



Final Communiqué

Building an Equal,
Sustainable, Innovative
and Just Future

Peace and Security in Global Conflict

As the Y7, we consider the unalienable right of all young people around the world to live in peace, to have access to basic services and education, and to pursue happiness and prosperity.

We urge all G7 leaders to enforce this right for all young people around the world, redressing historical injustices. Until this happens, the communiqué will not have the meaning it deserves. We gravely deplore all loss of young lives and the impact of the current armed conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa, Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America¹ on youth, which threatens the peace and security of the world.

We urge all G7 leaders to respect the rule of law, in particular the independence, integrity, and honour of institutions that investigate violations of international law, including war crimes and crimes against humanity, under the Geneva Conventions. Lastly, we strongly encourage G7 leaders to tackle the root causes of armed conflict including, amongst others, discrimination, poverty, and religious or, ethno-linguistic, as well as territorial disputes whilst applying a decolonial framework.

We are stronger together than divided. Challenging as it is, we stand united not because it is easy but because it is right. We expect you to do the same.

¹ According to the classification of Geneva Academy, as of 23.05.2024

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

In line with global commitments to leave no one behind, reflected in the 2030 Agenda, we, the Youth 7, urge G7 Leaders to promote inclusive societies that guarantee equal opportunities. This imperative must be achieved by tackling structural inequalities through human-rights-centred and future-oriented approaches in all policy areas.

The global community faces multiple crises that have severe impacts on the lives of current and future generations. To build resilient societies, we call upon G7 Leaders to:

- **Develop** nationwide action plans² based on the fundamental framework of the Youth, Peace, and Security agenda, institutionalising meaningful participation of youth in peace-building negotiations from the outset.
- **Uphold** the rights and needs of refugees and irregular migrants, prioritising those of the most vulnerable, especially children and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. This proposal should be complemented by measures to foster full integration into their respective societies through civic education cultivating solidarity and respect.
- **Prioritise** preventative measures, aligned with the Istanbul Convention, to combat gender-based violence, especially towards young women and gender-marginalised individuals.

To strengthen the inclusiveness of policy-making and governance, we call upon the G7 Leaders to:

- **Integrate** an intersectional approach³ to policy-making through the development of a toolkit recognising intersecting and mutually reinforcing barriers and discriminations with the support of international organisations, such as the OECD.
- **Foster** citizens' political participation to combat political apathy by implementing innovative tools such as citizens' conventions and participatory budgeting on multi-level governance to ensure representation and involvement of all.
- **Expand** the work on the inclusion of people with disabilities in all areas of life by holding an annual G7 inclusion summit, as initiated by the 2022 G7 German Presidency.
- **Monitor and report** annual progress on policies that are relevant to inclusion and equal opportunities, expanding the scope of the Monitoring and Accountability Mechanism established by the 2022 G7 Elmau Declaration beyond gender equality.

Access to essential goods and services are critical to address systemic barriers. To this end, we urge G7 Leaders to:

- **Overcome** the Gender and Racial Health Gap through investment in unbiased and equitable research, with a special focus on data collection, ensuring just access to disease detection and treatment.
- **Lower** the cost of living of youth by establishing a special fund providing long-term financing for the development of affordable housing and introducing progressive pricing for water and energy guaranteeing a dignified life.
- **Commit** to further investment in affordable and accessible childcare, building on the 2023 G7 Gender Equality Implementation Report by recognizing childcare as a necessary public infrastructure for sustainable development.

To promote inclusivity and accountability in all phases of the labour market through an intersectional approach, we urge G7 Leaders to develop prior to the next G7 summit an **Action Plan** which includes:

- **Ensuring** equal job opportunities, in particular for Black, Indigenous and People of Color, by enforcing anti-discrimination measures, such as monitoring and complaint mechanisms.
- **Creating** a dedicated G7 Diversity Pipeline Fund to invest in programs, initiatives and civil society actors that nurture diverse pipelines of talent.
- **Committing** to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in public and private leadership of underrepresented groups by, among others, the use of quotas, subject to regular review.

² Building on Finland's National Action Plan. Based on the UN Security Council Resolutions: 2250, 2419 and 2535.

³A government's approach is intersectional when the development of policies, and other initiatives is based on an acknowledgement of the intersection of multiple and mutually reinforcing identities of an individual, such as sex, gender, race, ethnicity and disabilities. (European Union, the Government of Canada, Women7).

