4531</sup> Home Secretary sets out 'moral imperative' to stop smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-sets-out-moral-imperative-to-stop-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4532</sup> Incontro del Presidente Meloni con il Primo Ministro del Regno Unito Starmer, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/incontro-del-presidente-meloni-con-il-primo-ministro-del-regno-unito-starmer/26554>

<sup>4533</sup> UK uses funds from scrapped Rwanda deportation plan to boost border security, Radio France Internationale (Paris) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.rfi.fr/en/international/20240917-uk-uses-funds-from-scrapped-rwanda-deportation-asylum-plan-to-boost-border-security>

<sup>4534</sup> New UK money to combat human trafficking, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-money-to-combat-human-trafficking>

<sup>4535</sup> Prime Minister unveils game changing investment to tackle national security threat from people smuggling gangs, Prime Minister's Office (London) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-unveils-game-changing-investment-to-tackle-national-security-threat-from-people-smuggling-gangs>

On 13 November 2024, as part of a joint operation with Dutch and Belgian agencies, the NCA arrested a man accused of supplying boats and engines to smugglers.<sup>4536</sup> The supposedly “highly dangerous” boats were intended for use in Belgium and France.

On 15 November 2024, the United Kingdom established new guidelines to its immigration policy.<sup>4537</sup> Among other things, this provides people who were subject to human trafficking with temporary refuge.

On 20 November 2024, Foreign Secretary David Lammy signed an agreement with Moldova that aims to tackle irregular migration and create a strategic defense partnership between the two countries.<sup>4538</sup> The agreement will promote stronger border security and help facilitate the voluntary and enforced return of Moldovan migrants.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4539</sup>

On 28 November 2024, Minister for Development Anneliese Dodds pledged a total of GBP1.98 billion to the International Development Association.<sup>4540</sup> The association aims to combat the causes of irregular migration by providing financial assistance to countries with low income.

On 28 November 2024, the United Kingdom signed a security agreement with Iraq focusing on gangs and organised crime which are engaged in smuggling to bolster border security.<sup>4541</sup> The agreement includes a commitment of GBP300,000 dedicated to training of local border guards focussing on organisation migration. Furthermore, the agreement seeks to counter the misinformation about smuggling and inform about the reality of this organised crime.

On 10 December 2024, the Home Office published a policy paper outlining a new approach to tackling Organized Immigration Crime (OIC) and enhancing border security through the BSC.<sup>4542</sup> Recognizing the growing threat of OIC, the BSC is investing GBP150 million for new technology, law enforcement capabilities, and specialist officers to combat OIC. Additionally, they note that the BSC’s scope will expand beyond irregular migration to address broader threats such as illicit commodity trafficking and technological advancements used by criminals to exploit borders

On 10 December 2024, Home Secretary Cooper and German Federal Minister of the Interior and Community Nancy Faeser signed a joint agreement to dismantle migrant trafficking organizations through strengthened

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<sup>4536</sup> Joint investigation sees suspected small boat supplier arrested in the Netherlands, National Crime Agency (London) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/joint-investigation-sees-suspected-small-boat-supplier-arrested-in-the-netherlands>

<sup>4537</sup> New UK Immigration Rules for Illegal Immigrants in 2024, Gulbenkian Adonian (London) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gulbenkian.co.uk/new-immigration-rules-uk-2021-for-illegal-immigrants>

<sup>4538</sup> UK signs new agreements on migration, defence & security with Moldova, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-new-agreements-on-migration-defence-security-with-moldova>

<sup>4539</sup> New UK investment to unlock billions to tackle root causes of irregular migration, climate change and growth crises, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-investment-to-unlock-billions-to-tackle-root-causes-of-irregular-migration-climate-change-and-growth-crises--2>

<sup>4540</sup> New UK investment to unlock billions to tackle root causes of irregular migration, climate change and growth crises, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-investment-to-unlock-billions-to-tackle-root-causes-of-irregular-migration-climate-change-and-growth-crises--2>

<sup>4541</sup> UK/Iraq border security pact to target smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-iraq-border-security-pact-to-target-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4542</sup> Delivering Border Security, Home Office (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivering-border-security-statement/delivering-border-security>

inter-governmental collaboration.<sup>4543</sup> Under the new agreement, the German government will prosecute the facilitation of migrant smuggling into the United Kingdom as a criminal offense. Further, UK and German authorities committed to sharing data and expertise in the investigation of organized criminal networks, with a specific focus on removing content related to immigration crime, from social media platforms.

On 12 December 2024, Security Minister Dan Jarvis announced the creation of a unified data-sharing system between the Home Office, law enforcement and financial sector industry partners to detect and disrupt organized financial crime and money laundering.<sup>4544</sup> Through enhanced public-private partnership and information sharing, the system fosters a collaborative approach to targeting the funding sources and financial assets of organized crime networks.

On 16 December 2024, Home Secretary Cooper committed GBP8 million in equipment and technology to strengthen evidence collection for investigations of organized immigration crime.<sup>4545</sup> The commitment includes GBP5 million for the implementation of body worn cameras and a GBP3 million investment in new fingerprinting kits to strengthen identity checks on high-risk individuals.

On 2 January 2025, Home Secretary Cooper introduced new interim orders targeting networks of organized migrant smuggling and trafficking.<sup>4546</sup> The orders, which can be applied at discretion by law enforcement agencies, place heightened restrictions on the travel, communications and finances of individuals under investigation for organized immigration crime.

On 8 January 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy announced the creation of a standalone sanctions regime, dedicated to addressing irregular migration and organized immigration crime.<sup>4547</sup> The first of its kind globally, the regime will target the root funding sources and illicit financial assets of organized smuggling networks to deter migrant trafficking.

On 31 January 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy committed GBP5 million in funding to address the root causes of irregular migration in Tunisia.<sup>4548</sup> The package fosters strengthened bilateral collaboration between the Tunisian and UK governments to reduce patterns of irregular migration and includes dedicated funding for programs aimed at deterring the exploitation of vulnerable groups by organized migrant smuggling networks.

On 7 February 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy and Minister for Border Security and Asylum Angela Eagle announced that the United Kingdom will co-host the 2025 Berlin Process Summit, facilitating multi-lateral collaboration to dismantle networks of migrant trafficking and exploitation.<sup>4549</sup> The Summit will foster dialogue

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<sup>4543</sup> UK and Germany set out joint action for people smuggling law reform, Home Office (London) 10 December 2024. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-germany-set-out-joint-action-for-people-smuggling-law-reform>

<sup>4544</sup> Working with partners to defeat economic crime, Home Office (London) 12 December 2024. Access Date: 1 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/working-with-partners-to-defeat-economic-crime>

<sup>4545</sup> Huge increase in migration returns and illegal working arrests, Home Office (London) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-increase-in-migration-returns-and-illegal-working-arrests>

<sup>4546</sup> Serious crime laws to be overhauled to combat people-smuggling gangs, Home Office (London) 2 January 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/serious-crime-laws-to-be-overhauled-to-combat-people-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4547</sup> UK to launch world first sanctions regime to snare people smugglers travelling upstream, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-launch-world-first-sanctions-regime-to-snare-people-smugglers-travelling-upstream>

<sup>4548</sup> UK partnership with Tunisia to target root causes of irregular migration, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-partnership-with-tunisia-to-target-root-causes-of-irregular-migration>

<sup>4549</sup> UK to drive international cooperation on irregular migration as host of Western Balkans Summit, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 7 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-drive-international-cooperation-on-irregular-migration-as-host-of-western-balkans-summit>



with European partners in the Western Balkans to target regional routes of irregular migration to the United Kingdom.

On 14 February 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy announced GBP8 million in funding to address the root causes of irregular migration in East Africa, a targeted effort to disrupt the business models of organized migrant smuggling networks.<sup>4550</sup> The package will bolster access to domestic education and employment within Ethiopia and Kenya to facilitate the local economic welfare of prospective migrants.

On 14 February 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy co-hosted a migration roundtable at the Munich Security Conference, facilitating multilateral dialogue on the use of innovative tools to target organized migrant smuggling, trafficking and exploitation.<sup>4551</sup> At the conference, Secretary Lammy encouraged representatives from the United States, the Netherlands, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and Germany to consider the implementation of a domestic sanctions regime against migrant smuggling networks to dismantle sources of funding for organized immigration crime.

On 27 February 2025, Deputy High Commissioner to India Christina Scott launched ‘Visa Fraud Ton Bacho’, a public awareness campaign aimed at protecting Indian citizens from visa fraud scams perpetrated by migrant smuggling gangs and trafficking networks.<sup>4552</sup> Through a dedicated support line, the campaign provides access to official guidance on the legal routes of travel to the United Kingdom and identifies the most common claims of visa fraud scams to deter the physical or financial exploitation of prospective migrants.

On 4 March 2025, Minister Eagle launched an anti-migrant trafficking digital awareness campaign in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, expanding international public awareness efforts to combat migrant smuggling operations.<sup>4553</sup> The initiative aims to counter targeted misinformation spread by criminal organizations to protect prospective migrants from the risk of exploitation.

On 4 March 2025, representatives from the United Kingdom signed a joint communiqué on irregular migration and organized immigration crime with the Government of Vietnam at the third annual UK-Vietnam Migration Dialogue in Hanoi, Vietnam.<sup>4554</sup> The communiqué calls for strengthened inter-governmental efforts to combat migrant smuggling and exploitation, such as targeted deterrence communications, information sharing, joint awareness campaigns of legal migration routes and bilateral cooperation between law enforcement agencies.

On 7 March 2025, Border Security Commander Martin Hewitt and France’s Special Representative on Immigration for the Minister of State Patrick Stefani signed the Franco-British Upstream Working Group, a collaborative agreement aimed at combating organized immigration crime.<sup>4555</sup> The agreement calls for inter-governmental action across four shared priorities including disrupting criminal networks involved in the facilitation of migrant smuggling.

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<sup>4550</sup> European partners urged to develop sanctions to smash people smuggling gangs, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/european-partners-urged-to-develop-sanctions-to-smash-people-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4551</sup> European partners urged to develop sanctions to smash people smuggling gangs, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/european-partners-urged-to-develop-sanctions-to-smash-people-smuggling-gangs>

<sup>4552</sup> UK launches visa fraud awareness campaign ‘Visa Fraud Ton Bacho’, British High Commission New Delhi (New Delhi) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-visa-fraud-awareness-campaign-visa-fraud-ton-bacho>

<sup>4553</sup> UK expands campaign to stop migrant smugglers and their lies, Home Office (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-expands-campaign-to-stop-migrant-smugglers-and-their-lies>

<sup>4554</sup> UK and Vietnam sign joint communiqué at annual migration dialogue, Home Office (London) 4 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-vietnam-sign-joint-communique-at-annual-migration-dialogue>

<sup>4555</sup> The UK deepens cooperation with France on people smuggling, Home Office (London) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-deepens-cooperation-with-france-on-people-smuggling>

On 7 March 2025, Deputy High Commissioner to the Solomon Islands and Nauru Emma Davis held a workshop aimed at enhancing anti-corruption and organized money laundering investigations in the Solomon Islands.<sup>4556</sup> The initiative aimed to better equip prosecutors in utilizing financial intelligence tools, enhance regional cooperation between prosecutorial agencies and financial investigation units, and build technical and operational capacity to address financial crime, a critical source of funding for organized crime networks.

On 30 March 2025, Home Secretary Cooper introduced new regulations requiring private companies hiring in the ‘gig economy’ and zero-hours sectors to conduct employment eligibility checks.<sup>4557</sup> The measure will require companies in construction, food delivery and courier services industries to verify the immigration status and work eligibility of employees, an effort to disrupt the business models of migrant smuggling networks advertising unregulated employment opportunities to prospective migrants.

On 31 March 2025, Prime Minister Starmer and Home Secretary Cooper hosted officials from France, Iraq, Vietnam and the United States at the Organized Immigration Crime Summit in London to facilitate multilateral collaboration in combating migrant smuggling, trafficking, and exploitation.<sup>4558</sup> The Summit encouraged collaborative dialogues on targeting the supply chains, finances and platforms utilized by migrant smuggling networks. The United Kingdom reached agreements with representatives from France and Iraq to address irregular migration in both source and transit countries through community outreach and enhanced false document detection capabilities.

On 31 March 2025, Home Secretary Cooper announced GBP30 million in additional funding for the Border Security Command to address migrant smuggling and exploitation.<sup>4559</sup> The funding will address the supply chains, illicit finances and trafficking routes utilized by migrant smuggling groups across Europe, the Western Balkans, Asia and Africa.

On 31 March 2025, Home Secretary Cooper committed GBP3 million in funding for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to enhance prosecution of individuals suspected of organized immigration crime.<sup>4560</sup> The funding will strengthen the CPS’s capacity to levy charges against migrant smuggling networks and support inter-agency collaboration between the CPS and Border Security Command to dismantle criminal organizations responsible for migrant exploitation.

On 31 March 2025, Minister for Security Dan Jarvis committed GBP1 million in funding to address organized immigration crime and migrant smuggling operations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.<sup>4561</sup> The commitment will fund specialist technology, targeted training and community engagement efforts to enhance the region’s ability to investigate and prosecute migrant smuggling, trafficking and exploitation.

On 31 March 2025, Minister Eagle announced the launch of an anti-migrant trafficking awareness campaign on Vietnamese social media platforms and broadcast networks.<sup>4562</sup> The campaign, delivered through instant

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<sup>4556</sup> Workshop held to equip prosecutors combat corruption and money laundering, British High Commission Honiara (Honiara) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 2 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/workshop-held-to-equip-prosecutors-combat-corruption-and-money-laundering>

<sup>4557</sup> Crackdown on illegal working and rogue employers in ‘gig economy’, Home Office (London) 30 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crackdown-on-illegal-working-and-rogue-employers-in-gig-economy>

<sup>4558</sup> Landmark summit agrees new measures against organised immigration crime, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-summit-agrees-new-measures-against-organised-immigration-crime>

<sup>4559</sup> UK hosts first major international summit to tackle illegal migration, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-hosts-first-major-international-summit-to-tackle-illegal-migration>

<sup>4560</sup> UK hosts first major international summit to tackle illegal migration, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-hosts-first-major-international-summit-to-tackle-illegal-migration>

<sup>4561</sup> New government fund to go after people smuggling gang bosses, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-government-fund-to-go-after-people-smuggling-gang-bosses>

<sup>4562</sup> Zalo campaign to rebut people smugglers’ lies in Vietnam, Home Office (London) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/zalo-campaign-to-rebut-people-smugglers-lies-in-vietnam>

messaging platform Zalo and news aggregator Báo Mới, will focus on the risks of illegal migration and provide accessible information on legal routes of entry to the United Kingdom.

On 1 April 2025, Home Secretary Cooper and Vietnamese Minister for Public Security Luong Tam Quang signed a joint agreement committing the UK and Vietnam to strengthened collaborative efforts to prevent and disrupt human and migrant trafficking.<sup>4563</sup> The agreement calls for enhanced information sharing, coordinated intergovernmental efforts to disrupt trafficking networks and the facilitation of targeted public awareness campaigns to discourage dangerous journeys among prospective migrants. Additionally, Secretary Cooper pledged GBP1 million in funding to strengthen joint anti-trafficking efforts over the next year through the Home Office Modern Slavery Fund.

On 1 April 2025, representatives of the United Kingdom, Albania, Sweden, Tunisia, the United States and Vietnam released a joint statement committing to a united response in combating organized immigration crime on digital platforms.<sup>4564</sup> The statement, released at the close of the Border Security Summit in London, affirms the collective responsibility of the global community to prevent, disrupt and degrade the capacity of criminal organizations to facilitate migrant trafficking through online platforms.

On 2 April 2025, Foreign Secretary Lammy travelled to Kosovo and Serbia to strengthen regional cooperation in combating organized immigration crime.<sup>4565</sup> During the visit, Secretary Lammy signed an enhanced information sharing agreement with Serbian counterparts and affirmed the United Kingdom's responsibility to disrupt and dismantle trafficking routes utilized by migrant smuggling networks in the Western Balkans.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. The UK has taken strong action to dismantle criminal organizations through arrests, disrupt their business models by targeting their supply chains, and to counter and prevent the smuggling of migrants and human trafficking through international cooperation.

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

*Analysts: Anali Arambula Galindo and Tiya Gupta*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 28 June 2024, the US and European Union reaffirmed their cooperation on home affairs such as migration, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and more.<sup>4566</sup> The meeting highlighted the ongoing efforts and methods being used to combat these issues such as information sharing. Moreover, the representatives

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<sup>4563</sup> UK and Vietnam sign agreement to tackle human trafficking, Home Office (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-vietnam-sign-agreement-to-tackle-human-trafficking>

<sup>4564</sup> The use of online platforms in enabling organised immigration crime, Home Office (London) 1 April 2025. Access Date: 6 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-organised-immigration-crime>

<sup>4565</sup> UK to tackle Western Balkan migrant transit routes and serious organised crime with closer ties in the region, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 April 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-tackle-western-balkan-migrant-transit-routes-and-serious-organised-crime-with-closer-ties-in-the-region>

<sup>4566</sup> Joint Press Release Following the EU-U.S Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs, 21 June 2024, U.S Department of Homeland Security (Washington) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/06/28/joint-press-release-following-eu-us-ministerial-justice-and-home-affairs-21-june>

increased the discussion of irregular migration to further build on the Global Alliance to Counter Migrant Smuggling initiative.

On 11 July 2024, the Department of State announced a total of USD12 million in reward offers for information that will successfully lead to the arrests of leaders of the Tren de Aragua organization.<sup>4567</sup> The Tren de Aragua is a transnational criminal organization, and its criminal network is involved in activities in Central and South America as well as the US. This initiative aims to disrupt transnational crime by offering rewards and coordinating with the Government of Colombia to apprehend fugitives.

On 18 July 2024, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned the Abdul Karim Conteh Human Smuggling Organization (Karim HSO).<sup>4568</sup> In cooperation with federal agency partners in the United States and Mexico, OFAC's sanctions aim to dismantle the Karim HSO's operations by targeting financial assets, blocking its properties in the US and restricting its access to financial institutions.

On 22 July 2024, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced the expansion of operations to stop the criminal activities of Transnational Crime Organizations.<sup>4569</sup> The expansion of Operation Plaza Spike will stop and prevent illegal drug trafficking, exploitation of vulnerable migrants, and violence in communities at the US-Mexico border. This increase in law enforcement coverage will help better secure the southwest border and allow the CBP to target plaza bosses and cartels to reduce criminal activity.

On 25 July 2024, OFAC sanctioned the Lopez Human Smuggling Operation (Lopez HSO).<sup>4570</sup> In close partnership with US and Mexican federal partners, OFAC's sanctions seek to dismantle the Lopez HSO's operations by blocking its properties in the US and restricting its access to financial institutions.

On 22 August 2024, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Justice Department in collaboration with Guatemalan law enforcement under the Joint Task Force Alpha, executed multiple search and arrest warrants throughout Guatemala, leading to the arrest of a Guatemalan national indicted in Texas for alleged involvement in a human smuggling network.<sup>4571</sup> This involvement is tied to the 2022 San Antonio incident that resulted in the deaths of 53 migrants. This extensive bilateral cooperation disrupted such transnational smuggling networks that aimed to exploit migrants and undermine the security of US borders, also enhancing international cooperation.

On 26 August 2024, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs Luis Gilberto Murillo and Panamanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Javier Eduardo Martinez-Acha released a joint statement addressing irregular migration.<sup>4572</sup> In the statement, the United States reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening cooperation in dismantling migrant trafficking and smuggling networks.

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<sup>4567</sup> Up to \$12 Million in Reward Offers for Information Leading to Arrests and/or Convictions of Three Leaders of the Tren de Aragua Transnational Criminal Organization, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/up-to-12-million-in-reward-offers-for-information-leading-to-arrests-and-or-convictions-of-three-leaders-of-the-tren-de-aragua-transnational-criminal-organization/>

<sup>4568</sup> Treasury Targets Transnational Criminal Organization Smuggling Migrants into the United States, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington, D.C.) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2470>

<sup>4569</sup> ICYMI: CBP Announces Expanded Operations Targeting Transnational Criminal Organizations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/icymi-cbp-announces-expanded-operations-targeting-transnational>

<sup>4570</sup> Treasury Targets Guatemalan Human Smuggling Organization for Illegal Transport of Migrants to the United States, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington, D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2490>

<sup>4571</sup> Major Enforcement Operation in Guatemala Secures Arrest of Human Smuggler Indicted by Joint Task Force Alpha for Links to 2022 Mass Casualty Event in Texas, Homeland Security (Washington) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/08/22/major-enforcement-operation-guatemala-secures-arrest-human-smuggler-indicted-jtfa>

<sup>4572</sup> Joint Statement: Trilateral on Irregular Migration, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Washington, D.C.) 26 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/08/26/joint-statement-trilateral-irregular-migration>

On 28 August 2024, the DHS, along with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and CBP, announced over USD380 million for Shelter and Service Programs.<sup>4573</sup> This supports migrant-hosting communities by reducing burdens on short-term holding facilities, and humanely addressing and stabilizing migration while also effectively managing border facilities.

