

The United Nations in Brussels

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Today's presentation

- **EU-UN partnership**
- **UN in Brussels**

EU-UN: a long-standing partnership

- **UN Charter (1945):** “We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war... To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights...”
- **Lisbon Treaty (Art. 3(5) TEU):** “... the Union shall ... **contribute to peace, security, the sustainable development of the Earth**, solidarity and mutual respect among peoples, free and fair trade, eradication of poverty and the protection of human rights, ... including respect for the principles of the **United Nations Charter**”
- **EU’s Global Strategy (2016):** “... The EU will **promote a rules-based global order with multilateralism as its key principle and the United Nations at its core**. As a Union of medium to-small sized countries, we have a shared European interest in facing the world together. Through our combined weight, we can promote agreed rules to contain power politics and contribute to a peaceful, fair and prosperous world”

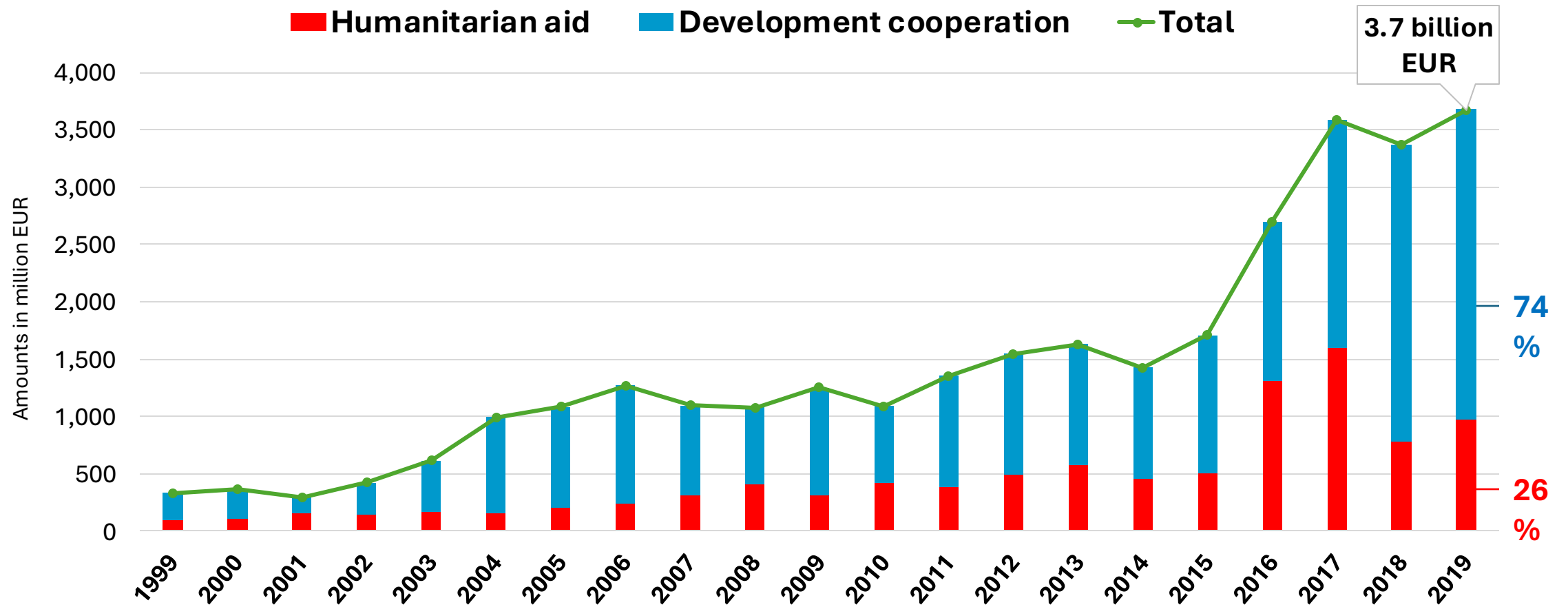
EU-UN: a global partnership

Over the past decade, the UN and the EU have been working together in over **170 countries** to help them protect **human rights** for all, **reduce hunger and malnutrition**, **prevent and overcome crises**, **build democratic and inclusive societies**, **deliver essential services**, **promote green growth and decent jobs**, and **ensure the sustainable management of natural resources**.

EU leaders are strong supporters of multilateralism **in line with UN priorities**, **Sustainable Development and Paris Agreement**.