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change

G7 countries must urgently address the triple global crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and air, soil, and water pollution. Without immediate, science-based system-shifting action, this crisis poses an existential threat to humanity and ecological cohabitation. The G7 must advance reparative environmental justice for developing countries, and Indigenous and marginalized communities, who have been historically and disproportionately harmed. The G7 must uphold commitments made at COPs under UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement, and the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework. In the strongest terms, we call on G7 leaders to:

Immediate Economic Action and Redirection of Financial Flows for a Greener Society

(1) Legislate fossil fuel industries to stop all additional investment in oil and gas assets and redirect it to low-carbon energy capacity by 2030. (2) Introduce a shared carbon market, inspired by EU-ETS, and common G7 taxes to target wealth and fossil fuel corporations, directing profits towards low-carbon technologies and supporting citizens' energy transition and the green upskilling of workers. (3) Integrate the UN SEEA in public budgeting from 2025 and implement environmental requirements in all public funding, investments, and procurement. (4) Develop standards for climate-resilient infrastructure to protect populations against adverse climate conditions, such as through insurance coverage. (5) Make annual GDP-linked contributions of at least 1% to global climate funds and increase the use of SDRs and debt-for-nature swaps to finance a reparation-focused, just transition. (6) Ensure that a sufficient share of G7 development aid is directed to climate refugees and that the Adaptation Accelerator Hub prioritizes marginalized communities.

Safeguard the Environment and Biodiversity and Build Sustainable Value Chains

(1) Expand the G7 water coalition to the G20, to provide a cross-sector response to preserve water quantity and quality. (2) Agree on eliminating toxic chemicals, like some PFAS, immediately implementing the 2021 WHO air quality guidelines nationally, and on creating harmonized targets on addressing soil and water pollution. (3) To improve sustainability and human rights conditions in supply chains, extend the EU Sustainable Finance Framework to G7 countries by 2025 and enforce compliance by leveraging financial penalties and mandating standardized eco-product certifications across industries. (4) Propose a Global Circular Economy Agreement to expand corporate environmental reporting and introduce financial incentives. (5) Advocate for the elimination of unnecessary and non-recyclable packaging and the promotion of biosourced plastics to be included in the UNEA's legal instrument on plastic pollution. (6) Expand the French law on fast fashion taxation and publicity to G7 nations by 2026. (7) Unify biodiversity conservation, restoration, and adaptation standards by 2026 and agree on binding targets for responsible forest management and wildlife corridors. (8) Encourage private investment in biodiversity projects through biodiversity bonds, risk guarantees, and setting payments for ecosystem services.

Accelerate the Transition to Net-Zero Emissions

(1) Cease all national fossil-fuel subsidies by 2025. (2) Commit to immediate phase-out of all coal power no later than 2040. (3) Support the immediate global adoption of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative. (4) Develop national action plans to triple the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. (5) Immediately implement nationally binding targets for increased energy storage capacity and grid expansion. (6) Through JETPs, support developing economies to quadruple renewable energy capacity by 2030, while expanding local governance frameworks and infrastructures. (7) Prioritize green job skills acquisition at all education levels through a standardized curriculum, made in partnership with industry experts. (8) Act upon the Global Methane Pledge and transition to low-carbon, regenerative agriculture, supporting a rapid and just transition towards plant-based food systems. (9) Increase the urban modal share of public and active transportation to at least 80% by 2030, focusing on high-speed rail, and improve access in rural areas. (10) Establish a G7 technology coordination scheme to secure investors and partners for startups, SMEs, and university research focusing on low-carbon energy, hard-to-abate industries, aviation, and maritime transport. (11) Advance decentralized energy by clustering industries like data centers and promoting local energy communities utilizing smart grids.

Innovation and Digital Transformation

Our democracy, people, and environment are reaching a digital inflection point. As innovation drives prosperity, immediate action is needed to leverage opportunities and defend our values.

1. Safeguard Democracy, Accountability, and Inclusion in Innovation

With almost half the world's population voting in 2024, governments must ensure disruptive technologies are conducive, not detrimental, to democracy and inclusion. We urge G7 leaders to:

- Include 3 vulnerable democracies in G7's Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) as associate members for digital threat response, based on threat vulnerability and past RRM engagement, by 2025 G7 Leaders' Summit.
- Address AI-based threats to the democratic process by (i) effectively regulating technology encouraging innovation while protecting user rights; (ii) holding all accountable for producing and distributing unauthorised deceptive material; and (iii) endorsing industry-led initiatives, especially the AI Election Accord.
- Implement AI transparency regulation, by 2028, using a common taxonomy, requiring AI developers and deployers to disclose technical features, applications, biases, and risks.
- Add \$400B to G7's Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment to support LMICs and domestic rural regions, aiding equitable youth access and the digital divide.
- Mobilise \$5B public-private "Fund for Women in STEM" by 2026, financing NGOs promoting girls' STEM education globally, groups fighting gender stereotypes, and women-led SMEs.
- Create a youth-inclusive task force under GPAI focused on frontier AI. Commit support for an anti-discriminatory innovation code of conduct for public/private actors to promote equity.