On 29 August 2024, the CBP and the Government of Mexico announced the continuation of their law enforcement partnership to arrest criminals wanted by both countries and to stop transnational crime.<sup>4574</sup> Five new criminal targets were announced who are involved in human smuggling, drug trafficking, and other crimes.

On 5 September 2024, the Department of State announced the Aumoana Regional Law Enforcement Initiative, which will train and provide support to Pacific allies to improve law enforcement capabilities.<sup>4575</sup> This initiative will help stop illegal maritime activities such as drug and migrant trafficking, and other crimes.

On 11 September 2024, Spokesperson for the Department of State Matthew Miller announced the imposition of visa restrictions on executives of a European charter flight company for offering services assisting irregular migrants seeking to enter the United States through Nicaragua under Section 212(a)(3)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.<sup>4576</sup> In the statement, Mr. Miller further reaffirmed U.S. commitment against the exploitation of migrants by smugglers, private enterprises and government officials.

On 13 September 2024, the CBP announced the signing of a Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement with Uzbekistan aimed at improving cooperation on law enforcement and customs support between the two countries.<sup>4577</sup> This new agreement allows both countries to exchange information, combat drug trafficking, and halt the operations of transnational criminal organizations together.

On 24 September 2024, Mr. Miller announced the imposition of visa restrictions on executives of designated travel agencies based in Europe, Africa and the Middle East known to offer travel services assisting irregular migrants seeking to enter the United States.<sup>4578</sup> These restrictions are in accordance with Section 212(a)(3)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which aims to reduce irregular migration by targeting individuals facilitating exploitative travel services to migrants.

On 25 September 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced over USD686 million in “new humanitarian, development, economic and security assistance to support partner countries.”<sup>4579</sup> This allows for

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<sup>4573</sup> Department of Homeland Security Announces \$380 Million in Additional Funding to Communities Receiving Migrants, Homeland Security (Washington) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 01 November 2024.

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/08/28/departments-homeland-security-announces-380-million-additional-funding-communities>

<sup>4574</sup> U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Government of Mexico counterparts in Chihuahua continue law enforcement partnership on Se Busca Informacion initiative to find wanted criminals, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/us-customs-and-border-protection-government-mexico-counterparts>

<sup>4575</sup> Aumoana Regional Law Enforcement Initiative Announced in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/aumoana-regional-law-enforcement-initiative-announced-in-nukualofa-tonga/>

<sup>4576</sup> Visa Restrictions on Senior Officials of a Charter Flight Company Facilitating Irregular Migration to the United States, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/visa-restrictions-on-senior-officials-of-a-charter-flight-company-facilitating-irregular-migration-to-the-united-states/>

<sup>4577</sup> US, Uzbekistan sign Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Washington) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/us-uzbekistan-sign-customs-mutual-assistance-agreement>

<sup>4578</sup> Actions Against Travel Agency Executives Who Knowingly Facilitate Irregular Migration, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/actions-against-travel-agency-executives-who-knowingly-facilitate-irregular-migration/>

<sup>4579</sup> Fact sheet: Fourth Ministerial Meeting on the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection, The White House (Washington) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/26/fact-sheet-fourth-ministerial-meeting-on-the-los-angeles-declaration-on-migration-and-protection/>

resource mobilization to increase the prosecutions of human smuggling and trafficking networks, impose greater restrictions on irregular migration and expand lawful pathways for migration and border protection.

On 4 October 2024, G7 Interior and Security Ministers announced the G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants.<sup>4580</sup> The priorities of the plan are to improve collaboration and communication between partner countries, strengthen border management, and discourage migrants by informing them of the risks.

On 11 October 2024, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe announced the completion of an anti-human trafficking exercise based in Italy.<sup>4581</sup> The governments of Italy, the United States, France and Germany contributed funds and equipment for the exercise.

On 22 October 2024, the DHS, with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), deported Indian nationals who lacked legal grounds to stay in the US through a charter flight.<sup>4582</sup> In collaboration with the Indian government, this action combats irregular migration.

On 18 November 2024, the DHS, along with ICE, deported Chinese nationals who were not permitted to lawfully remain in the US on a charter flight.<sup>4583</sup> This will decrease and prevent irregular migration, thereby countering the smuggling and exploitation of individuals.

On 19 November 2024, OFAC announced the sanctioning of a network of nine Mexican nationals linked to drug and human smuggling operations of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel.<sup>4584</sup> OFAC's sanctions seek to combat transnational crimes by targeting financial assets and properties sanctioned individuals own.

On 26 November 2024, OFAC announced the sanctioning of five Mexican nationals linked to the Gulf Cartel.<sup>4585</sup> OFAC's sanctions aim to tackle illegal fishing as well as drug and human smuggling operations of the Gulf Cartel by restricting transactions of properties owned by sanctioned individuals.

On 26 November 2024, G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment made at the Apulia Summit to address irregular migration and its causes, including poverty, instability, and climate change.<sup>4586</sup>

On 9 December 2024, the Department of Justice (DOJ) in a joint operation with Guatemalan authorities arrested five Guatemalan nationals for alleged involvement in a transnational migrant smuggling network.<sup>4587</sup> This operation is part of Joint Task Force Alpha's investigation into a mass casualty incident in Chiapas, Mexico in 2021 that resulted in the deaths of over 50 migrants, including minors. The operation is part of the DOJ's international collaborative effort to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in Mexico and Central America.

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<sup>4580</sup> Annex A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4581</sup> Anti-trafficking practitioners meet in Italy for first Mediterranean regional simulation-based training exercise, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Vienna) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 1 June 2025. <https://www.osce.org/cthb/578104>

<sup>4582</sup> DHS Conducts Removal Flight to the Republic of India, Department of Homeland Security (Washington) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/10/25/dhs-conducts-removal-flight-republic-india>

<sup>4583</sup> DHS Conducts Removal Flight to the People's Republic of China, Homeland Security (Washington) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/11/18/dhs-conducts-removal-flight-peoples-republic-china>

<sup>4584</sup> Treasury Targets Fentanyl Traffickers and Other Key Contributors to U.S. Opioid Crisis, US Department of the Treasury (Washington, D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2719>

<sup>4585</sup> Treasury Targets Cartel-Enabled Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Operations, US Department of the Treasury (Washington, D.C.) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2729>

<sup>4586</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement G7 Information Centre (Fiuggi – Anagni) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>4587</sup> Five Guatemalan human smugglers charged in U.S. for 2021 mass casualty event in Chiapas, Mexico, United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas (Houston) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdtx/pr/five-guatemalan-human-smugglers-charged-us-2021-mass-casualty-event-chiapas-mexico>

On 17 December 2024, the DOJ announced US authorities' arrest of two Colombian nationals, in coordination with Colombian authorities, for their alleged involvement in a transnational human smuggling operation.<sup>4588</sup> This operation is part of Joint Task Force Alpha's investigation into an incident involving the disappearance of 40 migrants on a boat en route to Nicaragua. This indictment is part of the DOJ's continued commitment to international partnership in disrupting and dismantling transnational human smuggling networks.

On 20 January 2025, President Trump issued an executive order on the participation of the United States Armed Forces in protecting the US borders and combating illegal activities.<sup>4589</sup> The executive order assigns the United States Northern Command the mission to secure the borders and counter human smuggling and trafficking operations, illegal immigration, drug trafficking and other unlawful activities.

On 18 March 2025, OFAC sanctioned Jumilca Sandivel Hernandez Perez, a senior figure in the Lopez Human Smuggling Organization (Lopez HSO).<sup>4590</sup> OFAC's sanctions aim to disrupt the financial operations of the Lopez HSO by restricting property ownership and access to financial institutions in the US.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen its actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. The United States has taken strong action in dismantling transnational criminal organizations, including enhancing foreign cooperation, and has disrupted their business models by imposing sanction measures such as asset confiscation. The United States has also acted cooperatively to prevent and counter migrant smuggling and human trafficking more broadly.

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

*Analyst: Ryan Do*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen its actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models.

On 13 June 2024, the European Union adopted the revised EU Anti-Trafficking Directive, giving EU member states two years to transpose these new rules into their national law.<sup>4591</sup> Actions under this new directive include expanding training and technological capabilities to identify trafficking, improving coordination between formal referral mechanisms and asylum authorities, and formalizing EU wide data collection on trafficking in human beings.

On 19 June 2024, the European Council announced the expanded role of Europol in fighting migrant smuggling in member states.<sup>4592</sup> Changes to the Europol regulations will increase information sharing, use of

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<sup>4588</sup> Two Colombian Human Smugglers Arrested on U.S. Charges, United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas (Houston) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/two-colombian-human-smugglers-arrested-us-charges>

<sup>4589</sup> CLARIFYING THE MILITARY'S ROLE IN PROTECTING THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE UNITED STATES, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/clarifying-the-militarys-role-in-protecting-the-territorial-integrity-of-the-united-states/>

<sup>4590</sup> Treasury Targets Mexico-Based Leader of Transnational Criminal Organization Responsible for Smuggling Thousands of Migrants Across the U.S. Southern Border, US Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sb0051>

<sup>4591</sup> Legal and Policy Framework, European Commission (Brussels) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/organised-crime-and-human-trafficking/together-against-trafficking-human-beings/legal-and-policy-framework\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/organised-crime-and-human-trafficking/together-against-trafficking-human-beings/legal-and-policy-framework_en)

<sup>4592</sup> Migrant smuggling: Enhanced role of Europol in fighting migrant smuggling, Council of the EU (Brussels) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/19/migrant-smuggling-enhanced-role-of-europol-in-fighting-migrant-smuggling/>

biometric data, and assist national law enforcement bodies to reduce transnational crime and terrorism. This will strengthen European border security as well, with closer collaboration between Europol and EU's border agency Frontex.

On 20 June 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the success of the meeting of the EU Network of National Coordinators and Rapporteurs on trafficking in human beings.<sup>4593</sup> The meeting highlighted the importance of cross-border and EU agency collaboration to combat human trafficking.

On 21 June 2024, the European Council announced the success of the EU-US Ministerial meetings where both sides confirmed their support and need to address irregular migration.<sup>4594</sup> The parties focused on addressing migrant smuggling and trafficking.

On 24 June 2024, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency Frontex announced the success of the coordinated operations with Romania, Austria, Europol and INTERPOL in cracking down on criminal networks engaged in human trafficking.<sup>4595</sup> These successful operations are fundamental in securing EU borders and disrupting cross-border crime. In a period of 7 days, authorities arrested 219 smugglers and rescued 1374 victims.

On 25 June 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the discussion for the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum at the European Migration Conference.<sup>4596</sup> The implementation of the Pact will set a common approach to managing immigration for the EU. It serves as a roadmap which will push EU countries to create their own implementation plans and provides stakeholders with a to-do list of top priorities.

On 26 June 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced key details of the "Priorities of the Home affairs funds" conference where representatives outlined the European Commission's funding and policy plans for coming years.<sup>4597</sup> With the home affairs funds being nearly doubled recently, the conference provided an opportunity to signal successful techniques and proper fund management for projects supporting migration, border management, and organized crime.

On 27 June 2024, President of the European Council Charles Michel highlighted the serious challenge of migration during his remarks following the European Council meeting.<sup>4598</sup> He highlighted the immense progress undertaken with the migration pact but drew attention to the need for more cooperation with third countries to address migration.

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<sup>4593</sup> National Coordinators and Rapporteurs discussed trafficking for labour exploitation and forced criminality, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 20 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/national-coordinators-and-rapporteurs-discussed-trafficking-labour-exploitation-and-forced-2024-06-20\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/national-coordinators-and-rapporteurs-discussed-trafficking-labour-exploitation-and-forced-2024-06-20_en)

<sup>4594</sup> Joint press release following the EU-U.S Ministerial on Justice and Home Affairs 21 June 2024 (Brussels), Council of the EU (Brussels) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/21/joint-press-release-following-the-eu-us-ministerial-meeting-on-justice-and-home-affairs-21-june-2024-brussels/>

<sup>4595</sup> Frontex teams up to combat human trafficking, Frontex European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Warsaw) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-teams-up-to-combat-human-trafficking-Y4Mt2H>

<sup>4596</sup> European Migration Conference on the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-migration-conference-implementation-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-06-25\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-migration-conference-implementation-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-06-25_en)

<sup>4597</sup> European Commission helps EU-funded projects in migration, security, and borders strive for excellence, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-helps-eu-funded-projects-migration-security-and-borders-strive-excellence-2024-06-26\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-helps-eu-funded-projects-migration-security-and-borders-strive-excellence-2024-06-26_en)

<sup>4598</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel following the European Council meeting of 27 June 2024, Council of the EU (Brussels) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/28/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-following-the-european-council-meeting-of-27-june-2024/>



On 1 July 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the details of the meeting of the Focus Group of specialized prosecutors combating trafficking in human beings.<sup>4599</sup> The meeting convened EU and non-EU prosecutors to share experiences on the challenges and best practices for the prosecution of human trafficking cases.

On 5 July 2024, Eurojust announced coordinated efforts from Romanian and French law enforcement agencies to dismantle a human trafficking network.<sup>4600</sup> This transnational crime group operated in both France and Romania where authorities were able to apprehend the criminals with the support of Eurojust and Europol.

On 10 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the signing of a new agreement with the prosecution services of Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Peru to fight against organized crime.<sup>4601</sup> This increased collaboration between countries will work to disrupt transnational criminal activities, stop drug trafficking, and terrorism.

On 12 July 2024, the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the implementation of stronger EU rules to combat human trafficking with the revision of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive.<sup>4602</sup> These new changes make it easier for authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals and add a wider array of items that count as trafficking. Also, the changes will provide better assistance and support to victims of human trafficking.

On 17 July 2024, Europol's European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) released a new report that investigates the latest developments and main threats in migrant smuggling and trafficking of human beings based on the most recent operations supported by Europol.<sup>4603</sup> The results of the report will inform EU attempts to better counter migrant smuggling and trafficking of human beings going forward.

On 30 July 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight individuals involved in migrant smuggling in an operation with the Romanian Police and Border Police.<sup>4604</sup> The operation benefited from cross-border cooperation between agencies that led to the successful dismantling of the organized criminal network that was smuggling Syria and Romanian nationals.

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<sup>4599</sup> Specialised anti-trafficking prosecutors meet for the third time to reinforce judicial cooperation, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 1 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/specialised-anti-trafficking-prosecutors-meet-third-time-reinforce-judicial-cooperation-2024-07-01\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/specialised-anti-trafficking-prosecutors-meet-third-time-reinforce-judicial-cooperation-2024-07-01_en)

<sup>4600</sup> Coordinated actions from Romanian and French authorities to stop a human trafficking network, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/actions-taken-stop-romanian-human-trafficking-network>

<sup>4601</sup> An important step against organised crime: Eurojust signs Working Arrangements with five Latin American countries, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/important-step-against-organised-crime-eurojust-signs-working-arrangements-five-latin-american>

<sup>4602</sup> Stronger EU rules to fight trafficking in human beings enter into force, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/stronger-eu-rules-fight-trafficking-human-beings-enter-force-2024-07-12\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/stronger-eu-rules-fight-trafficking-human-beings-enter-force-2024-07-12_en)

<sup>4603</sup> Tackling Threats, Addressing Challenges - Europol's Response to Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Human Beings In 2023 and Onwards, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Luxembourg) July 2024. Access Date: 3 October 2024. [https://www.europol.europa.eu/cms/sites/default/files/documents/Tackling\\_threats\\_\\_addressing\\_challenges\\_-\\_Europol's\\_response\\_to\\_migrant\\_smuggling\\_and\\_trafficking\\_in\\_human\\_beings\\_in\\_2023\\_and\\_onwards.pdf](https://www.europol.europa.eu/cms/sites/default/files/documents/Tackling_threats__addressing_challenges_-_Europol's_response_to_migrant_smuggling_and_trafficking_in_human_beings_in_2023_and_onwards.pdf)

<sup>4604</sup> 8 arrested in Romania for smuggling migrants along Balkan route, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (The Hague) 30 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/8-arrested-in-romania-for-smuggling-migrants-along-balkan-route>

On 31 July 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced the acceptance of Ireland's opt-in to participate in seven legislative instruments within the Pact on Migration and Asylum.<sup>4605</sup> This makes Ireland a participant in a joint European approach to managing migration in the EU through cooperation on policies on migration, asylum and integration. Ireland will receive operational and technical support from the European Commission and EU Agencies to support contributions to the common implementation plan.

On 1 August 2024, the EU Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs announced key details on the EU Technical Support Instrument that will provide tailored guidance on asylum procedures, internal and external migration management, resettlement, and the use of EU funds for nine EU Member States to support the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.<sup>4606</sup> The support instrument will assist in the operationalization of a common implementation plan for managing migration in the EU.

On 2 August 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 21 individuals suspected of smuggling Algerian and Syrian nationals into the EU in an operation by the Spanish National Police with support from Europol.<sup>4607</sup> The operation dismantled a transnational organized crime network spanning the EU through collaboration between agencies, disrupting the migrant smuggling route from Algeria to Spain.

On 6 August 2024, the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM) announced details on the second meeting of the Joint Committee with Libyan counterparts.<sup>4608</sup> Parties focused on the reinforcement of commitments with the EUBAM partnership to improve border management and expand the capabilities of Libyan authorities to counter cross-border crime.

On 21 August 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight suspected gang members involved in migrant smuggling by Bulgarian authorities supported by Europol.<sup>4609</sup> Four of the suspects were High Value Targets. The operation benefitted from the transnational collaboration between Bulgaria, Moldova, and Romania to raid suspected locations and dismantle a part of the organized criminal network smuggling migrants from Turkey into Bulgaria through the Western Balkan route.

On 3 September 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the detainment of 19 migrant smugglers in an operation with by law enforcement, supported by Europol.<sup>4610</sup> The operation was the result of cooperation on the investigation by Hungarian, Italian, Romanian, and Slovenian law enforcement authorities.

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<sup>4605</sup> Ireland will participate in the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 13 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/ireland-will-participate-eu-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-07-31\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/ireland-will-participate-eu-pact-migration-and-asylum-2024-07-31_en)

<sup>4606</sup> Nine EU countries receive technical support for the implementation of the Pact, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/nine-eu-countries-receive-technical-support-implementation-pact-2024-08-01\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/nine-eu-countries-receive-technical-support-implementation-pact-2024-08-01_en)

<sup>4607</sup> 21 arrested in Spain for smuggling Algerian and Syrian migrants into the EU, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Madrid) 2 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/21-arrested-in-spain-for-smuggling-algerian-and-syrian-migrants-eu>

<sup>4608</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE REINFORCES EUBAM PARTNERSHIP WITH LIBYAN COUNTERPARTS, EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (Tripoli) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 10 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/2nd-meeting-joint-committee-reinforces-eubam-partnership-libyan-counterparts-tripoli-6-august-2024\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya/2nd-meeting-joint-committee-reinforces-eubam-partnership-libyan-counterparts-tripoli-6-august-2024_en)

<sup>4609</sup> Four High Value Targets leading migrant smuggling ring arrested in Bulgaria, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Sofia) 21 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/four-high-value-targets-leading-migrant-smuggling-ring-arrested-in-bulgaria>

<sup>4610</sup> 19 migrant smugglers detained in Romania, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Rome) 3 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/19-migrant-smugglers-detained-in-romania>

On 9 September 2024, the EuroMed Justice Project, in cooperation with INTERPOL and the Malta General Police, held a five-day capacity training on human trafficking and migrant smuggling investigations.<sup>4611</sup> The training included lessons on identifying new criminal patterns, leading investigations in the absence of victim cooperation, and successful prosecution of traffickers and smugglers within a human rights framework.

On 10 September 2024, the European Commissioner for Home Affairs and the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs announced details of a meeting discussing the cooperation between the EU and Egypt on migration.<sup>4612</sup> The meeting highlighted the success of Egypt in managing irregular migration and the importance of cooperation to establish a holistic and bilateral approach to border management and the return of migrants.

On 20 September 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of eight migrant smugglers in an operation with Bulgarian, Greek, and Romanian authorities within the framework of the regional Operational Task Force.<sup>4613</sup> The dismantling of the criminal network smuggling Turkish nationals through Bulgaria and Serbia into south-western Europe benefitted from the joint cross-border actions of agencies facilitated by Europol.