EU financing of UN System



Data source: UN-EU Partnership Report 2014-2015; DG Budget reports 2016-2017-2018-2019; DG ECHO reports 2016-2017-2018-2019

Geopolitical context

- **Shift to the right in EU politics + impact of threats to information integrity**
- **War in Ukraine** and its global implications, including food security + **Middle East crisis**
- **Multi-polar world:** G20, G77, BRICS: implications for multilateralism?
- Restoring **trust** with the Global South
 - Reform of the international financial system
 - Climate finance
- **SDGs** as our common framework



Key areas of existing EU-UN collaboration in the Middle East

- **Peacebuilding and Stability: Dialogue, Mediation and peacebuilding initiatives**, including community dialogues and mediation training in Palestine and Yemen; **Post-Conflict Recovery and recovery frameworks** (e.g., Gaza Conflict Recovery Framework, Lebanon's 3RF) to guide long-term peacebuilding efforts; **Counterterrorism and Security**, border management, countering terrorism, and strengthening security sector reform in Iraq.
- **Humanitarian Assistance and Crisis Response: Emergency Relief** in Gaza, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen; **reconstruction efforts** in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen; **Support to refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons** in Syria and neighboring countries.
- **Governance and Institutional Strengthening: Rule of Law and Justice Reforms** in Palestine, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen; **Local Governance** for inclusive service delivery and rebuilding trust between institutions and communities (e.g., SIERY in Yemen).

- **Economic Development and Livelihoods: Job Creation and Vocational Training** in Palestine, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen; **Private Sector Engagement**, incl. private sector involvement in recovery and sustainable development; **Enterprise Support** as business training, grants, and gender-sensitive employment initiatives to promote microeconomic development.
- **Access to Education, Social Protection and Healthcare Systems:** Strengthened health systems in Palestine, Lebanon, and Iraq; Enhanced **social protection**, especially women, children and youth, and refugees, across the Middle East.
- **Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action: Renewable Energy**, access to clean energy and water management systems in Syria, Palestine, and Yemen; **Disaster Preparedness** (e.g Yemen).
- **Multi-Sector Collaboration through Blended Finance Initiatives and Cross-Cutting Themes:** Integrating gender equality, youth engagement, civil society participation, and human rights into all cooperation areas.

High level engagement



- **EU-UN High-Level Dialogues (2022-2025)**
- Effort to build a strategic **partnership** and dialogue has deepened cooperation across multiple **themes**: SDGs, financing for development, climate, environment, energy, crisis, human rights, digital & more.

The UN in Brazil

- **Secretary-General appoints Silvia Rucks of Uruguay United Nations Resident Coordinator in Brazil**
- There are currently 25 United Nations entities operating in Brazil. These include specialized agencies, programs, and offices working across a wide range of areas—from food security and health to human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development.
- Each of these entities collaborates with Brazilian institutions, civil society, and international partners to advance the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- **UN Examples of UN Entities in Brazil:**
 - FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization: focuses on ending hunger and promoting food security.
 - UNDP – United Nations Development Programme: supports sustainable development and poverty reduction.
 - UN Women – promotes gender equality and women's empowerment.
 - UN-Habitat – works on sustainable urban development and housing.
 - WHO/PAHO – World Health Organization / Pan American Health Organization: supports public health initiatives.
 - UNICEF – focuses on children's rights and welfare.
 - UNHCR – provides support to refugees and displaced populations.

The UN in Brussels



Key activities

- Influencing the **policy development** and **fostering partnerships** to make the SDGs a reality; strengthening a **coherent and united UN voice** vis-à-vis the EU institutions;
- **Facilitating and supporting** contacts between UN HQs and EU;
- **Mobilizing resources** as individual agencies;
- **Promoting and communicating** EU-UN partnership with the EU;
- **Supporting UN Resident Coordinators and Country Teams** to contribute to and benefit from the partnership with the EU at country level;

Engagement with EU institutions

European Commission

- Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA)
- Directorate-General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)
- Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (DG ECHO)
- Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG Clima)
- DG CNECT

European External Action Service (EEAS)

Council of the EU

- Council Presidencies
- Council Working Parties

European Parliament

- President
- Committees (Development, Foreign Affairs, Budget, Budget Control)
- Rapporteurs
- Political Party Coordinators

Banks

- European Investment Bank (EIB) and European Investment Fund (EIF)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)

Other Brussels-based actors

- Government of Belgium
- African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States (ACP)
- Embassies / Permanent Representations
- Others: Bilateral Development Cooperations, CSOs, academia, think tanks (FoE, CEPS, ECDPM, EPC)



UN Regional Information Centre



- Represents the UN's Department of Global Communications
- Covers 22 countries in Western Europe
- Works in 13 languages, including Portuguese

Communication priorities

- Mobilizing Climate Action
- Responding to crisis and conflict
- Multilateralism: the UN at 80
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Peace & Security
- Human Rights
- Information integrity