On 25 September 2024, the EU's Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the launch of the European Judicial Organised Crime Network to enhance transnational judicial cooperation, involving special prosecutors from all EU Member States.<sup>4614</sup> This will address multifaceted criminal operations and uncover weaknesses in the system, improving the ability of EU Member States to prosecute criminal groups involved in migrants smuggling and human trafficking.

On 30 September 2024, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency Frontex published a long-term strategic risk assessment that addresses the evolving criminal networks affecting border security such as migrant smuggling and the trafficking of persons.<sup>4615</sup> The assessment raises awareness of future problem areas in the process of deterring migrant smuggling.

On 3 October 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh announced details of a EUR12 million regional project to build human and institutional capacity for border management in the region, in partnership with the ICMPD, by providing training and supporting detection services that prevent irregular migration.<sup>4616</sup> This will improve efforts to counter transnational organized crime in the region, such as human trafficking, and prevent irregular departures.

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<sup>4611</sup> EuroMed Justice Project joins partners to strengthen regional efforts to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/euromed-justice-project-joins-partners-strengthen-regional-efforts-combat-human-trafficking>

<sup>4612</sup> Joint Press Statement on the occasion of the official visit of Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson to Egypt, Delegation of the European Union to Egypt (Cairo) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 13 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-press-statement-occasion-official-visit-commissioner-home-affairs-ylva-johansson-egypt\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/joint-press-statement-occasion-official-visit-commissioner-home-affairs-ylva-johansson-egypt_en)

<sup>4613</sup> 8 arrested for smuggling migrants across the Turkish-Bulgarian border, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Sofia) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/8-arrested-for-smuggling-migrants-across-turkish-bulgarian-border>

<sup>4614</sup> European prosecutors join forces to systematically fight organised criminal groups in new network, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/european-prosecutors-join-forces-systemically-fight-organised-criminal-groups-new-network>

<sup>4615</sup> Frontex Releases Strategic Risk Analysis 2024, Frontex (Warsaw) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news/news-release/frontex-releases-strategic-risk-analysis-2024-Zjqtoj>

<sup>4616</sup> The European Union supports Bangladesh Integrated Border Management with Equipment to Strengthen Border Security, Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh (Dhaka) 3 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/european-union-supports-bangladesh-integrated-border-management-equipment-strengthen-border-security_en)

On 4 October 2024, the G7 Interior and Security Ministers' Meeting committed to an action plan comprised of five dimensions, which aim at bolstering law enforcement and cooperation largely.<sup>4617</sup>

On 14 October 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna announced key information on the discussion at the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.<sup>4618</sup> Discussion included topics on smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, reiterating the EU's commitment to continuing to work with partners to improve cross-border law enforcement, particularly with third countries.

On 17 October 2024, President Michel announced the success of the meeting of the European Council, reaffirming the determination of EU members to improve the control of EU borders and combat organized crime and human trafficking.<sup>4619</sup> President Michel noted convergent interests on border management and security amongst EU members.

On 18 October 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) released a publication that aims to raise awareness on the relation between international surrogacy arrangements and human trafficking.<sup>4620</sup> The document outlines possible solutions to the main legal challenges faced by national authorities.

On 19 October 2024, Ambassador Vesna Kos attended the European Parliamentary Association Event on EU-Council of Europe Cooperation.<sup>4621</sup> She called for greater collaboration between the Council of Europe and the EU on various issues, including migrant smuggling.

On 21 October 2024, the Diplomatic Service of the European Union announced the details of the fourth annual Strategic Consultation meeting between the EU and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.<sup>4622</sup> The meeting highlighted the intent for continued discussions on human rights and migration issues.

On 24 October 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 16 migrant smugglers in an operation with law enforcement authorities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>4623</sup> The operation benefited from transnational analytical, operational, and financial support

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<sup>4617</sup> ANNEX A: G7 Action Plan to Prevent and Counter the Smuggling of Migrants, G7 Information Centre (Mirabella Eclano) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/justice/2024-interior-action-plan.html>

<sup>4618</sup> EU Statement delivered at the opening of the Twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations in Vienna (Vienna) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-delivered-opening-twelfth-session-conference-parties-united-nations-convention-against\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-delivered-opening-twelfth-session-conference-parties-united-nations-convention-against_en)

<sup>4619</sup> Remarks by President Charles Michel at the press conference following the European Council meeting of 17 October 2024, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/17/remarks-by-president-charles-michel-at-the-press-conference-following-the-european-council-meeting-of-17-october-2024/>

<sup>4620</sup> Surrogacy and Human Trafficking, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/publication/surrogacy-and-human-trafficking>

<sup>4621</sup> EU Ambassador Participates in the European Parliamentary Association Event on EU-Council of Europe Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 14 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/eu-ambassador-participates-european-parliamentary-association-event-eu-council-europe-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/eu-ambassador-participates-european-parliamentary-association-event-eu-council-europe-cooperation_en)

<sup>4622</sup> Human Rights: EU and OHCHR held fourth annual Strategic Consultations, The Diplomatic Service of the European Union (Geneva) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/human-rights-eu-and-ohchr-held-fourth-annual-strategic-consultations\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/human-rights-eu-and-ohchr-held-fourth-annual-strategic-consultations_en)

<sup>4623</sup> 16 arrests as police target migrant smuggling across the Sava River, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Zagreb) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/16-arrests-police-target-migrant-smuggling-across-sava-river>

between agencies to take down parts of a criminal network smuggling Bosnian nationals to Croatia across the Sava River.

On 28 October 2024, the European Commission and the Ministry of Interior of North Macedonia signed an Administrative Arrangement to make North Macedonia an Observer Country in the European Migration Network and commit to collaborating in the network by exchanging current information on asylum and migration in North Macedonia.<sup>4624</sup> This will reinforce regional cooperation and allow for informed policymaking within EU institutions on migration, asylum, and border management.

On 28 October 2024, the European Commissioner for Justice and the Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina signed a cooperation agreement with the EU's agency for criminal justice cooperation, Eurojust, to increase coordination with EU judicial bodies.<sup>4625</sup> This will increase the efficiency of cross-border investigations and prosecutions on transnational organized crime and human trafficking, as well as the capacity for Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in investigations. It signals the integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the EU's framework of standards for judicial cooperation.

On 29 October 2024, the European Council announced the success of the meeting of the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs where commitments on joint efforts to counter transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking of migrants, and improving border management were reaffirmed.<sup>4626</sup> The meeting highlighted the importance of cross-border criminal justice cooperation to combat human trafficking and regional cooperation on border security.

On 4 November 2024, Eurojust published a Multi-Annual Strategy report listing the objectives of active implementation of the revised Action Plan Against Migrant Smuggling and the revised Strategy in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.<sup>4627</sup> The report informs future efforts to counter migrant smuggling and trafficking of human beings.

On 5 November 2024, the Council of the European Union announced the adoption of an EU law that will regulate the conditions for criminal case proceedings to be transferred between member states.<sup>4628</sup> This will improve the ability of EU member states to combat cross-border crime, such as migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

On 6 November 2024, Eurojust released the outcome report from the focus group of specialized prosecutors against human trafficking.<sup>4629</sup> The EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator implemented this focus group as part of

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<sup>4624</sup> North Macedonia becomes observer country to the European Migration Network, European Commission (Budva) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/north-macedonia-becomes-observer-country-european-migration-network-2024-10-28\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/north-macedonia-becomes-observer-country-european-migration-network-2024-10-28_en)

<sup>4625</sup> BiH signs Eurojust agreement on judicial cooperation with the EU, Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina & European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Budva) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/bih-signs-eurojust-agreement-judicial-cooperation-eu\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bosnia-and-herzegovina/bih-signs-eurojust-agreement-judicial-cooperation-eu_en)

<sup>4626</sup> Joint press statement EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs, Council of the European Union (Budva) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/29/joint-press-statement-eu-western-balkans-ministerial-forum-on-justice-and-home-affairs-budva-montenegro-28-29-october-2024/>

<sup>4627</sup> Multi-Annual Strategy 2025-2027, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/publication/multi-annual-strategy-2025-2027>

<sup>4628</sup> Fighting cross-border crime: Council adopts EU law about transfer proceedings, Council of the EU (Brussels) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/fighting-cross-border-crime-council-adopts-eu-law-about-transfer-of-proceedings/>

<sup>4629</sup> Focus Group of specialized prosecutors against human trafficking: Outcome Report of the 3rd meeting, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/publication/focus-group-specialised-prosecutors-against-human-trafficking-outcome-report-3rd>

the EU strategy against the trafficking of human beings and works to strengthen judicial cooperation in transnational human trafficking.

On 14 November 2024, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan announced key information on the discussion at the roundtable on transnational threats affecting the EU and Kazakhstan, exchanging strategies to strengthen border security and combat human trafficking.<sup>4630</sup> This was a major step in enhancing EU-Kazakhstan cooperation and collaboration to manage illegal migration and transnational organized crime.

On 14 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation announced the arrest of a major supplier of small boats to migrant smugglers in a joint investigation facilitated by Eurojust and Europol between Belgian, UK, and Dutch authorities.<sup>4631</sup> The investigation benefited from the cross-border cooperation between agencies, as part of an effort to combat migrant smuggling in the English Channel.

On 21 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 25 migrant smugglers in a joint investigation by Germany, Austria, Bosnia, Herzegovina, the Netherlands, Poland, Serbia, the UK, and other European states, within the framework of a Europol Operational Task Force.<sup>4632</sup> The dismantling of the criminal network spanning 20 countries into the EU benefitted from the cross-border collaboration between countries and the Joint Investigation Team facilitated by Europol to organize judicial cooperation.

On 28 November 2024, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation announced the arrest of 26 migrant smugglers and the seizure of EUR11 million in assets in an investigation by France supported by Luxembourg, Portugal, the UK, and other EU and non-EU states, in the Indian subcontinent.<sup>4633</sup> The dismantling of the migrant smuggling criminal network spanning the Indian subcontinent, the UK, and North America benefitted from the cross-border cooperation facilitated by Europol.

On 17 December 2024, Europol, the Spanish National Police and the Croatian National Police arrested 30 traffickers linked to a Chinese human trafficking ring operating in Spain and Croatia.<sup>4634</sup> These arrests aim to dismantle the criminal network supporting human trafficking in Spain and Croatia.

On 15 January 2025, Europol, the German Criminal Inspectorate and the Hungarian Bureau of Investigation THB Unit collaborated to dismantle a criminal network that was involved in sexually exploitative human trafficking.<sup>4635</sup> The network had been targeting young women in Hungary for exploitation.

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<sup>4630</sup> Astana Hosted a Roundtable on Transnational Threats Affecting the EU and Kazakhstan, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan (Astana) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kazakhstan/astana-hosted-roundtable-transnational-threats-affecting-eu-and-kazakhstan_en)

<sup>4631</sup> Supplier of small boats to human smugglers arrested, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Amsterdam) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/supplier-small-boats-human-smugglers-arrested>

<sup>4632</sup> 25 arrests in EU-wide operation against Syrian migrant smuggling network, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Berlin) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/25-arrests-in-eu-wide-operation-against-syrian-migrant-smuggling-network>

<sup>4633</sup> France arrests 26 for smuggling migrants from Indian sub-continent, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Paris) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/france-arrests-26-for-smuggling-migrants-indian-sub-continent>

<sup>4634</sup> 30 arrested in crackdown on Chinese human trafficking ring in Spain and Croatia, Europol (The Hague) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/30-arrested-in-crackdown-chinese-human-trafficking-ring-in-spain-and-croatia>

<sup>4635</sup> Violent human traffickers halted in Germany and Hungary, Europol (The Hague) 15 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/violent-human-traffickers-halted-in-germany-and-hungary>

On 20 January 2025, the European Commission published its fifth report documenting progress in combating human trafficking.<sup>4636</sup> The report highlighted a 3% decline in child victims while also noting a 20.5% increase in the number of registered victims. This report aims to inform future efforts to prevent and counter human trafficking.

On 16 March 2023, Europol, supported by the French National Police and the Spanish National Police, dismantled an organized criminal network that had been smuggling migrants from Spain to France.<sup>4637</sup> This criminal network has smuggled approximately 1,700 migrants throughout more than 500 operations.

On 18 March 2025, Eurojust held the 5<sup>th</sup> EuroMed Justice Network meeting.<sup>4638</sup> Twenty-nine criminal justice representatives from six partner countries and eleven European Union Member States attended this meeting, which was centered around an exchange of knowledge and international judicial cooperation regarding the trafficking of human beings.

On 18 March 2025, Europol published the report titled “EU Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (EU-SOCTA) 2025.”<sup>4639</sup> The report addresses migrant smuggling as one of the fastest growing threats in advanced criminal networks.

On 19 March 2025, Europol and Eurojust supported Belgian and German authorities to arrest members of a criminal network that was facilitating the smuggling of migrants across the English Channel.<sup>4640</sup> This operation also seized equipment used to smuggle migrants to the United Kingdom, disrupting criminal networks’ business models by seizing criminal assets.

On 31 March 2025, Eurojust published a report on the 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on migrant smuggling, detailing operational challenges and the meeting outcomes.<sup>4641</sup> This report focused on emerging trends within criminal networks and advancements in casework regarding migrant smuggling.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen its actions to prevent, counter, and dismantle organized criminal networks that profit from the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and disrupt their business models. The European Union has taken strong action to address threats of migrant smuggling and human trafficking, as well as making progress in the implementation of anti-trafficking legislation.

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

*Analyst: Samantha de Verteuil*

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<sup>4636</sup> New Progress report on combatting Trafficking in Human Beings, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (Brussels) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 16 February 2025. [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-progress-report-combatting-trafficking-human-beings-2025-01-20\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-progress-report-combatting-trafficking-human-beings-2025-01-20_en)

<sup>4637</sup> Network smuggling migrants between Spain and France busted in Marseille, European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Paris) 16 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/france-arrests-26-for-smuggling-migrants-indian-sub-continent>

<sup>4638</sup> Trafficking of Human Beings and Migrant Smuggling in focus at the 5th EMJNet Meeting, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/news/trafficking-human-beings-and-migrant-smuggling-focus-5th-emjnet-meeting>

<sup>4639</sup> The DNA of organised crime is changing – and so is the threat to Europe, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/dna-of-organised-crime-changing-and-so-threat-to-europe>

<sup>4640</sup> 7 arrested for facilitating migrant smuggling across the English Channel, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 19 March 2025. Access Date: 4 April 2025. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/7-arrested-for-facilitating-migrant-smuggling-across-english-channel>

<sup>4641</sup> Eurojust Meeting on Migrant Smuggling, European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (The Hague) 31 March 2025. Access Date: 5 April 2025. <https://www.eurojust.europa.eu/publication/eurojust-meeting-migrant-smuggling-2024>

## 20. Cybersecurity: Countering Malicious Behaviour

“We are pursuing a four-fold approach to counter malicious cyber activities ... developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

### Background

Countering malicious behaviour within cybersecurity continues to gain momentum within the G7 as technology operates in an increasingly global manner. However, regulation, legislation, and law enforcement mostly remain on the national level.<sup>4642</sup> Cybercrime benefits from gaps in harmonized legislation, creating opportunities for both public and private malicious actors. The topic of the intersection between digital economy and cybersecurity remains relatively novel for G7 leaders. As new, more interdependent, and interrelated technologies began to appear, the development of international recommendations to hold malicious actors accountable emerged. Eventually, the G7 began to address the potential cyber-attacks on the energy sector and increase security on existing digital infrastructure. The 2016 Ise-Shima Summit stands out as it was the first to address cybercrime by both state and non-state actors and responsible state behavior.<sup>4643</sup> At the 2024 Apulia Summit, the G7 recognized that global security continuously depends on transparent, secure, and resilient cyberspaces that respect human rights.<sup>4644</sup> Furthermore, the G7 recognized the importance of cross border cooperation against cybercrime and aims to develop strategies to hold cyber criminals accountable for their actions, thus, committing to working with the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group.<sup>4645</sup> Cyber scams, fraud, extortion, and harassment have led to an increase in cyber incidents targeting valuable information for public and private stakeholders, or to illicitly generate revenue.<sup>4646</sup> In response, G7 leaders have continuously called for increased action, accelerated collaboration, and the creation of tools for stakeholders. Highlights on the G7's governance on cybersecurity follow:

<sup>4642</sup> United Nations Regional Information Centre (Brussels) 4 May 2022. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://unric.org/en/a-un-treaty-on-cybercrime-en-route/>

<sup>4643</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4644</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4645</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4646</sup> Communiqué, United Nations (New York) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n24/032/68/pdf/n2403268.pdf>



At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders committed to investigating and prosecuting cybercriminals internationally, including providing governments with the technical and legal tools to act against these criminals.<sup>4647</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders called for collaboration with the technology industry to work on a legal framework for gathering, disclosing, and protecting data and privacy to tackle crimes against the Internet and other emerging technologies.<sup>4648</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders committed to take further action to promote dialogue with the technology industry to address the threat of cybercrime, which was formerly outlined in the Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society.<sup>4649</sup>

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of judicial collaboration and law enforcement in fighting cybercrime.<sup>4650</sup>

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders committed to developing mechanisms to identify and hinder malicious use of communication and information technology to uncover and eliminate terrorist operations.<sup>4651</sup>

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of cooperating with governments, regional and international organizations, the private sector, and civil society to counter and sanction the use of information and communications technology (ICT) for terrorism and cybercrime.<sup>4652</sup> Leaders further called for international cooperation against malware and other cyber-attacks on infrastructure, networks, and services, including the Internet.

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to enhancing collaboration to improve energy sector cybersecurity.<sup>4653</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders committed to use international law against cybercrime by states and non-state actors.<sup>4654</sup> Leaders also encouraged the implementation of voluntary norms to promote trustworthy state activity, denouncing the misuse of ICTs by states for intellectual property crime, including confidential information that could increase its industries' competitiveness. Finally, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen cybersecurity in the energy sector.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders called for international cooperation to ensure an open, trustworthy, and safe cyberspace, focusing on countering cyber-attacks on key infrastructure around the world.<sup>4655</sup>

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<sup>4647</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>4648</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 2 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

<sup>4649</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

<sup>4650</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>4651</sup> G8 Summit Statement on Counter Terrorism, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-ct.html>

<sup>4652</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4653</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4654</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>4655</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqué.html>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to implementing existing international laws and enacting new ones to tackle intellectual property rights cybercrime.<sup>4656</sup>

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders addressed the importance of ensuring safe and open ICT infrastructure supply chains.<sup>4657</sup> Leaders also committed to guaranteeing the protection of human rights and freedoms by implementing international laws for the use of emerging technologies. Finally, leaders denounced the use of mechanisms that threaten the Group's democratic values such as internet shutdowns and network bans.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, leaders committed to enhancing the cyber resilience of key digital infrastructure.<sup>4658</sup> Leaders further committed to devising and introducing international cyber laws to ensure responsible state activity in digital spaces. Leaders affirmed their efforts toward improving the Group's cyber defenses against emerging technologies and cybercrime by state and non-state actors. Finally, leaders addressed the need to enforce international laws and assess past efforts for the attribution of cyber cases.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders recognized the importance of collaborating on export controls on key and emerging technologies including digital surveillance instruments to prevent the malicious use of these technologies by ill-intentioned actors.<sup>4659</sup> Leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to tackle transnational organized crime including cybercrime. Leaders welcomed the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime to promote international cooperation for criminal justice. Finally, leaders addressed the importance of safe and resilient cyber infrastructure, endorsing supplier expansion efforts for ICT supply chains.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “pursuing a four-fold approach to counter malicious cyber activities ... developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.”<sup>4660</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment has six criteria. Two are developing tools and using tools in support of cyber resilience and security. Two criteria are deterring and responding to harmful cyber behaviour that may be carried out by malicious states or cyber criminals. The fifth criterion is disrupting the infrastructure used by malicious states or cyber criminals and the final criterion is enhancing coordination on attributing cyber-attacks to their perpetrators.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Attribution process” is understood to mean “the process of tracing and identifying the origin or nature of a cyberattack.”<sup>4661</sup>

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<sup>4656</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>4657</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

<sup>4658</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 3 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

<sup>4659</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

<sup>4660</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 4 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4661</sup> Cyber attribution, Nord Security (Amsterdam) n.d. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://nordvpn.com/cybersecurity/glossary/cyber-attribution>

“Cyberattack” is understood to mean “an attempt to gain illegal access to a computer or computer system for the purpose of causing damage or harm.”<sup>4662</sup>

“Cybercrime” is understood to mean “criminal activity... committed using a computer especially to illegally access, transmit, or manipulate data.”<sup>4663</sup>

“Deter” is understood to mean “to turn aside, discourage, or prevent from acting.”<sup>4664</sup>

“Developing” is understood to mean “to gradually become clearer or more detailed.”<sup>4665</sup>

“Disrupt” is understood to mean “to interrupt the normal course or unity of [something].”<sup>4666</sup>

“Infrastructure” is understood to mean “the underlying foundation or basic framework (as of a system or organization).”<sup>4667</sup> In the context of this commitment, “cyber infrastructure they use” is understood to mean the physical or digital frameworks used by malicious States or cyber criminals to carry out cyber-attacks.

“Enhancing” is understood to mean “to increase or improve in value, quality, desirability, or attractiveness.”<sup>4668</sup>

“Four-fold” is understood to mean having “four units or members.”<sup>4669</sup> In the context of this commitment, the four-fold approach refers to the broader G7 commitment to cybersecurity, of which this commitment is one component.<sup>4670</sup>

“Approach” is understood to mean “to make advances to especially in order to create a desired result.”<sup>4671</sup>

“Malicious” is understood to mean “having or showing a desire to cause harm to someone: given to, marked by, or arising from malice.”<sup>4672</sup>

“State” is understood to mean “a politically organized body of people usually occupying a definite territory.”<sup>4673</sup> In the context of this commitment, it refers to the governing authority of this body.

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<sup>4662</sup> Cyberattack, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cyberattack>

<sup>4663</sup> Cybercrime, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cybercrime>

<sup>4664</sup> Deter, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/deter>

<sup>4665</sup> Developing, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/developing>

<sup>4666</sup> Disrupt, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/disrupt>

<sup>4667</sup> Infrastructure, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/infrastructure>

<sup>4668</sup> Enhancing, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/enhancing>

<sup>4669</sup> Four-fold, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/fourfold>

<sup>4670</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 2 February 2025. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>4671</sup> Approach, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/approach>

<sup>4672</sup> Malicious, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/malicious>

<sup>4673</sup> State, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/state>

“Behaviour” is understood to mean “the way in which something functions or operates.”<sup>4674</sup>

“Malicious state behavior,” in the context of this commitment, is therefore understood to mean cyber action taken by a foreign government entity intended to cause harm to another entity.

“Pursuing” is understood to mean “to find or employ measures to obtain or accomplish.”<sup>4675</sup>

“Respond” is understood to mean “to react in response.”<sup>4676</sup>

“Tools” is understood to mean “a means to an end.”<sup>4677</sup>

“Using” is understood to mean “to put into action or service: avail oneself of.”<sup>4678</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

This commitment has six criteria, of which at least four must be addressed strongly in order for the G7 to achieve a score of +1 for full compliance. For partial compliance, or 0, three of the criteria must be met, either by a combination of strong and weak actions, or many weak actions only on three or more of the criteria. For a -1, or no compliance, action was taken two or fewer criteria, or action was taken that was directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment occurred. Criteria and examples of strong actions are listed in the table below. Example actions may be employed explicitly against state actors, cyber criminals, or to improve general cyber security. Weak actions include verbal reaffirmation of the commitment, expressions of intent of future strong actions, or other actions that do not commit resources to the commitment.

Criteria	Example Actions
Developing tools	Developing and making available programs that private actors can use to test their cyber vulnerabilities; investing in encryption research; forming new agencies or agency branches tasked with fighting cyber crime or enhancing cyber security
Using tools	Launching public information campaigns educating businesses against cyber risks; employing stricter security or encryption practices; testing cyber vulnerabilities of government agencies; increasing funding to agencies or agency branches tasked with fighting cyber crime or enhancing cyber security
Deter malicious cyber activity	Enacting legal changes, such as including cryptocurrencies under anti-money-laundering protections; increasing sentences for cyber criminals; arresting cyber criminals
Respond to malicious cyber activity	Coordinating with international partners to strengthen systems after cyber breaches; issue warnings for private actors using systems that have recently been exploited; information sharing following cyber attacks or anti-cyber crime operations
Disrupt infrastructure	Arresting cyber criminals; conducting asset seizures against cyber criminal organizations; taking down or blocking access to illegal websites or networks
Enhance coordination on attribution processes	Joining joint task forces to fight cyber crime; information sharing or otherwise collaborating on attribution; releasing credible information attributing cyber attacks to various actors using cross-government or transnational coordination

<sup>4674</sup> Behavior, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/behavior>

<sup>4675</sup> Pursuing, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/pursuing>

<sup>4676</sup> Respond, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/respond>

<sup>4677</sup> Tool, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/tool>

<sup>4678</sup> Using, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/using>

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has taken action in two or fewer criteria: developing tools, using tools, deterring malicious cyber activity, responding to malicious cyber activity, disrupting infrastructure, and enhancing coordination on attribution processes or the G7 member has taken action that is directly and explicitly antithetical to the commitment.
0	The G7 member has taken action in three criteria, including at least one strong action: developing tools, using tools, deterring malicious cyber activity, responding to malicious cyber activity, disrupting infrastructure, and enhancing coordination on attribution processes or the G7 member has taken many weak actions in three or more of the criteria.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in at least four of the criteria: developing tools, using tools, deterring malicious cyber activity, responding to malicious cyber activity, disrupting infrastructure, and enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

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**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 15 August 2024, the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces successfully participated in the Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination, eXercise.<sup>4679</sup> This exercise highlighted Canada's dedication to strengthening cyber defence and interoperability within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Key achievements advanced collaborative cyber defence strategies with seven NATO members, validated new secure network protocols and procedures with Sweden and Romania, and demonstrated a strong capacity to share best practices on a global platform.

On 30 August 2024, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages Randy Boissonnault announced a federal investment of over CAD15.6 million through PrairiesCan for 16 projects across Alberta.<sup>4680</sup> This includes CAD2.3 million to the University of Calgary to create the Canadian Cyber Assessment, Training and Experimentation Centre to encourage cybersecurity solutions and mitigate cyber-attacks among public and private sectors.

On 20 September 2024, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States formalized a trilateral agreement to collaborate on cybersecurity and artificial intelligence research.<sup>4681</sup> The initiative focuses on research, development, testing, and evaluation of technologies in artificial intelligence, cyber resilience, and information domain-related areas. It also seeks to utilize previously existing research programs and address new technological challenges on the geopolitical landscape.

On 26 September 2024, Minister of National Defence Bill Blair and Chief of the Defence Staff Jennie Carignan officially announced the establishment of the Canadian Armed Forces Cyber Command.<sup>4682</sup> This new command

<sup>4679</sup> Success at CWIX 2024, Department of National Defence (Ottawa) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2024/08/success-at-cwix-2024.html>

<sup>4680</sup> Minister Boissonnault announces federal investments to commercialize innovative Alberta technologies, Prairies Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2024/08/background-minister-boissonnault-announces-federal-investments-to-commercialize-innovative-alberta-technologies.html>

<sup>4681</sup> UK, US, and Canada to collaborate on cybersecurity and AI research, UK Government (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-canada-to-collaborate-on-cybersecurity-and-ai-research>

<sup>4682</sup> Canadian Armed Forces establishes a new cyber command, Department of National Defence (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2024/09/canadian-armed-forces-establishes-a-new-cyber-command.html>

consolidates the Canadian Armed Forces' cyber capabilities into a unified entity, enhancing readiness to address threats in the cyber domain. It also aligns with Canada's commitments to NATO.

On 2 October 2024, Canada joined 67 other members of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative (CRI) in Washington D.C. for the fourth annual CRI Summit.<sup>4683</sup> The summit aimed to improve international cooperation in combating ransomware, and preventing cybercrime across national borders, reflecting Canada's commitment to global cybersecurity collaboration.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4684</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 29 October 2024, the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security released the Cyber Security Readiness Goals (CRGs).<sup>4685</sup> These goals consist of 36 foundational objectives aimed at improving cybersecurity across Canada's critical infrastructure sectors. The CRGs aim to enhance cyber resilience and minimize potential risks to society, public safety, and the overall stability of the Canadian economy.

On 30 October 2024, the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security released its National Cyber Threat Assessment 2025-2026.<sup>4686</sup> This comprehensive report provides an in-depth analysis of Canada's evolving cyber threat landscape. Within this report, Minister Blair announced CAD917.4 million over five years to enhance intelligence and cyber operations programs, aiming to bolster national security against evolving threats.

On 3 December 2024, the Canadian Center for Cybersecurity and the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, along with other international agencies, introduced a cybersecurity guidance to enhance protection against global network interferences by foreign state actors.<sup>4687</sup> Specifically, this guidance aims to counter China-sponsored actors.

On 3 December 2024, Canadian officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4688</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

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<sup>4683</sup> International Counter Ransomware Initiative 2024 joint statement, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/10/international-counter-ransomware-initiative-2024-joint-statement.html>

<sup>4684</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4685</sup> Cyber Security Readiness Goals: Securing our most Critical Systems, Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/cyber-security-readiness/cyber-security-readiness-goals-securing-our-most-critical-systems>

<sup>4686</sup> Canadian Centre for Cyber Security releases National Cyber Threat Assessment 2025-2026, Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/communications-security/news/2024/10/canadian-centre-for-cyber-security-releases-national-cyber-threat-assessment-2025-2026.html>

<sup>4687</sup> Joint guidance on enhanced visibility and hardening for communications infrastructure, Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity (Ottawa) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/joint-guidance-enhanced-visibility-hardening-communications-infrastructure>

<sup>4688</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

On 5 December 2024, the Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity and the Australian Cybersecurity Centre, along with other international collaborators, presented a revised version of the cybersecurity guidance to ensure safety against cyber threats.<sup>4689</sup> This guidance is aimed at assisting private actors to protect themselves from state-sponsored attacks.

On 13 December 2024, Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs Dominic LeBlanc declared Public Safety Canada's funding of CAD10 million for the new Cyber Attribution Data Centre at the Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity at the University of New Brunswick.<sup>4690</sup> This new institution aims to detect cybercriminals and collect information for attribution processes, as well as preparing future cybersecurity professionals.

On 13 January 2025, the Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Cyber Center) joined the United States' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency and other cybersecurity agencies in Europe and Australia to release cybersecurity guidance on securing operation technology (OT) facilities.<sup>4691</sup> The aim of this joint venture is to continue educating OT owners and operators on mechanisms to incorporate security into their device procurement process.

On 16 January 2025, the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat collaborated with the Cyber Center Learning Hub and Canada School of Public Service Digital Academy to create the Discover Cyber Security course in an effort to protect the Government of Canada's cyber space.<sup>4692</sup> All public servants must take this course to increase their awareness of cyber risks, protecting sensitive information and maintaining operational integrity.

On 4 February 2025, the Cyber Center released joint guidance alongside the French Cyber Security Agency on a risk-based approach to support and secure trusted AI systems and supply chains.<sup>4693</sup> The aim of this venture is to address the rising confidentiality and integrity risks of AI-based systems by suggesting various guidelines such as prohibiting AI-usage to automatize critical tasks, as well as monitoring AI systems.

On 4 February 2025, the Cyber Center partnered with other Five Eyes cybersecurity agencies to release a set of publications on cybersecurity for edge devices.<sup>4694</sup> The partners aim to educate on threats to edge devices and encourage the implementation of appropriate measures to circumvent those threats and to facilitate secure connections between networks.

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<sup>4689</sup> Executive summary and updated joint guidance on choosing secure and verifiable technologies, Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity (Ottawa) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/executive-summary-and-updated-joint-guidance-choosing-secure-and-verifiable-technologies>

<sup>4690</sup> Government of Canada announces financial support for the establishment of a Cyber Attribution Data Centre at the University of New Brunswick, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2024/12/government-of-canada-announces-financial-support-for-the-establishment-of-a-cyber-attribution-data-centre-at-the-university-of-new-brunswick.html>

<sup>4691</sup> Joint guidance on secure by demand and priority considerations for operational technology owners and operators when selecting digital products, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 13 January 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/joint-guidance-secure-demand-and-priority-considerations-operational-technology-owners-and-operators-when-selecting-digital-products>

<sup>4692</sup> New mandatory cyber security course – complete by March 31, 2025, Department of National Defense (Ottawa) 16 January 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2025/01/new-mandatory-cyber-security-course.html>

<sup>4693</sup> Joint guidance on building trust in artificial intelligence through a cyber risk-based approach, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/joint-guidance-building-trust-artificial-intelligence-through-cyber-risk-based-approach#defn-artificial-intelligence>

<sup>4694</sup> Five Eyes publish series to sound alarm on cyber security threats to edge devices, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 4 February 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/five-eyes-publish-series-sound-alarm-cyber-security-threats-edge-devices#defn-cyber-security>

On 6 February 2025, the Government of Canada announced its new National Cyber Security Strategy to protect Canadian cyberspace, position Canada as a leader in global cybersecurity and target cyber threats.<sup>4695</sup> The action plan aims to achieve these goals by deepening partnerships with cybersecurity stakeholders and developing plans to secure continuous investment in Canada's cybersecurity.

On 18 February 2025, the Communications Security Establishment Canada and the Cyber Center released a joint recommendation for Internet-connected OT operators to increase caution against cyber threats.<sup>4696</sup> This targeted recommendation aims to minimize attempts by Russian state cyber operators to exploit exposed OT devices.

On 3 April 2025, the Cyber Center partnered with the US National Security Agency and other international cybersecurity departments to protect private and public networks from fast flux threats.<sup>4697</sup> The cooperation aims to reduce data compromises by adopting network monitoring, machine learning, threat intelligence against fast flux attacks and domain analysis.

On 10 April 2025, the Cyber Center partnered with the United Kingdom's National Cyber Security Centre and cybersecurity agencies from the United States, Australia, Germany and New Zealand to release joint guidance on the spyware variants BADBAZAAR and MOONSHINE.<sup>4698</sup> The publication raised awareness of state-linked cyber threats targeting Uyghur, Tibetan and Taiwanese groups, and provided mitigation measures to help protect high-risk individuals, their devices and their data from surveillance malware.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (state) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. Canada has taken strong action to enhance cybersecurity prevention and coordination both on a national and global scale, and has taken strong action towards enhanced coordination on cybercrime attribution processes as well as working towards tools development with investments in cyber research.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Rejaa Khalid and Anali Arambula Galindo*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 25 June 2024, French judicial authorities participated in a major international anti-cybercrime operation. The operation led to the dismantling of the Coco.gg platform, a hub for the procurement illicit services and materials.<sup>4699</sup>

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<sup>4695</sup> Canada's New National Cyber Security Strategy, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2025/02/canadas-new-national-cyber-security-strategy.html>

<sup>4696</sup> CSE calls on Canadian organizations and critical infrastructure providers to strengthen defences on third anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/cse-calls-canadian-organizations-critical-infrastructure-providers-strengthen-defences-third-anniversary-russias-invasion-ukraine>

<sup>4697</sup> Joint guidance on fast flux, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/joint-guidance-fast-flux#defn-compromise>

<sup>4698</sup> Joint guidance on BADBAZAAR and MOONSHINE, Canadian Center for Cyber Security (Ottawa) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/news-events/joint-guidance-badbazaar-moonshine>

<sup>4699</sup> Major international operation dismantles Coco.gg platform, a hub for illicit activities, Tribunal Judiciaire de Paris (Paris), 25 June 2024. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.tribunal-de-paris.justice.fr/sites/default/files/2024-07/2024-06-25%20-%20CP%20ouverture%20d%27information%20coco.pdf>



On 18 July 2024, French judicial authorities launched a disinfection operation, following a report from Sekoia.io in collaboration with Europol.<sup>4700</sup> The operation dismantled the botnet controlled by the PlugX worm, a type of malware that affects digital systems worldwide.

On 17 September 2024, French prosecutors arrested Telegram Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pavel Durov using France's Orientation and Programming law (LOPMI) legislation, allowing tech titans to be criminally charged based on what occurs on their platforms.<sup>4701</sup> French prosecutors used the law to impose tough sanctions on CEO Durov, which could claim his liability to any illicit actions that are committed on his platform from his users. The implementation of this law will allow a standard to be set to hold responsible those in the technical fields with any criminal activities that occur on their platforms.

On 23 September 2024, France appointed its first Artificial Intelligence (AI) minister Clara Chappaz in Michel Barnier's cabinet as a step towards becoming a global leader in the field of tech.<sup>4702</sup> Minister Chappaz will report to the Ministry of Higher Education and Research regarding all forms of artificial intelligence.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4703</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On November 5, 2024, the State Participations Agency signed a contract to acquire 80% of the capital of Alcatel Submarine Networks (ASN).<sup>4704</sup> ASN manufactures and installs submarine telecom cables. This acquisition demonstrates France's commitment to strengthening its digital sovereignty by acquiring a strategic asset that is essential to the operation of the Internet.

On 25 November 2024, France entered negotiations with Atos, an information technology firm, for the potential acquisition of its advanced computing activities, valued at EUR500 million. The French government aims to retain control over Atos's strategic technology assets, which include securing communications for the military and secret services and manufacturing supercomputers. In doing this, the French government aims to ensure that these cybersecurity capabilities and strategic technologies remain under domestic control, safeguarding national security from external risks or influence.

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<sup>4700</sup> Démantèlement du botnet d'espionnage PlugX, Tribunal Judiciaire de Paris (Paris) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.tribunal-de-paris.justice.fr/sites/default/files/2024-07/2024-07-24%20-%20CP%20d%C3%A9mant%C3%A8ment%20botnet%20d%27espionnage%20plugX.pdf>

<sup>4701</sup> France uses tough, untested cybercrime law to target Telegram's Durov, Reuters (Paris) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/france-uses-tough-untested-cybercrime-law-target-telegrams-durov-2024-09-17/>

<sup>4702</sup> France appoints first AI minister amid political unrest as it aims to become global AI leader, Euro news (Lyon) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 27 October 2024. <https://www.euronews.com/next/2024/09/23/france-appoints-first-ai-minister-amid-political-unrest-as-it-aims-to-become-global-ai-lea>

<sup>4703</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4704</sup> ASN, a strategic manufacturer of submarine telecom cables, nationalized by France, Le Monde (Paris) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 1 March 2025. [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/economy/article/2024/11/05/asn-strategic-manufacturer-of-submarine-telecom-cables-nationalized-by-france\\_6731573\\_19.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/economy/article/2024/11/05/asn-strategic-manufacturer-of-submarine-telecom-cables-nationalized-by-france_6731573_19.html)

On 27 November 2024, the Council of Ministers approved a draft law for the establishment of the Cyber Capabilities Development Centre in the Western Balkans.<sup>4705</sup> The center will focus on strengthening cybersecurity and cooperation, combating cybercrime, and enhancing operational expertise in the region.

On 3 December 2024, French officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4706</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 3 December 2024, the French Anti-Cybercrime Office dismantled encrypted messaging service Matrix, in collaboration with Dutch police.<sup>4707</sup> The Franco-Dutch task force had intercepted communications linked to narcotics and arms trafficking prior to the dismantlement.

On 17 December 2024, the Inter-Ministerial Committee at the Archives of France drafted the Interministerial Archives Strategy for 2025-2029, with one of the focuses being on improving the resilience of archives in the face of emerging risks, including cyber-attacks.<sup>4708</sup> This strategy seeks to enhance the security and long-term viability of public archive services through the development of robust digital infrastructure and the strengthening of archive networks.

On 18 December 2024, France's National Cybersecurity Agency (ANSSI) and Germany's Federal Office for Information Security issued a joint report on cybersecurity at major sporting events based on their work securing the 2024 Paris Olympics and the Union of European Football Associations European Football Championship.<sup>4709</sup> The report highlighted preventive and reactive cyber measures implemented in cooperation with the private sector and local stakeholders to prevent disruptions, ensure system resilience and protect event infrastructure amidst heightened geopolitical tensions. This joint effort demonstrated strong international coordination and public-private collaboration to counter cyber threats targeting critical, high-profile events.

On 6 February 2025, the Government of France launched the third phase of its national artificial intelligence strategy, aimed at enhancing collaboration between AI companies and the government.<sup>4710</sup> In alignment with the AI Action Summit, President Emmanuel Macron announced that private companies are expected to invest EUR109 billion over the next few years to support AI in France, including for cybersecurity purposes. France's strategy focuses on strengthening computing infrastructure, leveraging AI to support and train future projects, and transform state ministries to improve public action and increase cybersecurity efficiency.