UN conferences 2025



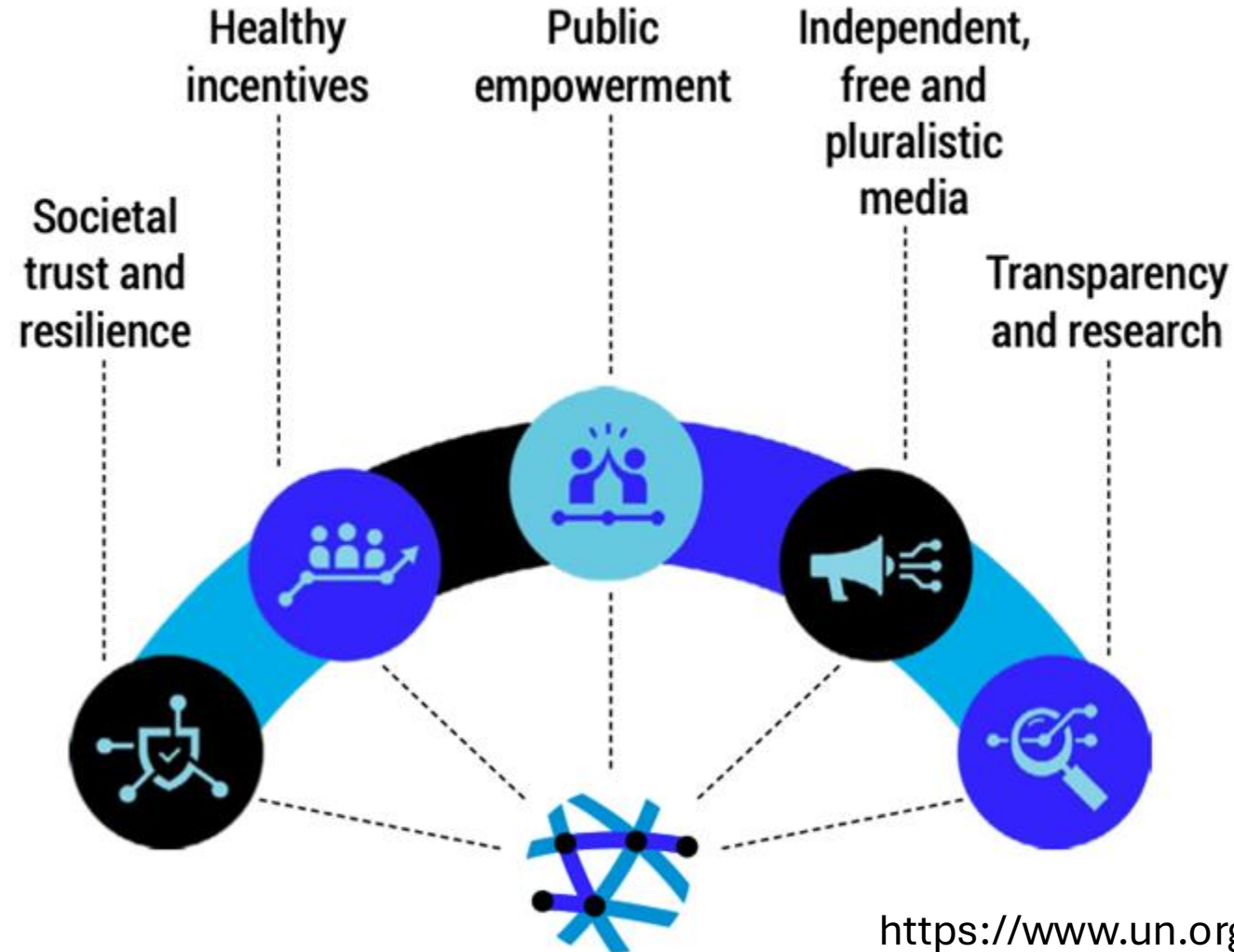
UN Climate Conference (COP30)

What is COP30?

- Conference of the Parties (COP), held annually, rotating presidency
- This year: Brazil
- [UNFCCC website](#): more details explaining what COP is, the COP process, the issues under discussion and the multilateral efforts already underway



UN Global Principles for Information Integrity






Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change

- Established by UNESCO, the Government of **Brazil**, and the UN, to contribute to investigating, exposing, and dismantling disinformation related to climate change, as well as the socialization of the results of the research.
- Structured through a Global Fund, an Institutional Agenda, and Campaigns on Climate Change, the Initiative addresses the need for policies that protect information integrity, safeguard those reporting on climate issues, and support the development of informed global climate action.
- Through open calls for proposals, not-for-profit entities will be empowered with funding to conduct in-depth research
- First-of-its-kind global and interdisciplinary network to socialize findings and reveal climate mis/disinformation's evolving mechanisms and produce actionable recommendations for innovative policies worldwide.



How to contact and follow us

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Thank you!