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<sup>4705</sup> Report of the Council of Ministers of November 27, 2024, Government of France (Paris) 28 November 2024, Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/conseil-des-ministres/compte-rendu-du-conseil-des-ministres-du-27-11-2024>

<sup>4706</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4707</sup> French cyber-gendarmes dismantle the encrypted messaging service Matrix, disrupting high-level organized crime, Le Parisien (Paris) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 1 March 2025. <https://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/le-haut-du-spectre-de-la-criminalite-organisee-comment-les-cybergendarmes-francais-ont-demantele-la-messagerie-cryptee-matrix-04-12-2024-7CCKP5CHMVG6BK3SGVMEIOYNE.php>

<sup>4708</sup> Interministerial Archives Strategy 2025-2029, Government of France (Paris) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/organisation/delegue-et-comite-interministeriel-aux-archives-de-france/strategie-interministerielle-des-archives-2025-2029>

<sup>4709</sup> ANSSI and BSI issue a joint release on cybersecurity at major sporting events thanks to cooperation with the private sector, French Cybersecurity Agency (Paris) 06 January 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://cyber.gouv.fr/en/actualites/anssi-and-bsi-issue-joint-release-cybersecurity-major-sporting-events-thanks-cooperation>

<sup>4710</sup> IA: une nouvelle impulsion pour la stratégie nationale, Government of France (Paris) 6 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 February 2025. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/actualite/ia-une-nouvelle-impulsion-pour-la-strategie-nationale>

On 10 February 2025, the Government of France hosted The Global Summit for Action on AI, inviting over 1,500 participants to discuss the role of AI.<sup>4711</sup> During the summit, France promoted the use of AI for France's cybersecurity, national strategy, major scientific advances, education and the workplace, as well as the use of AI in defence and justice.

On 15 April 2025, ANSSI published a set of strategic, operational, and technical guides to support the remediation of cybersecurity incidents.<sup>4712</sup> The guides aim to help organizations contain attacks, restore compromised systems, and improve long-term resilience by providing a doctrinal framework for managing remediation. This initiative contributes to national and sectoral preparedness by strengthening incident response capabilities across the French cybersecurity ecosystem.

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. France has invested in developing and using tools to deter, respond to, and disrupt cyberattacks or malicious cyber behavior. This includes implementing strategic policies, fostering international partnerships, and acquiring key technologies to strengthen its cybersecurity infrastructure and ensure national security. Furthermore, towards cybersecurity and the growth of artificial intelligence, it has taken steps to ensure safety and accountability. The usage of the LOPMI legislation sets a precedent that could be utilised in other cybersecurity incidents and challenges such as decentralised cryptocurrency exchanges in the future.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zoha Mobeen*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 24 July 2024, the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) approved a draft law to strengthen cybersecurity through the implementation of the EU Directive on Network and Information Security into German law.<sup>4713</sup> This initiative aims to further cybersecurity obligations and reporting in the German private sector and introduces additional regulatory instruments for the BSI.

On 22 August 2024, Federal Minister of the Interior and Community Nancy Faeser conducted a Security Tour across several German regions to discuss the government's initiatives on digital and public security with local public and private stakeholders.<sup>4714</sup> Minister Faeser also discussed government efforts to increase awareness for the cybersecurity area.

On 20 September 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community held National Civil Protection Day 2024, focusing on strengthening digital resilience in the face of increasing cyber threats.<sup>4715</sup> This event

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<sup>4711</sup> Paris accueille le sommet pour l'action sur l'IA, Government of France (Paris) 10 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 February 2025. <https://www.info.gouv.fr/actualite/paris-accueille-le-sommet-pour-laction-sur-lia>

<sup>4712</sup> ANSSI publishes a set of guides on remediation of cyber incidents, French Cybersecurity Agency (Paris) 15 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <http://cyber.gouv.fr/en/actualites/anssi-publishes-set-guides-remediation-cyber-incidents>

<sup>4713</sup> Stärkung der Cybersicherheit durch EU-Richtlinie NIS-2, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Berlin) 24 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/240724\\_NIS-2.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/240724_NIS-2.html)

<sup>4714</sup> Sicherheitsreise 2024, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 15 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/08/sicherheitsreise.html>

<sup>4715</sup> Tag des Bevölkerungsschutzes 2024, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/09/bevoelkerungsschutztag2024.html>

centered on enhancing public awareness about cyber resilience and the government's commitment to safeguarding essential services, including healthcare, energy, and transportation, from potential cyber incidents.

On 1 October 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI) launched a range of awareness activities including webinars and workshops within its national coordinator role, during the European Cybersecurity Month.<sup>4716</sup> European Cybersecurity Month is an annual campaign coordinated by European Union Agency for Cybersecurity, with this year's focus being social engineering.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4717</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 16 October 2024, the BMI signed an agreement with Singapore's Cyber Security Agency to expand cybersecurity labeling between the two nations.<sup>4718</sup> This labelling includes routers in addition to smart consumer devices, furthering international cybersecurity protections between the two countries.

On 18 October 2024, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community announced the implementation of the Cyber Resilience Act.<sup>4719</sup> This legislation aims to reinforce cybersecurity standards for digital products across Germany and the European Union. The act introduces a requirement for manufacturers to meet specific cybersecurity criteria, ensuring that products are secure by design before reaching consumers.

On 4 November 2024, the Federal Ministry of Justice released a new draft legislation to increase national cyber resilience.<sup>4720</sup> The proposal aims to introduce legal protection for information technology security researchers who identify and address vulnerabilities in cybersecurity systems. This modifies current laws surrounding unauthorized access, leading to legal uncertainties for professionals working to enhance identify, notify cybersecurity deficiencies. The proposed development would ensure that actions taken with the intention of improving security are no longer penalized under Section 202a of the German Criminal Code.

On 27 November 2024, the BSI, together with 17 EU member states, issued a joint statement requesting public administration and critical infrastructure and industries to embark on a transition towards post-quantum cryptography.<sup>4721</sup> The proposed strategy is concentrating on large-scale fault-tolerant quantum computers, which are to undermine the security of widely used encryption methods by the 2030s.

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<sup>4716</sup> Welcome to ECSM, Federal Office for Information Security (Bonn) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024.

[https://www.bsi.bund.de/EN/Service-Navi/Veranstaltungen/ECSM/ecsm\\_node.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/EN/Service-Navi/Veranstaltungen/ECSM/ecsm_node.html)

<sup>4717</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industrial, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4718</sup> Partnerschaft im Bereich Cybersicherheitskennzeichnung mit Singapur, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241016\\_Partnerbehoerde\\_Singapur\\_IT-Sik.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241016_Partnerbehoerde_Singapur_IT-Sik.html)

<sup>4719</sup> Cyber Resilience Act, Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat (Berlin) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/10/cyber-resilience-act.html>

<sup>4720</sup> Rechtssicherheit für die Erforschung von IT-Sicherheitslücken: Bundesjustizministerium veröffentlicht Gesetzentwurf zum Computerstrafrecht, Bundesministerium der Justiz (Berlin) 4 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 December 2024. [https://www.bmj.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/1104\\_ComputerStrafR.html](https://www.bmj.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/2024/1104_ComputerStrafR.html)

<sup>4721</sup> BSI and partners from 17 other EU member states demand transition to Post-Quantum Cryptography, Federal Office for Information Security (Bonn) 27 November 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/EN/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241127\\_Post-Quantum\\_Cryptography.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/EN/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241127_Post-Quantum_Cryptography.html)

On 29 November 2024, the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution established a specialized cybersecurity task force dedicated to addressing cyberattacks, espionage, sabotage, and disinformation campaigns.<sup>4722</sup> The initial triggers were the upcoming German election and the goal to safeguard democratic processes. The task force's objective is to enhance cybersecurity measures, increase resilience against election related cyber threats and collaborate with transnational partners.

On 3 December 2024, German officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4723</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 12 December 2024, the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) reviewed the European Union's official Cyber Resilience Act, adapting the TR-03183 guideline to increase the efficiency of the legislation.<sup>4724</sup> The BSI's revisions on user surveillance by manufacturers closely aligns with the Cyber Resilience Act by streamlining consumer-oriented standardization in Germany.

On 17 December 2024, the BSI published new security requirements for database systems.<sup>4725</sup> These new requirements address important nodes of the database system, particularly through preset security, hardening, autonomy, logging and interoperability. These changes aim to protect Germany's digital sovereignty by targeting concerns raised by IT administrators, security personnel and federal administrators about the security of their database systems.

On 19 January 2025, the president of the BSI, Claudia Plattner announced the modernization of the IT security specialist certification process in Germany to manage growing demand.<sup>4726</sup> By incorporating third-party accreditations and online assessments, this expansion seeks to ensure cybersecurity concerns are efficiently addressed.

On 21 January 2025, the BSI and Infineon Technologies AG declared a breakthrough in attaining the world's first Common Criteria EAL6 certificate for the implementation of a post-quantum cryptography algorithm in a security controller.<sup>4727</sup> This development counters the growing threats against file and data protections from quantum computers. The leap in the cybersecurity industry is instrumental in ensuring the correct implementation and resistance of IT products from cyberattacks.<sup>4728</sup>

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<sup>4722</sup> German task force to tackle foreign meddling before election, Reuters (Berlin) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/german-task-force-tackle-foreign-meddling-before-election-2024-11-29/>

<sup>4723</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4724</sup> Cyber Resilience Act: BSI bewirbt sich um Marktaufsicht für vernetzte Produkt, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Bonn) 11 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241211\\_Inkrafttreten-CRA.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241211_Inkrafttreten-CRA.html)

<sup>4725</sup> Neue Sicherheitsanforderungen für Datenbanksysteme veröffentlicht, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Berlin) 4 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Alle-Meldungen-News/Meldungen/Sicherheit\\_Datenbanksysteme\\_2-250304.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Alle-Meldungen-News/Meldungen/Sicherheit_Datenbanksysteme_2-250304.html)

<sup>4726</sup> Gestiegene Nachfrage: BSI beschleunigt Zertifizierungsverfahren für IT-Sicherheitsdienstleister, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Bonn) 19 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241219\\_Zertifizierung\\_IT-Sicherheitsdienstleister.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2024/241219_Zertifizierung_IT-Sicherheitsdienstleister.html)

<sup>4727</sup> Erste quantensichere Smartcard zertifiziert, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Bonn) 21 January 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250121\\_erste\\_quantensichere\\_Smartcard.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250121_erste_quantensichere_Smartcard.html)

<sup>4728</sup> Infineon and the BSI pave the way for a quantum-resilient future: World's first Common Criteria Certification for post-quantum cryptography algorithm on a security controller, Infineon Technology (Neubiberg) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 6 March 2025. <https://www.infineon.com/cms/en/about-infineon/press/press-releases/2025/INFCSS202501-043.html>

On 7 February 2025, the BSI and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg signed an agreement to increase cooperation between the two entities to address cyber crimes in the region.<sup>4729</sup> This agreement is a landmark in federal and state cooperation in addressing growing issues of cyber sabotage and espionage in Germany. These measures target cybersecurity information exchanges, joint awareness-raising measures, advisory services and IT support after security incidents.

On 18 March 2025, the BSI and STACKIT announced the joint development of sovereign cloud solutions for the long-term security of digital products and services.<sup>4730</sup> The cooperation aims to analyze risks and threats to information systems to increase secure usage of public cloud spaces and make German cloud structures more competitive.

On 27 March 2025, State Secretary Markus Richter announced the Government of Germany's new cloud, Deutsche Verwaltungswolke, to secure and standardise cloud services for governmental agencies.<sup>4731</sup> The new cloud system seeks to strengthen the digital sovereignty and security of public administration.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. Germany has implemented a wide range of domestic cybersecurity reforms, passed new legislation to improve digital resilience, and expanded international cooperation through initiatives such as cybersecurity labelling agreements and joint post-quantum cryptography efforts, thus taking strong action towards cybercrime prevention. Germany has also strengthened institutional capacity through new task forces, certification modernization and cloud infrastructure development, strengthening prevention and response capabilities, whilst developing new tools in the field of post-quantum cryptography. Furthermore, Germany has used existing tools to strengthen cybersecurity by adopting and enforcing national cybersecurity standards.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Rejaa Khalid and Michal Gromek*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 19 June 2024, Undersecretary of State to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Alfredo Mantovano stated the Senate's approval of a new government bill on cybersecurity.<sup>4732</sup> The government bill allows for the national security system as well as the cyber sector to have up-to-date equipment and tools to protect from attacks. It will also protect Ital from any future cyber-attacks by focusing on updating its systems as well as strengthening its defenses through collaborations with other governmental groups.

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<sup>4729</sup> Cybersicherheit in Bund und Ländern: BSI und Hamburg vereinbaren Kooperation, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Bonn) 11 February 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250211\\_Kooperationsvereinbarung\\_Hamburg.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250211_Kooperationsvereinbarung_Hamburg.html)

<sup>4730</sup> Cloud Computing: BSI und Schwarz Digits planen Kooperation, Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Bonn) 18 March 2025. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 March 2025. [https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250318\\_BSI\\_Resilienz\\_Cloud-Loesung.html](https://www.bsi.bund.de/DE/Service-Navi/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/Presse2025/250318_BSI_Resilienz_Cloud-Loesung.html)

<sup>4731</sup> Germany launches government cloud, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 7 March 2025. <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2025/03/dvc.html>

<sup>4732</sup> Cybersecurity, approvazione definitiva del Senato: dichiarazione del Sottosegretario Mantovano, Governo Italiano Persidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 19 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/cybersecurity-approvazione-definitiva-del-senato-dichiarazione-del-sottosegretario>

On 11 September 2024, President of the Campania Region Vincenzo De Luca stated that the Campania Region received EUR14 million in funding to tackle cybersecurity.<sup>4733</sup> The funding was allocated towards information technology security projects in the realm of health services in the region, allowing for constant updates geared towards advancing technologies and maintaining systems to prevent future attacks.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4734</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 7 November 2024, Prefect Claudio Sgaraglia and the representative of the Italian Banking Association, Marco Laconis signed a memorandum to increase security measures and policies in order to protect the banks and their customers.<sup>4735</sup> This memorandum aims to mitigate the risks of cyber-attacks, robberies and fraud, as well as to prevent financial crimes.

On 21 November 2024, Italy proposed a draft decree aimed at tackling cybercrime by increasing penalties for illegal access to critical systems, including those related to national security and public safety.<sup>4736</sup> The legislation also strengthens the role of the chief anti-mafia prosecutor in overseeing cybercrime investigations.

On 3 December 2024, Italy hosted the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4737</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 7 February 2025, the National Cybersecurity Agency (ACN) joined a high-level international initiative led by France's cybersecurity agency to address risks associated with artificial intelligence.<sup>4738</sup> The joint analysis, developed with cybersecurity authorities from 15 countries, outlines threats to AI systems and their supply chains and provides recommendations to enhance their security. The initiative supports broader cooperation within the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group and highlights the importance of aligning cybersecurity agencies and AI safety institutions in shaping global approaches to secure and trustworthy AI.

On 12 February 2025, the ACN participated in a high-level meeting in Paris on AI and cybersecurity, held alongside the AI Action Summit and hosted by France's national cybersecurity agency.<sup>4739</sup> The event brought

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<sup>4733</sup> De Luca, alla Campania 14 milioni per la Cybersecurity, ANSA it (Salerno) 11 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 October 2024. [https://www.ansa.it/campania/notizie/giunta\\_campania/2024/09/11/de-luca-alla-campania-14-milioni-per-la-cybersecurity\\_1594e059-12ac-4f82-a06b-302c380dc8b2.html](https://www.ansa.it/campania/notizie/giunta_campania/2024/09/11/de-luca-alla-campania-14-milioni-per-la-cybersecurity_1594e059-12ac-4f82-a06b-302c380dc8b2.html)

<sup>4734</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4735</sup> Protocollo tra prefettura di Milano e Abi per la sicurezza delle banche e dei clienti, Ministero Dell'Interno (Rome) 7 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 9 November 2024.

<https://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/protocollo-prefettura-milano-e-abi-sicurezza-banche-e-dei-clienti>

<sup>4736</sup> Italy plans crackdown on database hacks, Reuters (Rome) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.reuters.com/technology/cybersecurity/italy-plans-crackdown-database-hacks-2024-11-21/>

<sup>4737</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4738</sup> ACN Joins High-Level Initiative on AI Risks Promoted by French Cyber Agency ANSSI, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 7 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/comunicazione>

<sup>4739</sup> ACN takes part to the AI Summit side event dedicated to cyber agencies in Paris, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 12 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/acn-partecipa-all-incontro-delle-agenzie-cyber-a-margine-dell-ai-summit-di-parigi>

together 28 agencies, as well as representatives from the EU Commission and other partners. The meeting, which followed a crisis simulation exercise, focused on strengthening cooperation among G7 cyber agencies on securing AI technologies. Participants discussed coordinated strategies for mitigating risks related to AI supply chains and preventing the malicious use of AI systems.

On 18 February 2025, Director General of the ACN Bruno Frattasi met with European Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration Magnus Brunner.<sup>4740</sup> The meeting focused on Italy's cybersecurity priorities at the European level, including the implementation of the NIS2 directive and the protection of critical infrastructure. Discussions also covered Italy's engagement in the international Counter Ransomware Initiative and the balance between cybersecurity measures and law enforcement needs. The exchange reinforced Italy's role in advancing coordinated cybersecurity strategies across the European Union.

On 26 February 2025, the ACN held bilateral meetings in Muscat with the Omani Cyber Defence Centre and officials from Oman's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.<sup>4741</sup> The delegation discussed shared cybersecurity priorities and opportunities for cooperation. The visit marked a step forward in strengthening cybersecurity ties between Italy and Oman as part of broader international engagement on digital security.

On 27 February 2025, the ACN adopted national guidelines for implementing the EU Common Criteria (EUCC), the European Union's first cybersecurity certification framework.<sup>4742</sup> The new guidelines define how Italy will authorize and supervise certification bodies, accredit testing laboratories and manage the issuance and oversight of cybersecurity certificates under the EUCC system. This move aligns Italy with EU cybersecurity standards and strengthens national processes for ensuring the security and reliability of digital products and services.

On 28 February 2025, the ACN and the National Agency for the Evaluation of the University and Research System signed a cooperation agreement to strengthen cybersecurity education and research.<sup>4743</sup> The partnership aims to improve coordination between government and academia by tracking national expertise, supporting joint research initiatives and promoting cybersecurity as a strategic academic discipline. The agreement also includes regular reporting on cybersecurity-related research output and aims to foster a national culture of digital security and resilience.

On 5 March 2025, the ACN participated in an EU minister meeting in Warsaw for the first informal Council on Transport, Telecommunications, and Energy fully dedicated to cybersecurity.<sup>4744</sup> The meeting concluded with the unanimous adoption of the Warsaw Declaration, which includes thirteen recommendations to strengthen EU-wide coordination and cyber resilience. Key topics included joint response planning for large-scale cyber incidents, civil-military cooperation and expanding EU funding for cybersecurity.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. Italy has taken strong action to strengthen cybersecurity through a bill that will assist in tackling future cyber threats. Additionally, the Italian Cybersecurity Agency has funded initiatives to

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<sup>4740</sup> Magnus Brunner at ACN headquarters, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 18 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/magnus-brunner-nella-sede-di-acn>

<sup>4741</sup> Ambassador Marotti went to Muscat, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 26 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/visita-ambasciatore-oman>

<sup>4742</sup> The national implementation of the EUCC, the first European cybersecurity certification system, is underway, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 27 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/al-via-l-attuazione-nazionale-dell-eucc-il-primo-sistema-europeo-di-certificazione-della-cybersicurezza>

<sup>4743</sup> ACN and ANVUR sign a collaboration agreement for the advancement of national cybersecurity, National Cybersecurity Agency (Rome) 28 February 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/acn-e-anvur-sigla-no-un-acordo-di-collaborazione-per-l-avanzamento-della-cybersicurezza-nazionale>

<sup>4744</sup> Warsaw: first TTE Council dedicated to cyber security, National Cybersecurity Agency (Rome) 7 March 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/varsovia-primo-consiglio-tte-interamente-dedicato-alla-cybersicurezza>



strengthen the public administration system to ensure that the threats of cyberattacks do not penetrate the system. All these contributions and allocations from the Italian government shows that the country is taking steps towards a safer digital economy while also navigating and learning new artificial intelligence challenges that arise.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Zoha Mobeen*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 16 July 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, in a meeting with Tuvaluan Prime Minister Feleti Penitala, stated that Japan will provide resources for a submarine cable project in Tuvalu to strengthen the cybersecurity capacity of the country.<sup>4745</sup> This action increases cybersecurity cooperation between countries through the development of infrastructure aimed at deterring malicious cyber activity.

On 17 July 2024, Prime Minister Kishida, during the Japan-Palau Summit, stated Japan's intention of collaborating with Palau on cybersecurity issues, specifically using open Radio Access Network to develop telecommunication network and cyber defense, improving Palau's capacity to detect and respond to threats in cyberspace.<sup>4746</sup> This demonstrates cooperation between countries in enhancing coordination on attribution processes and the implementation of infrastructure made to detect and deter cyberthreats.

On 28 July 2024, Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa and Defense Minister Minoru Kihara reaffirmed the importance of cooperation and cyber security in a joint press statement with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin.<sup>4747</sup> This action demonstrates commitment to multinational collaboration on cybersecurity issues.

On 29 July 2024, Foreign Minister Kamikawa met with the Foreign Ministers of Australia and India, as well as the Secretary of State of the United States, where the officials affirmed their commitment to monitoring responsible State behavior in the cyberspace and collaboration on projects such as the International Conference on Cyber Capacity Building in the Philippines and the Quad Cyber Bootcamp in India in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>4748</sup> They also discussed cooperative efforts in cybersecurity enhancing fields for the protection of critical infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific Region. The final statement demonstrates the countries' commitment to the establishment of a cohesive framework for cybercrime detection and deterrence.

On 5 September 2024, Minister Kamikawa and Minister Kihara, alongside Australian officials, established an Australia-Japan Pacific Development Initiative to develop collaborative connectivity and digital resilience, including telecommunication infrastructure aimed at increasing cybersecurity resilience for Australia and

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<sup>4745</sup> Japan-Tuvalu Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/ocn/tv/pageite\\_000001\\_00457.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/tv/pageite_000001_00457.html)

<sup>4746</sup> Japan-Palau Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/ocn/pw/pageite\\_000001\\_00469.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/ocn/pw/pageite_000001_00469.html)

<sup>4747</sup> Secretary Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, Japanese Foreign Minister Kamikawa Yoko, and Japanese Defense Minister Kihara Minoru At a Joint Press Availability, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-secretary-of-defense-lloyd-j-austin-iii-japanese-foreign-minister-kamikawa-yoko-and-japanese-defense-minister-kihara-minoru-at-a-joint-press-availability/>

<sup>4748</sup> Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting Joint Statement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100704619.pdf>

Japan.<sup>4749</sup> This action increases international coordination on cybersecurity efforts via the establishment of an organized framework to counter malicious cyber activity.

On 6 September 2024, Japan, the United States and South Korea held the 3rd Japan-US-ROK Trilateral Diplomacy Working Group for Foreign Ministry Cooperation on North Korea's Cyber Threats in Seoul, where they discussed North Korea's malicious cyber activities which aided in its weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs.<sup>4750</sup> The parties discussed their efforts against these threats as well as cooperative measures, affirming that they will enhance future collaboration adhering to the UN security council's resolutions in the cyber area. This discussion is an example of deterrence and response to malicious state behavior in cyberspace, and the development of coordination between countries against malicious cyber activity.

On 11 September 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Japan and Lithuania had held their first bilateral meeting on cybersecurity in Vilnius and stated that they would work closely together on cyber issues including strategy, policy, and cooperation through the Japan-Lithuania Bilateral Consultations on Cybersecurity.<sup>4751</sup> This enhances state coordination on cybersecurity, promoting the deterrence of cybercrime and establishing an organized framework.

On 4 October 2024, the Financial Services Agency finalized amendments for the Guidelines for Cybersecurity in the Financial Sector to address the rampant increase of cybersecurity risks over the past few years.<sup>4752</sup> This action further develops a cohesive legislative framework with the purpose of better deterring cybersecurity threats.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4753</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 10 October 2024, the United States Department of State announced that the US, Australia, India, and Japan were continuing their joint cyber initiative, the Quad Cyber Challenge, aimed at strengthening responsible cyber ecosystems and promoting cybersecurity education and workforce development.<sup>4754</sup> The aim of the joint campaign is to foster education and building a skilled workforce to address emerging cyber threats, supporting the development of future cybersecurity leaders.

On 11 October 2024, Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba expressed that Japan will be providing connectivity assistance within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations region, allowing members to become better

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<sup>4749</sup> Eleventh Australia-Japan 2+2 Foreign and Defense Ministerial Consultations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100720472.pdf>

<sup>4750</sup> The 3rd Japan- U.S.-ROK Trilateral Diplomacy Working Group for Foreign Ministry Cooperation on North Korea's Cyber Threats, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00575.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00575.html)

<sup>4751</sup> The 1st Japan-Lithuania Bilateral Consultations on Cybersecurity, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/es/pagewe\\_000001\\_00091.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/es/pagewe_000001_00091.html)

<sup>4752</sup> Publication of the finalized amendments to the "Comprehensive Guidelines for Supervision of Major Banks, etc." and other relevant and applicable Guidelines, alongside the finalized "Guidelines for Cybersecurity in the Financial Sector" (provisional English title) after public consultation, Financial Services Agency (Tokyo) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/newsletter/weekly2024/607.html>

<sup>4753</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4754</sup> 2024 Quad Cyber Challenge Joint Statement, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/2024-quad-cyber-challenge-joint-statement/>.

connected among themselves with Japan's technological and infrastructural support.<sup>4755</sup> This increases collaboration between members and develops a cohesive framework in cyberspace to better coordinate State response to cybersecurity threats.

On 1 November 2024, Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Josep Borrell Fontelles announced the Japan-EU Security and Defence Partnership during a strategic dialogue aimed at cooperation in a variety of security issues, one being the enhancement of cybersecurity.<sup>4756</sup> This demonstrates a development of cohesive frameworks between state actors against malicious cyber activity and better coordinated cybersecurity efforts.

On 11 November 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Japan and the European Union had held a cyber dialogue wherein members discussed cybersecurity strategy, legislation, and infrastructure development to increase bilateral and multilateral cooperation as well as capacity and resilience in the cyber domain.<sup>4757</sup> This exchange demonstrates cooperation between state actors in cyberspace, as well as the establishment of cohesive frameworks for action.

On 12 November 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced that the JP-US-EU (Japan – United States – European Union) Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Week, including members from the Indo-Pacific Region, had taken place.<sup>4758</sup> This conference gathered experts on cyber defence, infrastructure, and policy, focusing on increasing resilience and state cooperation on the corporate supply chain of digital products. This exchange increases collaboration in international cyber security threats so that state actors may take cooperative measures to increase each other's capacities in the cyber domain.

On 3 December 2024, Japanese officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4759</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 9 December 2024, the Government of Japan held a trilateral meeting with the United States and South Korea in Tokyo, where officials announced their Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and expressed their commitment to a focused multilateral approach to counter North Korea's malicious cyber activities.<sup>4760</sup> This exchange reinforced international cooperation on cyber security issues, working towards a structured framework amongst state actors.

On 10 January 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar held a Japan-Malaysia summit where both leaders expressed a desire to increase bilateral cooperation, reaching an agreement on cooperation between the Japan Coast Guard and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency on issues of national security,

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<sup>4755</sup> Press Conference by Prime Minister ISHIBA Shigeru Following His Participation in the ASEAN-related Summit Meetings, Prime Ministers' Office of Japan (Tokyo) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/102\\_ishiba/statement/202410/1011naigai.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/102_ishiba/statement/202410/1011naigai.html)

<sup>4756</sup> Release of the Japan-EU Security and Defence Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00703.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00703.html)

<sup>4757</sup> The 6th Japan-EU Cyber Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00728.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00728.html)

<sup>4758</sup> JP-US-EU Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Week for the Indo-Pacific Region" Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1115\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/1115_001.html)

<sup>4759</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4760</sup> Japan-U.S.-ROK Trilateral Meeting on North Korea, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00797.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00797.html)

including those of cyber defence.<sup>4761</sup> This action demonstrates coordination between national organization aimed at increased efforts of protecting the cyberspace from possible threats.

On 22 January 2025, the Government of Japan and the Government of the United Kingdom participated in the third Ministerial Japan-UK Digital Council wherein both members reaffirmed the importance of the “Hiroshima Accord: An Enhanced Japan and UK Global Strategic Partnership” to promote collaboration on digital technologies.<sup>4762</sup> This effort affirms the commitment of state actors on collaborative efforts in the digital sphere including cyber resilience efforts.

On 23 January 2025, Ambassador to Cambodia Ueno Atsushi and Cambodian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prak Sokhonn signed a JPY750 million grant agreement.<sup>4763</sup> Through these funds, Japan will provide cyber security equipment to Cambodia to aid the election process.

On 15 February 2025, Minister of Foreign Affairs Iwaya Takeshi, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yul attended the Japan-US-Republic of Korea Foreign Ministers’ Meeting.<sup>4764</sup> The officials issued a joint statement agreeing to strengthen their cooperation on cyber security deterrence and dedicated response actions, specifically against the malicious cyber activities of North Korea.

On 6 March 2025, the Government of Japan and the Government of Australia held the 6<sup>th</sup> Japan-Australia Cyber Policy Dialogue in Canberra, where both parties exchanged views on cybersecurity strategy and policy, bilateral and multilateral cooperation and increasing cyber capacity.<sup>4765</sup> Both parties agreed to continue cooperative efforts in the cyberspace. This demonstrates Japan’s commitment to collaborative efforts and increased collaboration between state actors against cyber threats.

On 25 March 2025, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry implemented the Labeling Scheme based on Japan Cyber-Security Technical Assessment Requirements (JC-STARI) to ensure any network connecting nonstandard computing hardware or IoT products have appropriate security measures against potential cybercrime.<sup>4766</sup> The JC-STAR scheme mandates standardized cybersecurity labeling for IoT devices based on defined compliance protocols. This initiative reflects Japan’s broader commitment to proactive cyber governance through regulatory mechanisms designed to deter cyber threats and increase the security of digital infrastructure.

On 3 April 2025, Minister Iwaya attended the NATO Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, reaffirming Japan’s commitment to international cyber stability frameworks.<sup>4767</sup> Discussions emphasized alignment with NATO’s cyber defense posture, focusing on interoperability, threat intelligence sharing and resilience against state-sponsored cyber threats. This engagement signifies Japan’s active role in multilateral cybersecurity enforcement strategies aimed at disrupting transnational cybercrime and malicious digital operations.

On 4 April 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced Japan’s participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Japan-EU Foreign Ministerial Strategic Dialogue, reinforcing bilateral commitments to cybersecurity cooperation under the Japan-

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<sup>4761</sup> Japan-Malaysia Summit Meeting (Summary), Prime Minister’s Office of Japan (Tokyo) 10 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/103/diplomatic/202501/10malaysia.html>

<sup>4762</sup> UK-Japan Joint Statement: Ministerial Japan-UK digital council January 2025, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 22 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.soumu.go.jp/main\\_content/000987609.pdf](https://www.soumu.go.jp/main_content/000987609.pdf)

<sup>4763</sup> Signing and Exchange of Notes Concerning Grant Aid Project to the Kingdom of Cambodia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00940.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00940.html)

<sup>4764</sup> Japan-U.S.-ROK Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/a\\_o/na2/pageite\\_000001\\_00001.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/na2/pageite_000001_00001.html)

<sup>4765</sup> The 6th Japan-Australia Cyber Policy Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_01064.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_01064.html)

<sup>4766</sup> Launch of IoT Product Security Labeling Scheme (JC-STAR), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0325\\_006.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2025/0325_006.html)

<sup>4767</sup> Attendance of Foreign Minister Iwaya at the Meeting of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/ep/pageite\\_000001\\_00004.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/ep/pageite_000001_00004.html)

EU Strategic Partnership Agreement.<sup>4768</sup> Key outcomes included coordinated responses to cyberattacks, alignment on norms for responsible state behavior in cyberspace and enhanced joint capacity-building initiatives. This dialogue exemplifies the strengthening of cross-regional cooperation and collaboration in the prevention and mitigation of cyber threats through unified strategic action.

On 9 April 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba and NATO Secretary General Rutte issued a joint statement reaffirming the strategic partnership between Japan and NATO, with a focus on cooperation in cyber defense, space, emerging and disruptive technologies and interoperability.<sup>4769</sup> The leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening collective security and resilience in both the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions. This partnership supports ongoing efforts to coordinate responses to cyber threats and enhance strategic collaboration in the digital domain.

Japan has fully complied with developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. Japan has taken strong action in the first dimension of the commitment through the development of cybersecurity infrastructure in tandem with other State actors aimed at deterring cyberattacks, establishing rapid response mechanisms, and actively disrupting the infrastructure used by cybercriminals. Further, Japan has taken a multitude of strong and weak actions towards the second dimension of the commitment through collaboration between state actors to accurately deter and identify the sources of cyberattacks via discussion and development of cohesive multi-national frameworks.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Marta Tavares Fernandes*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 17 July 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology announced the introduction of the Cyber Security and Resilience Bill, which aims to strengthen the UK's cyber defences and protect essential services from cyberattacks.<sup>4770</sup> The Bill will be introduced in 2025 and will update existing regulations, expand protections for more digital services and supply chains, and require increased incident reporting. It addresses vulnerabilities highlighted by recent attacks on sectors such as the National Health Service and Ministry of Defence, enhancing resilience against cyber threats from state and criminal actors.

On 15 July 2024, Strategic Command announced the occurrence of Exercise Baltic Mule, led by the UK and Poland, aimed to enhance cyber resilience of frontline military forces in Eastern Europe.<sup>4771</sup> The exercise, involving participants from Canada, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the UK, and the US, focused on securing military supply lines and communication systems against cyber threats. The exercise supports ongoing efforts to improve military readiness and cyber resilience in the face of increasing cyber threats.

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<sup>4768</sup> 2nd Japan-EU Foreign Ministerial Strategic Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 April 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/ep/pageite\\_000001\\_00884.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/ep/pageite_000001_00884.html)

<sup>4769</sup> Joint Statement H.E. Mr. Ishiba Shigeru, Prime Minister of Japan and H.E. Mr. Mark Rutte, Nato Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100827718.pdf>

<sup>4770</sup> Cyber Security and Resilience Bill, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/cyber-security-and-resilience-bill>

<sup>4771</sup> Improving Cyber Resilience of Frontline Forces in Europe, Strategic Command (London) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/improving-cyber-resilience-of-frontline-forces-in-europe>

On 25 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (FCDO) launched a new “Technology Security Initiative” (TSI) to boost security of telecom networks.<sup>4772</sup> This action enhances cybersecurity by strengthening collaboration on critical and emerging technologies across both parties. It facilitates the identification of priority areas for cyber cooperation and aims to improve cyber resilience through shared efforts in government, research, industry, and academia. The TSI also supports the development of digital technical standards and promotes good internet governance to ensure a secure digital environment.

On 26 July 2024, Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Peter Kyle announced additional funding of GBP100 million in for five new quantum research hubs.<sup>4773</sup> These hubs will advance secure communication networks, resilient navigation systems, and healthcare innovations, boosting national security and economic growth by developing technologies resistant to cyber threats and improving key sectors.

On 9 August 2024, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory announced its partnership with the National Quantum Technology Programme and emphasized their work on the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and data science in the UK’s defence and security capabilities.<sup>4774</sup> Their work includes developing AI tools for military use, such as AI-enabled uncrewed vehicles and advanced sensing systems, improving cyber resilience.

On 12 September 2024, Secretary Kyle announced that the Government of the United Kingdom had classified data centres as Critical National Infrastructure (CNI), ensuring greater protection for vital data against cyber threats, outages, and other disruptions.<sup>4775</sup> Additionally, the UK is launching a regional programme to address local cyber skill shortages, investing GBP1.3 million in training and innovation across England and Northern Ireland. This initiative, along with the designation of data centres as CNI, is aimed at strengthening the UK’s cyber defenses and encouraging global collaboration to fight cybercrime.

On 16 September 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology announced that the UK had hosted global talks with other countries, including the US and EU, to address the rising threat of cyber-attacks.<sup>4776</sup> This will pave the way for a new scheme designed to fill the skills gap by funding cyber training in England and Northern Ireland.

On 20 September 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology announced that the UK, in trilateral collaboration with the US and Canada, pursued cyber security measures with the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory as the lead agency.<sup>4777</sup> The parties aim to develop new technologies, methodologies, and tools to tackle real-world challenges, particularly in the cyber and information domains. The partnership

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<sup>4772</sup> UK-India Technology Security Initiative factsheet, Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (London) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-india-technology-security-initiative-factsheet/uk-india-technology-security-initiative-factsheet>

<sup>4773</sup> Over £100 million boost to quantum hubs to develop life-saving blood tests and resilient security systems, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-100-million-boost-to-quantum-hubs-to-develop-life-saving-blood-tests-and-resilient-security-systems>

<sup>4774</sup> AI and data science: defence science and technology capability, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (London) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ai-and-data-science-defence-science-and-technology-capability>

<sup>4775</sup> Data centres to be given massive boost and protections from cyber criminals and IT blackouts, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 12 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/data-centres-to-be-given-massive-boost-and-protections-from-cyber-criminals-and-it-blackouts>

<sup>4776</sup> UK Convenes Global Coalition to boost cyber skills and tackle growing threats, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-convenes-global-coalition-to-boost-cyber-skills-and-tackle-growing-threats>

<sup>4777</sup> UK, US and Canada to Collaborate on Cybersecurity and AI research, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology and Ministry of Defense (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-us-and-canada-to-collaborate-on-cybersecurity-and-ai-research>

focuses on projects such as the Cyber Agents for Security Testing and Learning Environments program, which trains AI to defend against cyber threats.

On 1 October 2024, Foreign Secretary David Lammy announced UK sanctions on 16 members of the Russian cyber-crime group Evil Corp.<sup>4778</sup> Led by Maksim Yakubets, the group has been behind numerous cyber-attacks, including malware and ransomware campaigns targeting UK health, government, and private organizations.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4779</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 23 October 2024, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the National Cyber Security Centre released a joint statement with UK's leading banks to expand the use of Cyber Essentials in supply chain risk management.<sup>4780</sup> The initiative aims to improve cyber resilience across businesses by integrating Cyber Essentials into supplier requirements, raising security standards throughout the UK.

On 23 October 2024, the Central Digital & Data Office laid out a roadmap and strategy for Digital, Data and Technology as part of vision 2025.<sup>4781</sup> As part of this strategy, all digital services and technical infrastructure must be built to comply with the Government Cyber Security Standard, which will ensure efficient, secure and sustainable technology.

On 25 October 2024, Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation Lord Vallance announced the opening of the National Quantum Computing Centre.<sup>4782</sup> Minister Vallance noted that investment in quantum technology will enhance cybersecurity, providing more secure digital infrastructure and protecting against evolving cyber threats.

On 6 November 2024, the FCDO announced that the UK and Korea had held their fourth Cyber Dialogue in London.<sup>4783</sup> This meeting focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation in cybersecurity, including enhancing coordination on attribution processes and building collective resilience against cyber threats.

On 25 November 2024, the FCDO, the Department for Science Innovation and Technology, Government Communications Headquarters, the Ministry of Defence and the National Cyber Security Centre partnered with the Alan Turing Institute and other organizations to develop advanced cyber defense tools to protect the

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<sup>4778</sup> UK sanctions members of notorious 'Evil Corp' cyber-crime gang, after Lammy calls out Putin's mafia state, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-sanctions-members-of-notorious-evil-corp-cyber-crime-gang-after-lammy-calls-out-putins-mafia-state>

<sup>4779</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4780</sup> Cyber Essentials Supply Chain Commitment: joint statement, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 23 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-essentials-supply-chain-commitment-joint-statement>

<sup>4781</sup> Digital and data function's strategic commitments, Central Digital & Data Office (London) 23 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-and-technology-spend-control-version-6/c79ccda6-bcd5-495b-88fe-4f1e7824eec9>

<sup>4782</sup> New national quantum laboratory to open up access to quantum computing, unleashing a revolution in AI, energy, healthcare and more, Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (London) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-national-quantum-laboratory-to-open-up-access-to-quantum-computing-unleashing-a-revolution-in-ai-energy-healthcare-and-more>

<sup>4783</sup> The 4th Republic of Korea-UK Cyber Dialogue Held in London, Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (London) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 16 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-4th-republic-of-korea-uk-cyber-dialogue-held-in-london>

UK's national infrastructure against increasing cyberattacks.<sup>4784</sup> The project is backed by an initial GBP8 million in government funding.

On 3 December 2024, the National Cyber Security Centre published its yearly review.<sup>4785</sup> The report highlighted the rising threat of cyberattacks against the UK, with a focus on state-sponsored threats, data theft, and ransomware. The report mentioned multiple strategies moving forward, such as exploring AI-enhanced cybersecurity solutions to match adversaries' growing capabilities.

On 3 December 2024, UK officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4786</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 6 December 2024, the FCDO published details on the second UK-EU Cyber Dialogue in London.<sup>4787</sup> The dialogue covered a range of cybersecurity topics, including cyber resilience, secure technology, digital identity, deterrence strategies against cyber threats, countering cybercrime, and fostering international cooperation for a free, secure cyberspace.

On 8 January 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology announced that over 30 initiatives across England and Northern Ireland will provide targeted support to strengthen the UK's cyber resilience.<sup>4788</sup> These projects will focus on enhancing protection for businesses and families against potential cyber threats while delivering training programs to develop the nation's cyber skills. The UK government and private sector will allocate a combined GBP1.9 million to fund these initiatives.

On 31 January 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a new code of practice aimed at safeguarding artificial intelligence systems from cyber threats, thereby strengthening the digital economy.<sup>4789</sup> The code is set to serve as the foundation for a new global standard for secure AI through the European Telecommunications Standards Institute, reinforcing the UK's position as a leader in safe innovation.

On 6 February 2025, the Ministry of Defence unveiled a new initiative aimed at rapidly increasing the UK's cyber defence capabilities through a fast-tracked recruitment process.<sup>4790</sup> This program, designed to streamline

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<sup>4784</sup> New AI Security Initiative Set to Boost the UK's Resilience against Hostile Threats, The Alan Turing Institute (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 16 December 2024. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/news/new-ai-security-initiative-set-boost-uks-resilience-against-hostile-threats>

<sup>4785</sup> NCSC Annual Review, National Cyber Security Center (London) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 14 December 2024. <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/ncsc-annual-review-2024/chapter-02>

<sup>4786</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4787</sup> The second UK-EU Cyber Dialogue takes place in London, Foreign, Commonwealth, & Development Office (London) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-second-uk-eu-cyber-dialogue-takes-place-in-london>

<sup>4788</sup> New Regional Skills Projects to Bolster UK Cyber Defences and Deliver on Plan for Change, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 8 January 2025. Access Date: 4 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regional-skills-projects-to-bolster-uk-cyber-defences-and-deliver-on-plan-for-change>

<sup>4789</sup> World-leading AI Cyber Security Standard to Protect Digital Economy and Deliver Plan for Change, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 31 January 2025. Access Date: 4 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-ai-cyber-security-standard-to-protect-digital-economy-and-deliver-plan-for-change>

<sup>4790</sup> Fast-track armed forces recruitment launched to boost UK cyber defence, Ministry of Defense (London) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fast-track-armed-forces-recruitment-launched-to-boost-uk-cyber-defence>



the entry of skilled individuals into specialist cyber roles, will enable recruits to complete tailored training in just a few weeks. By the end of 2025, successful candidates will be deployed in key operational roles to strengthen the UK's defence against growing cyber threats.

On 11 February 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom, alongside the US and Australia, imposed sanctions on Russian web-hosting provider Zservers and two Russian nationals for supporting LockBit ransomware operations.<sup>4791</sup> The UK government targeted Zservers for providing cybercriminals with servers resistant to law enforcement intervention. The sanctions are part of the UK's broader strategy to combat cybercrime and disrupt criminal infrastructure. British officials also reaffirmed their commitment to working with international partners to dismantle ransomware networks.

On 28 February 2024, the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of France hosted a high-level conference in London to introduce the Pall Mall Process.<sup>4792</sup> This declaration directly addresses the proliferation and irresponsible use of commercial cyber intrusion tools and services. The meeting brought together international partners and stakeholders to engage in an ongoing dialogue focused on strengthening cybersecurity through enhanced public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

On 17 March 2025, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology launched a GBP1.8 million grant competition to support regional cyber security projects across the UK.<sup>4793</sup> Open until 30 April 2025, the programme funds local initiatives focused on developing cyber skills, strengthening local cyber clusters and enhancing community-level resilience.

On 8 April 2025, the Government of the United Kingdom introduced a new Cyber Governance Code of Practice aimed at strengthening cybersecurity leadership across the private sector.<sup>4794</sup> Spearheaded by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the National Cyber Security Centre, the initiative encourages directors and company boards to take greater responsibility for managing cyber risks. The Code outlines clear, actionable measures such as developing cyber strategies, preparing incident response plans and promoting security awareness throughout organizations.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. The UK has taken strong action to boost data encryption and strength supply chain cybersecurity through the collaboration of the Defense Science and Technology laboratory and the Ministry of Defense, thus contributing both to cybercrime prevention and using tools to prevent cybercrime. The UK has also introduced initiatives and training schemes to fill the skills gap in England and Northern Ireland and allocated funds to boost quantum laboratories and declared data centres as "Critical National Infrastructure," working to develop new tools. Lastly, The UK has countered cybercrime and disrupted criminal infrastructure through sanctioning individuals and entities involved in cybercrime.

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

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<sup>4791</sup> New UK sanctions target Russian cybercrime network, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 16 February 2025 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-sanctions-target-russian-cybercrime-network>

<sup>4792</sup> The Pall Mall Process declaration: tackling proliferation and irresponsible use of commercial cyber intrusion capabilities, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-pall-mall-process-declaration-tackling-proliferation-and-irresponsible-use-of-commercial-cyber-intrusion-capabilities>

<sup>4793</sup> Funding competition: Cyber Local 2025-2026, Innovation Funding Service (London) 18 March 2025. Access Date: 7 April 2025. <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/2142/overview/3abce9d2-95e7-4f4e-ab38-b5ee697446f8>.

<sup>4794</sup> Business leaders supported to bolster online defences to safeguard growth, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 8 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-leaders-supported-to-bolster-online-defences-to-safeguard-growth>

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 12 June 2024, the Department of State announced that the United States and Spain held their second bilateral Cyber and Digital Dialogue.<sup>4795</sup> During the discussions, both countries reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cybersecurity and digital policy cooperation, emphasizing the importance of promoting a secure and stable cyberspace, adhering to international law, and supporting the United Nations Cyber Programme of Action.

On 13 June 2024, the Department of State hosted 22 countries and the European Union for discussions on mitigating malicious cyber activity and coordinating global responses.<sup>4796</sup> The talks addressed emerging cybersecurity challenges, including ransomware, foreign interference and emphasizing the importance of adhering to the UN Framework for Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace.

On 21 June 2024, State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller released a press reiterating the United States' commitment to safeguarding the integrity of its information and communication technology from cyber threats.<sup>4797</sup> Mr. Miller also announced that the US Department of Commerce had finalized a decision banning Kaspersky Lab and its subsidiaries from providing antivirus software and cybersecurity services within the United States. This action stems from concerns over Kaspersky's cooperation with Russian military and intelligence agencies, which could potentially exploit privileged access granted by its software to compromise U.S. national security.

On 28 July 2024, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin reaffirmed the importance of cooperation and cyber security in a joint press statement with Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa, and Japanese Defense Minister Minoru Kihara.<sup>4798</sup> This action demonstrates commitment to multinational collaboration on cybersecurity issues.

On 29 July 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with the Foreign Ministers of Japan, Australia and India, where the officials affirmed their commitment to monitoring responsible State behavior in the cyberspace and collaboration on projects such as the International Conference on Cyber Capacity Building in the Philippines and the Quad Cyber Bootcamp in India in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>4799</sup> They also discussed cooperative efforts in cybersecurity enhancing fields for the protection of critical infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific Region. The final statement demonstrates the countries' commitment to the establishment of a cohesive framework for cybercrime detection and deterrence.

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<sup>4795</sup> Joint Statement on the Second U.S.-Spain Cyber and Digital Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 12 June 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-on-the-second-u-s-spain-cyber-and-digital-dialogue/>

<sup>4796</sup> Discussions on Deterring Malicious Cyber Activity and the UN Framework of Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/discussions-on-deterring-malicious-cyber-activity-and-the-un-framework/>

<sup>4797</sup> Designating Kaspersky Lab Leadership in Response to Continued Cybersecurity Risks, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 21 June 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/designating-kaspersky-lab-leadership-in-response-to-continued-cybersecurity-risks/>

<sup>4798</sup> Secretary Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III, Japanese Foreign Minister Kamikawa Yoko, and Japanese Defense Minister Kihara Minoru At a Joint Press Availability, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-secretary-of-defense-lloyd-j-austin-iii-japanese-foreign-minister-kamikawa-yoko-and-japanese-defense-minister-kihara-minoru-at-a-joint-press-availability/>

<sup>4799</sup> Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting Joint Statement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100704619.pdf>

On 16 August 2024, the Department of State announced that senior US and Ukrainian officials had met to convene the US-Ukraine Cyber Dialogue.<sup>4800</sup> Both sides exchanged perspectives on innovation in cybersecurity and communication technology, connectivity and the security and competitiveness of Ukrainian information technology and telecommunications. They also discussed other avenues of cyber assistance to Ukraine, to help uphold its right to self-defence in cyberspace and address longer-term cyber resilience needs.

On 5 September 2024, the United States and Korea convened in Seoul to counter cyber threats posed by North Korea.<sup>4801</sup> The meeting underscored close collaboration to disrupt North Korean cryptocurrency heists, address North Korean cyber espionage against the defense sector and stop third party facilitators from enabling North Korean illicit revenue generation.

On 10 October 2024, the Department of State announced that the US, Australia, India, and Japan were continuing their joint cyber initiative, the Quad Cyber Challenge, aimed at strengthening responsible cyber ecosystems and promoting cybersecurity education and workforce development.<sup>4802</sup> The aim of the joint campaign is to foster education and building a skilled workforce to address emerging cyber threats, supporting the development of future cybersecurity leaders.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital came together in Rome to discuss digital innovation regarding economic.<sup>4803</sup> One of the key discussions reaffirmed the importance of ethical development in the digital sphere, especially regarding new emerging technologies such as evolving artificial intelligence engines as well as cybersecurity challenges connected with it.

On 18 October 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration launched the Service for America campaign to raise awareness about career opportunities in cybersecurity and make it easier for individuals to access the training and tools needed to enter the field.<sup>4804</sup> The campaign aims to address the mismatch between available cybersecurity jobs and the talent pool by improving the connection between job seekers and employers, thereby strengthening the cybersecurity workforce.

On 18 October 2024, the Department of State announced that the United States and Singapore had conducted a third Cyber Dialogue.<sup>4805</sup> Discussions focused on the regional cybersecurity landscape, including trends in nation-state cyber activity, online fraud, and threats to critical infrastructure. Officials also reviewed progress in bilateral cyber cooperation, cybersecurity policies, and multilateral efforts to build resilience against malicious cyber activity.

On 29 October 2024, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) introduced its 2025–2026 International Strategic Plan, designed to enhance collaboration with global partners to protect US critical

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<sup>4800</sup> The 2024 U.S.-Ukraine Cyber Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 16 August 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/the-2024-u-s-ukraine-cyber-dialogue/>

<sup>4801</sup> Seventh United States-Republic of Korea Working Group to Counter Cyber Threats Posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/seventh-united-states-republic-of-korea-working-group-to-counter-cyber-threats-posed-by-the-democratic-peoples-republic-of-korea/>

<sup>4802</sup> 2024 Quad Cyber Challenge Joint Statement, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/2024-quad-cyber-challenge-joint-statement/>

<sup>4803</sup> I ministri dell'Industria e della Tecnologia del G7 si riuniscono a Roma per promuovere la competitività industriale, l'innovazione digitale e la trasformazione digitale sostenibile, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2024. <https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/g7-industry-and-technology-ministers-convene-in-rome-to-advance-industrial-competitiveness-digital-innovation-sustainable-digital-transformation>

<sup>4804</sup> Service for America: Cyber Talent is Everywhere and Opportunity Should Be Too, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/oncd/briefing-room/2024/10/18/service-for-america-cyber-talent-is-everywhere-and-opportunity-should-be-too/>

<sup>4805</sup> Third U.S.-Singapore Cyber Dialogue, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.state.gov/third-u-s-singapore-cyber-dialogue/>

infrastructure by addressing cross-border cybersecurity challenges.<sup>4806</sup> The strategy outlines three core goals aimed at strengthening coordination and tackling the complex risks posed by interconnected cyber and physical systems, emphasizing the need for international cooperation in the face of evolving threats.

On 7 November 2024, Federal agencies submitted updated “zero trust” implementation plans to the White House.<sup>4807</sup> This initiative aims to modernize government cyber defenses by ensuring that no entity inside or outside the network is trusted by default, thereby enhancing the protection of existing cybersecurity frameworks.

On 12 November 2024, the House Homeland Security Committee released a “Cyber Threat Snapshot,” highlighting rising threats to US networks and critical infrastructure.<sup>4808</sup> The report emphasized the need for a whole-of-government effort to combat cyber threats from state actors, particularly China, underscoring the importance of coordinated attribution and response efforts.

On 3 December 2024, CISA and the National Security Agency released a guide to help protect communication networks from cyber threats linked to China, who they note have been compromising global telecom networks.<sup>4809</sup> This guide provides steps for network engineers and cybersecurity teams to detect threats, strengthen their networks, and reduce risks of attacks.

On 3 December 2024, US officials attended the second meeting of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group in Rome, aiming to improve coordination between national cybersecurity agencies.<sup>4810</sup> The group focused on harmonizing protections for critical infrastructures, especially in the energy sector, and exploring how artificial intelligence could be used to enhance cybersecurity.

On 16 December 2024, CISA released the draft update of the National Cyber Incident Response Plan, which serves as the US’ strategic framework for coordinating responses to cyber incidents.<sup>4811</sup> CISA emphasized the importance of a unified response framework to keep pace with evolving threats and encouraged public feedback to refine the plan’s effectiveness.

On 17 December 2024, CISA introduced Binding Operational Directive 25-01, which aims to enhance the security of cloud services used by federal agencies.<sup>4812</sup> The directive addresses rising cybersecurity risks

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<sup>4806</sup> CISA Releases Its First Ever International Strategic Plan, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington D.C.) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-releases-its-first-ever-international-strategic-plan>

<sup>4807</sup> Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, Executive Office of The President Office of Management and Budget (Washington D.C.) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 16 December 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/M-25-01-Revised-Circular-A-50.pdf>

<sup>4808</sup> NEW: House Homeland Releases ‘Cyber Threat Snapshot’ Highlighting Rising Threats to US Networks, Critical Infrastructure, Homeland Security Committee (Washington D.C.) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 16 December 2024. <https://homeland.house.gov/2024/11/12/new-house-homeland-releases-cyber-threat-snapshot-highlighting-rising-threats-to-us-networks-critical-infrastructure/>

<sup>4809</sup> CISA, NSA, FBI and International Partners Publish Guide for Protecting Communications Infrastructure, America’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, 3 December 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-nsa-fbi-and-international-partners-publish-guide-protecting-communications-infrastructure>

<sup>4810</sup> Press statement of the President of the G7 Cybersecurity Working Group, Bruno Frattasi, National Cyber Security Agency (Rome) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.acn.gov.it/portale/en/w/dichiarazione-alla-stampa-del-presidente-del-gruppo-di-lavoro-g7-sulla-cybersicurezza-bruno-frattasi>

<sup>4811</sup> CISA Publishes Draft National Cyber Incident Response Plan for Public Comment, America’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, 16 December 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-publishes-draft-national-cyber-incident-response-plan-public-comment>

<sup>4812</sup> CISA Directs Federal Agencies to Secure Cloud Environments, America’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, 17 December 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-directs-federal-agencies-secure-cloud-environments>

associated with cloud misconfigurations, which are vulnerable to exploitation by cybercriminals seeking unauthorized access or data breaches. By enforcing this directive, CISA seeks to minimize risks and bolster the defense posture of the federal government's network infrastructure.

On 17 December 2024, CISA released a new guide titled "Playbook for Strengthening Cybersecurity in General Grant Programs for Critical Infrastructure."<sup>4813</sup> The guide is designed to help grant-making agencies incorporate cybersecurity into their funding programs.

On 3 January 2025, the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control imposed sanctions on Integrity Technology Group (ITG), a Beijing-based cybersecurity company.<sup>4814</sup> The sanctions responded to ITG's involvement aiding Flax Typhoon, a Chinese state-sponsored cyber group responsible for multiple attacks on U.S. entities.

On 30 January 2025, the Department of Justice announced the coordinated seizure of 39 domains associated with a Pakistan-based network of online marketplaces selling hacking and fraud-enabling tools operated by a group known as Saim Raza (also known as HeartSender).<sup>4815</sup> This international operation aimed to disrupt the sale of hacking tools and stolen data.

On 11 February 2025, the Department of the Treasury announced that the US, in coordination with the UK and Australia, had imposed sanctions on Russian web-hosting provider Zservers and two Russian nationals for supporting the ransomware group LockBit.<sup>4816</sup> This action aimed to disrupt infrastructure facilitating ransomware attacks on critical infrastructure globally.

On 26 February 2025, the House Committee on Homeland Security unanimously advanced the Cyber PIVOTT Act of 2025, a bill to expand cybersecurity education and workforce development.<sup>4817</sup> The committee also adopted its oversight plan for the 119th Congress, emphasizing protection of critical infrastructure and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) cyber initiatives.

On 5 March 2025, the Government of the United States announced a crackdown on Chinese cyber-espionage.<sup>4818</sup> The Justice Department unsealed indictments against ten Chinese nationals linked to a years-long hacking campaign targeting US government agencies and foreign ministries. The Treasury Department sanctioned a Chinese firm and its owner for trafficking in stolen US data, while it offered a USD10 million reward for information on the suspects.

On 3 April 2025, CISA, the National Security Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and cybersecurity agencies from Australia, Canada and New Zealand released a joint advisory highlighting the use of fast-flux

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<sup>4813</sup> CISA and ONCD Publish Guide to Strengthen Cybersecurity of Grant-Funded Infrastructure Projects, America's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, 17 December 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-and-oncd-publish-guide-strengthen-cybersecurity-grant-funded-infrastructure-projects>

<sup>4814</sup> Treasury Sanctions Technology Company for Support to Malicious Cyber Group, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 3 January 2025. Access Date 11 May 2025. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2769>

<sup>4815</sup> Justice Department Announces Seizure of Cybercrime Websites Selling Hacking Tools to Transnational Organized Crime Groups, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Public Affairs (Washington D.C.) 30 January 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-seizure-cybercrime-websites-selling-hacking-tools-transnational>

<sup>4816</sup> United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom Jointly Sanction Key Infrastructure that Enables Ransomware Attacks, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sb0018>

<sup>4817</sup> Committee Advances 'Cyber PIVOTT Act,' Adopts 119th Congress Oversight Plan, Homeland Security Committee (Washington D.C.) 26 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://homeland.house.gov/2025/02/26/committee-advances-cyber-pivott-act-adopts-119th-congress-oversight-plan/>

<sup>4818</sup> US Indicts Slew of Alleged Chinese Hackers, Sanctions Company over Spy Campaign, Reuters (Washington D.C.) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/us-indicts-slew-alleged-chinese-hackers-sanctions-company-over-spy-campaign-2025-03-05/>

techniques by cybercriminals.<sup>4819</sup> The advisory warned of growing risks associated with rapidly shifting DNS records and urged defenders to improve detection and mitigation strategies.

On 23 April 2025, CISA and the DHS led a joint training exercise with energy sector partners to improve cyber response in critical infrastructure.<sup>4820</sup> The simulation involved real-time OT and IT attack scenarios. The exercise helped participants strengthen their skills in detecting and managing cyber threats, highlighting ongoing efforts to build national resilience and technical capacity.

On 23 April 2025, the Government of the United States reaffirmed its support for the Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures Program, clarifying that recent concerns about a funding lapse were unfounded<sup>4821</sup>. CISA emphasized its ongoing leadership role in maintaining and expanding the program, which enables faster identification and disclosure of cybersecurity vulnerabilities through a global network of over 450 partners. The statement reinforced the program's value in supporting timely threat response and strengthening international cybersecurity coordination.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. The State Department has focused on bilateral agreements with international partners and voiced support for cybersecurity measures in accordance with the United Nations framework of Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace. Furthermore, the United States has taken strong action towards both developing advanced technologies to counter malicious cyber behavior and enhancing coordination efforts to identify attackers. This includes ongoing initiatives to strengthen cybersecurity tools, collaborate with international partners, and improve the detection and attribution of cyber threats.

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

*Analysts: Hajrah Khan Yousafzai and Eleonora Cammarano*

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

The European Union has fully complied with their commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious behaviour and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes.

On 15 July 2024, the European Union and Ukraine conducted a cyber-dialogue in Brussels where they agreed to increased international cooperation on cybersecurity and diplomacy issues to promote responsible state behaviour in cyberspace.<sup>4822</sup> Both parties discussed efforts regarding the prevention and deterrence of malicious cyber activities through the use of the EU Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox and Cyber Sanctions Regime, as well as the strengthening of critical infrastructure. This demonstrates a commitment to international collaboration in cyberspace, promoting an organized framework against potential cyberthreats.

On 6 September 2024, EU Cybernet experts facilitated a four-day Cyber Incidents Response Training at the Central Bank of Lesotho to enhance the banks' security capabilities against cyber-attacks and strengthen

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<sup>4819</sup> Fast Flux: A National Security Threat, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington D.C.) 3 April 2025.

Access Date: 8 April 2024. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/cybersecurity-advisories/aa25-093a>

<sup>4820</sup> CISA, DHS S&T, INL, LSU Help Energy Industry Partners Strengthen Incident Response and OT Cybersecurity, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (Washington D.C.) 23 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <http://cisa.gov/news-events/news/cisa-dhs-st-inl-lsu-help-energy-industry-partners-strengthen-incident-response-and-ot-cybersecurity>

<sup>4821</sup> Statement from Matt Hartman on the CVE Program, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (Washington D.C.) 23 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/statement-matt-hartman-cve-program>

<sup>4822</sup> Ukraine: 3rd Cyber Dialogue with the European Union takes place in Brussels, European Union External Action (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukraine-3rd-cyber-dialogue-european-union-takes-place-brussels\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukraine-3rd-cyber-dialogue-european-union-takes-place-brussels_en)

national financial stability, reinforcing Lesotho's cybersecurity position within the international community.<sup>4823</sup> This action increases coordination between the EU and Lesotho through the enhancement of attribution processes relating to cybercrime detection and deterrence.

On 4 October 2024, European Union External Action announced that the EU, alongside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) participated in a dialogue aimed at reinforcing cooperation between NATO and the EU regarding the detection and deterrence of cybersecurity threats, as well as to increase State coordination of cybersecurity infrastructure.<sup>4824</sup> This improves international collaboration in cyberspace and works to establish a cohesive framework for the deterrence of malicious cyber activities.

On 8 October 2024, the European Council announced that the European Union had adopted a new sanctions framework addressing a multitude of hybrid threats from Russia, including malicious cyber activity, in response to Russia's problematic state behavior abroad.<sup>4825</sup> This action disrupts the infrastructure used by malicious State actors in cyberspace and responds to and deters cybersecurity threats.

On 10 October 2024, the European Council implemented the Cyber Resilience Act, which establishes specific cybersecurity requirements for all products with digital components and/or are connected to a network or device, ensuring their safety prior to market placement and throughout their subsequent lifetime.<sup>4826</sup> This allows consumers to consider cybersecurity when purchasing digital items. This action takes preventative measures against cyberattacks through the disruption of infrastructure and the development of a cohesive legislative framework.

On 29 October 2024, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Prime Minister of Montenegro Miloško Spajić launched the Government Security Operations Center in Podgorica to strengthen Montenegro's cybersecurity measures following a plethora of cyberattacks, in adherence with European Standards.<sup>4827</sup> The project was co-funded by the European Union and operates within the Ministry of Public Administration with a budget of EUR4.4 million. The center establishes a cohesive framework for rapid response and the deterrence of cyberattacks and strengthens collaboration between the European Union and other countries.

On 1 November 2024, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union and Vice-President of the European Commission Josep Borrell, and the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs Takeshi Iwaya participated in a dialogue between the EU and Japan to announce the EU-Japan Security and Defense Partnership which establishes a framework for bilateral cooperation in a variety of security areas, one

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<sup>4823</sup> Lesotho - European Union Partnership Launches Cybersecurity Training for Central Bank of Lesotho, Delegation of the European Union to The Kingdom of Lesotho (Maseru) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lesotho/lesotho-european-union-partnership-launches-cybersecurity-training-central-bank-lesotho\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lesotho/lesotho-european-union-partnership-launches-cybersecurity-training-central-bank-lesotho_en)

<sup>4824</sup> European Union and NATO hold the first Structured Dialogue on Cyber, European Union External Action (Brussels) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/european-union-and-nato-hold-first-structured-dialogue-cyber-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/european-union-and-nato-hold-first-structured-dialogue-cyber-0_en)

<sup>4825</sup> Timeline - EU response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, European Council (Brussels) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/08/hybrid-threats-russia-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-russia-s-continued-hybrid-activity-against-the-eu-and-its-member-states/>

<sup>4826</sup> Cyber resilience act: Council adopts new law on security requirements for digital products, European Council (Brussels) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/10/cyber-resilience-act-council-adopts-new-law-on-security-requirements-for-digital-products/>

<sup>4827</sup> European Commission President von der Leyen and Prime Minister Miloško Spajić officially open Cybersecurity Centre, Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro (Podgorica) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/montenegro/european-commission-president-von-der-leyen-and-prime-minister-miloko-spajic-officially-open\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/montenegro/european-commission-president-von-der-leyen-and-prime-minister-miloko-spajic-officially-open_en)

being cybersecurity.<sup>4828</sup> This agreement deepens international collaboration regarding cybersecurity issues, creating an organized and intentional framework to deter malicious cyber activities.

On 4 November 2024, High Representative Borrell and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Cho Tae-Yul, held an EU-Korea Strategic Dialogue announcing a defense partnership between both members, aimed at strengthening cooperation on cyber security in the international sphere.<sup>4829</sup> This action unifies state actors and their respective frameworks in cyberspace, allowing for the coordination of attribution processes regarding cyber security.

On 11 November 2024, the European Union External Action announced that the European Union and Japan had held their sixth cyber dialogue wherein both members discussed their legislative developments regarding<sup>4830</sup> Further, they explored possible cooperation on critical infrastructure and cohesive cyber frameworks. This exchange improves international collaboration on cyber security issues, aimed at establishing increased resilience to national and global cyber threats.

On 14 November 2024, the European Union External Action announced that the European Union and Moldova had held a security and defense dialogue in which members shared information on their respective security strategies aimed at deterring global cyber threats.<sup>4831</sup> Both actors underlined the needs to further exchange and strengthen their legislative and infrastructural developments against hybrid threats. This action demonstrates increased international collaboration aimed at developing a cohesive framework to deter malicious cyber activity, as well as to increase transparency between state actors in cyberspace.

On 18 November 2024, the European Council approved the upholding of international legal obligations by state actors in cyberspace.<sup>4832</sup> This action is a response to an increase in global cyber threats and reinforces state compliance to the United Nations framework of responsible state behavior. The EU and its member states have called this the 'Programme of Action' and hope that it will increase global training and capacity building. This action actively responds to malicious state behavior in cyberspace and attempts to develop a cohesive international framework through increased collaboration.

On 19 November 2024, the European Union External Action announced that the European Union and Albania adopted a new security and defense partnership, establishing a framework for cooperation and reinforced resilience in light of increasing global cybersecurity threats.<sup>4833</sup> This partnership increases collaboration between state actors aimed at deterring and responding to malicious state behavior in cyberspace.

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<sup>4828</sup> Japan: High Representative/Vice-President holds first EU-Japan Strategic Dialogue with Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya, European Union External Action (Brussels) 1 November 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/japan-high-representativevice-president-holds-first-eu-japan-strategic-dialogue-foreign-minister\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/japan-high-representativevice-president-holds-first-eu-japan-strategic-dialogue-foreign-minister_en)

<sup>4829</sup> Republic of Korea: High Representative/Vice-President Borrell holds first Strategic Dialogue with Foreign Minister Cho in Seoul, European Union External Action (Brussels) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/republic-korea-high-representativevice-president-borrell-holds-first-strategic-dialogue-foreign\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/republic-korea-high-representativevice-president-borrell-holds-first-strategic-dialogue-foreign_en)

<sup>4830</sup> Cyber: EU and Japan hold 6th Cyber Dialogue in Tokyo, European Union External Action (Brussels) 11 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/cyber-eu-and-japan-hold-6th-cyber-dialogue-tokyo\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/cyber-eu-and-japan-hold-6th-cyber-dialogue-tokyo_en)

<sup>4831</sup> Moldova: Security and Defence Dialogue with the EU takes place in Chisinau, European Union External Action (Brussels) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/moldova-security-and-defence-dialogue-eu-takes-place-chisinau\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/moldova-security-and-defence-dialogue-eu-takes-place-chisinau_en)

<sup>4832</sup> Cyberspace: Council approves declaration on a common understanding of application of international law to cyberspace, European Council (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/18/cyberspace-council-approves-declaration-to-promote-common-understanding-of-application-of-international-law/>

<sup>4833</sup> Albania: New Security and Defence Partnership with the EU to strengthen capabilities and cooperation, European Union External Action (Brussels) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/albania-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/albania-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation_en)



On 19 November 2023, the European Union External Action announced that the European Union signed a security and defense partnership with North Macedonia in hopes of establishing<sup>4834</sup> This partnership aims to increase capacities and cooperation in the complex global hybrid environment. This action aims to increase state resilience and cooperation against a variety of cyber threats.

On 3 December 2024, the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity published its biennial report on the state of cybersecurity in the EU.<sup>4835</sup> The report includes six policy recommendations, such as revising the EU Blueprint for cyber incident response, developing the cyber workforce in the EU, and improving supply chain security through enhanced risk assessments and a unified policy framework. It also highlights the increasing importance of Artificial Intelligence and Post-Quantum Cryptography in cybersecurity, with future efforts focused on enhancing operational cooperation and situational awareness to address emerging threats.

On 5 December 2024, the European Union External Action announced that the EU and Norway held a Security and Defence Dialogue and signed the EU-Norway Security and Defence Partnership, aimed at establishing cohesive security measures.<sup>4836</sup> Both actors agreed to hold expert consultations regarding Russia's malicious hybrid and cyber threats.

On 6 December 2024, the European Council approved legislative initiatives for the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity to increase resilience and strengthen responses to cyber security threats, notably through the development of European cybersecurity certification schemes.<sup>4837</sup> This demonstrates the Council's increasing efforts to stabilize infrastructure and policy in the cyber space, taking into consideration the growing scale and complexity of cybercrime.

On 17 December 2024, the European Council imposed restrictive measures against Russia's destabilizing actions abroad not adhering to international law in the cyberspace, directly restricting sixteen individuals and three entities.<sup>4838</sup> These measures demonstrate the member's commitment to counter cybercrime through international measures against actors that fail to uphold principles of international law in the cyberspace.

On 18 December 2024, European Union External Action announced that the EU and Albania had signed the Albania-EU Security and Defence Partnership, affirming their joint efforts to strengthen security and defense in Europe through state cooperation and allowing nations to tackle hybrid threats, misinformation and terrorism.<sup>4839</sup> This act exemplifies the EU's commitment to develop international partnerships on issues of security and defence in order to adequately fight cyber threats through collaborative efforts.

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<sup>4834</sup> North Macedonia: New Security and Defence Partnership with the EU to strengthen capabilities and cooperation, European Union External Action (Brussels) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/north-macedonia-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/north-macedonia-new-security-and-defence-partnership-eu-strengthen-capabilities-and-cooperation_en)

<sup>4835</sup> EU's first ever report on the state of cybersecurity in the Union, European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (Brussels), 3 December 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/news/eus-first-ever-report-on-the-state-of-cybersecurity-in-the-union>

<sup>4836</sup> Norway: fourth Dialogue on Security and Defence with the EU takes place in Brussels, European Union External Action (Brussels) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/norway-fourth-dialogue-security-and-defence-eu-takes-place-brussels\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/norway-fourth-dialogue-security-and-defence-eu-takes-place-brussels_en)

<sup>4837</sup> ENISA: Council approves conclusions for a stronger EU agency for cybersecurity, European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/12/06/enisa-council-approves-conclusions-for-a-stronger-eu-agency-for-cybersecurity/>

<sup>4838</sup> Russian hybrid threats: EU agrees first listings in response to destabilising activities against the EU, its member states and partners, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine (Brussels) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/russian-hybrid-threats-eu-agrees-first-listings-response-destabilising-activities-against-eu-its\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/russian-hybrid-threats-eu-agrees-first-listings-response-destabilising-activities-against-eu-its_en)

<sup>4839</sup> Albania: press statement by High representative/Vice-President Kaja Kallas following the Signing of the Security and Defence Partnership, European Union External Action (Brussels) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/albania-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-following-signing-security-and\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/albania-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-kaja-kallas-following-signing-security-and_en)

On 18 December 2024, European Union External Action announced that the European Union had held a summit with leaders of the Western Balkans, wherein all parties adopted the Brussels Declaration which emphasized the significance of countering hybrid threats the manipulation of information via foreign interference, agreeing to increase cybersecurity cooperation and expand strategic communication.<sup>4840</sup> These efforts demonstrate the development of policy and collaboration between member states in order to create increased resilience against threats in the cyberspace.

On 27 January 2025, the European Council enforced restrictive measures against three officers of the General Staff on the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation due to their involvement in malicious cyber activity which took place against the Republic of Estonia in 2020, leading to the theft of confidential government data.<sup>4841</sup> This demonstrates the Council's efforts to counter malicious cyber activity and hold violators of international law accountable for their actions.

On 6 February 2025, the European Commission adopted the fifth annual Work Programme for the European Defence Fund.<sup>4842</sup> Under this programme, the EU allocated EUR40 million of funding towards research and development in cyber security.

On 28 January 2025, the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with NATO (DNAT) convened to discuss strengthening strategic cooperation in defense and cybersecurity, focusing on enhancing NATO-EU synergies in addressing emerging cyber threats.<sup>4843</sup> The discussions covered collaborative defense measures, including information-sharing frameworks and coordinated responses to cyberattacks. This meeting highlighted the growing importance of joint efforts in building a robust cybersecurity infrastructure that effectively combats transnational cybercrime and malicious digital activities.

On 3 February 2025, President António Costa and other officials discussed the future of EU cybersecurity initiatives emphasizing the need for stronger internal defense mechanisms and international collaboration.<sup>4844</sup> Key points included aligning cybersecurity policies across member states, enhancing digital infrastructure and preparing for evolving cyber threats. This reinforces the EU's commitment to a unified strategy aimed at preemptively addressing cybercrime and protecting against cyberattacks that target critical infrastructure.

On 18 February 2025, the DNAT convened to discuss key developments in global cybersecurity policy and NATO's strategic role in defense coordination.<sup>4845</sup> This session reviewed progress on NATO-EU collaboration to improve cyber resilience and enhance collective cybersecurity defense mechanisms. The discussions also included action plans aimed at preventing cybercrime by strengthening intergovernmental cooperation and reinforcing cyber hygiene practices across member states.

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<sup>4840</sup> EU-Western Balkans Summit: Building a Future of Peace and Prosperity, European Union External Action (Brussels) 18 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-western-balkans-summit-building-future-peace-and-prosperity\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-western-balkans-summit-building-future-peace-and-prosperity_en)

<sup>4841</sup> Cyber-attacks: three individuals added to EU sanctions list for malicious cyber activities against Estonia, European Council (Brussels) 27 January 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/01/27/cyber-attacks-three-individuals-added-to-eu-sanctions-list-for-malicious-cyber-activities-against-estonia>

<sup>4842</sup> More than €1 billion from the European Defence Fund to develop next generation defence technologies and innovation, European Commission (Brussels) 29 January 2025. Access Date: 10 March 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_376](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_376)

<sup>4843</sup> DNAT Meetings, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 January 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/dnat/home>

<sup>4844</sup> Remarks by President António Costa at the Press Conference Following the Informal EU Leaders' Retreat of 3 February 2025, European Union Council (Brussels) 3 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/02/03/remarks-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-press-conference-following-the-informal-eu-leaders-retreat-of-3-february-2025/>

<sup>4845</sup> DNAT Meetings, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/dnat/home>

On 27 February 2025, the European Parliament and North Macedonia held a meeting focused on bolstering cybersecurity initiatives and regional digital governance frameworks.<sup>4846</sup> Key discussions included enhancing cybersecurity education, promoting regulatory alignment on data protection and establishing joint monitoring mechanisms to detect and respond to cyber threats. This meeting emphasized both regions' commitment to prevent cybercrime by safeguarding their digital ecosystems through synchronized policy development and strategic cooperation.

On 6 March 2025, the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with the Republic of Korea discussed key cybersecurity challenges and enhanced bilateral cooperation on defense strategies.<sup>4847</sup> This meeting emphasized joint efforts in addressing evolving cyber threats, particularly in the context of state-sponsored cyberattacks and critical infrastructure protection. Through this partnership, the EU and South Korea reaffirmed their commitment to countering cybercrime and reinforcing mutual cybersecurity frameworks for greater resilience.

On 6 March 2025, President Costa addressed key cybersecurity initiatives discussed during the Special European Council meeting, highlighting the importance of EU unity in facing cyber threats.<sup>4848</sup> Officials at the meeting emphasized strengthening cross-border collaboration in digital defense and the need for robust response frameworks to tackle growing cybercrime challenges. This meeting further solidified the EU's resolve to develop proactive policies aimed at deterring and mitigating cybercrime through enhanced defense coordination.

On 6 March 2025, the European Council adopted conclusions to enhance European defense capabilities, with a particular focus on cybersecurity as a core aspect of national security.<sup>4849</sup> The conclusions laid the foundations for deeper collaboration between EU members to address cybersecurity vulnerabilities and counteract the growing threat of cyberattacks targeting EU infrastructure. These measures aim to prevent cybercrime by strengthening the EU's collective defense against malicious digital activities and securing critical assets.

On 20 March 2025, the DNAT discussed the evolving threat landscape of cybersecurity and the necessity for enhanced NATO-EU collaboration.<sup>4850</sup> This meeting underscored the need for shared intelligence, joint military-cyber defense capabilities and strategic planning to address increasing cyber threats. The session emphasized cooperative efforts to prevent cybercrime by fostering a more unified defense approach to digital vulnerabilities and malicious state-driven cyber activities.

On 27 March 2025, the EU and various Central Asian countries issued a joint communiqué following the 20<sup>th</sup> EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting, highlighting strengthened cybersecurity cooperation.<sup>4851</sup> The communiqué detailed initiatives to enhance digital resilience, with a focus on combating cybercrime, securing critical infrastructure and building cybersecurity capacity in the region. This collaboration aims to prevent the

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<sup>4846</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Meetings, European Parliament (Brussels) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/d-mk/activities/inter-parliamentary>

<sup>4847</sup> DKOR Ordinary Meeting, European Parliament (Brussels) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/dkor-ordinary-meeting-thursday-6-march-2/product-details/20250304DPU39855>

<sup>4848</sup> Remarks by President António Costa at the Press Conference Following the Special European Council Meeting of March 6 2025, European Union Council (Brussels) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/06/remarks-by-president-antonio-costa-at-the-press-conference-following-the-special-european-council-meeting-of-6-march-2025/>

<sup>4849</sup> European Council Conclusions on European Defence, European Union Council (Brussels) 6 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/06/european-council-conclusions-on-european-defence/>

<sup>4850</sup> DNAT Meetings, European Parliament (Brussels) 20 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/dnat/home>

<sup>4851</sup> Joint Communiqué Following the 20th EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting, European Union Council (Brussels) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/27/joint-communique-20th-eu-central-asia-ministerial-meeting/>

exploitation of cyber vulnerabilities by criminal actors and ensure collective defense against emerging cyber threats.

On 27 March 2025, the European Commission approved the 2025–2027 agenda for the Digital Europe Programme, allocating EUR1.3 billion to advance critical digital initiatives across the EU.<sup>4852</sup> The funding will support areas such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and workforce development, with a focus on boosting Europe’s technological independence. Key efforts include deploying cyber defense tools, enhancing digital infrastructure and safeguarding essential services like healthcare facilities and undersea communication networks.

On 11 April 2025, the European Commission opened a public consultation to assess and update the 2019 EU Cybersecurity Act.<sup>4853</sup> The review aims to bolster the EU’s cyber resilience by re-evaluating the mandate of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity, enhancing the cybersecurity certification system and tackling security risks in ICT supply chains. It also seeks to streamline existing regulations and reporting processes to make compliance easier for businesses while reinforcing protection standards.

On 15 April 2025, the European Commission announced EUR140 million in new funding opportunities through the Digital Europe Programme to accelerate the adoption of key digital technologies.<sup>4854</sup> The initiative focuses on integrating generative AI in public services, expanding digital skills training and establishing a European fact-checking network to combat disinformation. Additional funding will support the growth of Digital Innovation Hubs and enhance online safety infrastructure, advancing the EU’s efforts to build digital resilience and strengthen cybersecurity across Member States.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to developing and using tools to deter and respond to malicious (State) behavior and to cyber criminals, and disrupt the infrastructure they use, including by enhancing coordination on attribution processes. The EU has taken strong action towards the development of systems and technology directly aimed at preventing and reacting to cyber threats through the establishment of organized infrastructure and regulatory frameworks. Furthermore, the EU has taken both strong and weak actions towards the improvement of international collaboration on cybersecurity frameworks and cyberattack identification via co-operative dialogues addressing threats, and the implementation of sanctions regimes and cybersecurity programs abroad. Thus, the EU has taken strong action to develop tools, prevent cybercrime, respond to cybercrime, disrupt criminal infrastructure, and enhance coordination on the attribution process.

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

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<sup>4852</sup> Commission to invest €1.3 billion in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital skills, European Union Council (Brussels) 27 March 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_25\\_907](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_907)

<sup>4853</sup> Commission opens consultation on revising EU Cybersecurity Act, European Commission (Brussels) 11 April 2025. Access Date: 25 April 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-opens-consultation-revising-eu-cybersecurity-act>

<sup>4854</sup> Commission invests €140 million to deploy key digital technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2025. Access Date 25 April 2025. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-invests-eu140-million-deploy-key-digital-technologies>