2. Protect the Digital User

Social media does not protect digital user rights, especially those of youth, who are vulnerable to misinformation, cyberharassment, and harmful content. Therefore, we urge G7 leaders to:

- Define liability regimes and legal responses for platforms refusing to apply G7 recommendations, particularly within the framework of the European DSA.
- Support research and implement: (i) new designs of social media platforms, more transparent recommendation algorithms directed by user choice; (ii) personal information management systems to protect data rights; and (iii) standards for handling health data.
- Integrate digital literacy and ethical tech use in school curricula, addressing risks like privacy loss, overuse, health concerns, misinformation, cyberattacks and online weaponised hate. Fund and facilitate knowledge-exchange for programs in LMICs.

3. Enable International Collaboration and Sustainable Innovation

Fostering international collaboration, sustainable technology, competition and market access is essential to secure a prosperous future. We urge G7 leaders to:

- Establish and support innovation hubs internationally with government, industry, academia, and youth-focused civil society to encourage collaboration and publication of best practices, especially on cybersecurity, AI frameworks adherence, and SME knowledge-sharing.
- Accelerate agri-tech innovation adoption (e.g. input-optimisation and soil-regeneration) by supporting small farmers with upskilling and subsidies. Encourage large food companies to provide expertise and demand disclosure of their environmental supplier selection criteria.
- Support creation of legal obligations for states and companies to remove their space debris by amending the Outer Space Treaty and national laws. Aid integration of Earth Observation technologies in extreme events response and forecast mechanisms in LMICs, through capacity-building and knowledge-sharing programs.
- Incentivise accountability of supply chain sustainability through international standards creation for distributed ledger technologies. Increase joint contributions to blockchain energy reduction research by \$800M in Global Environment Facility's next replenishment cycle.

New Skills, Entrepreneurship and the Future of Work

Governments, employers, and civil society must support young people amid the digital, environmental and demographic transitions, and address challenges in productivity, wellbeing and entrepreneurship. Moreover, fostering global cooperation to encourage competition, innovation, and inclusive and equal access is crucial to close the \$4.2 trillion SDG investment gap and unlock untapped potential.

Preparing for smooth transitions into the future of work We urge G7 countries to ensure that no one gets left behind by:

- Establishing a national standardised green, socio-emotional⁴ and digital skills certification awarded to primary and secondary schools with the help of organisations that are funded to assist schools in attaining this credential.
- Promoting quality, accessible education by incentivising high-potential graduates to become educators through financial and non-pecuniary benefits delinked from student performance and subsidising continuous learning.
- Expanding paid work opportunities⁵ for youth in digital and green sectors through government-led job corps; increasing wages by encouraging the establishment of an ILO Convention on fair and competitive hiring standards⁶; and promoting future-proof lifelong learning by mandating at least 32 hours of training per full-time worker per year.

Securing healthy and inclusive workplaces We urge G7 countries to promote quality of life for young people by:

- Bolstering G7 Ethical AI Principles to emphasise 'algorithcs', such as transparency requirements, co-design processes, algorithmic audits and risk assessments, and strengthening youth voices in worker consultations (e.g., co-determination).
- Collaborating for a globally interoperable employment classification for contract and platform workers that preserves fair working conditions and right to employment protections without sacrificing autonomy or flexibility.⁷
- Facilitating professional exchanges, which place priority on youth from rural areas and low income groups, by creating a G7 Youth Mobility Programme modelled after Erasmus+ and an agreement for streamlining work visa processes across G7 countries.
- Enacting a G7 Future of Work Charter for healthy and inclusive workplaces, including: (i) reducing career inequalities (e.g., pay transparency, anti-discrimination enforcement); (ii) ensuring adaptable progressive social protection systems (e.g., parental leave); (iii) enhancing flexible work (e.g., 'right to disconnect', hybrid work); (iv) favouring permanent contracts; and (v) continuing trials on UBI and the 4-day work week.

Lowering barriers to youth entrepreneurship We urge G7 countries to prioritise entrepreneurship for a just and reparative transition by:

- Lowering bureaucratic entry barriers by creating a centralised platform for business registration under 24 hours that includes resources for navigating funding options, regulatory frameworks and interacting with government authorities.
- Lowering financial barriers to start-up and scale businesses in deep technology by: (i) expanding diverse ecosystems which include in-kind resources and PPPs; (ii) increasing access to fair financing tools based on stage (e.g., micro-loans, grants, venture funds); and (iii) preserving fair competition through increased supervision of aggressive M&A.
- Partnering with strategic LMICs by increasing technology transfers, untied financing (e.g., guarantees, PE, grants) and establishing exchange programmes with G7 to foster mutual learning in startups and SMEs, thus expanding the Paris Pact.

⁴ OECD definition of socio-emotional skills: <https://www.oecd.org/education/ceri/social-emotional-skills-study/>

⁵ E.g., Internships, work-study, dissertation research, apprenticeships, rotational and graduate programmes.

⁶ E.g., Competitive compensation and benefits, professional development opportunities, transparent job descriptions, multi-mode recruitment, fair and unbiased selection processes, and reasonable duration of multistage recruitment.

⁷ A 'globally interoperable approach' refers to achieving a common understanding of contract and platform workers across G7 countries while recognising that there are country-specific differences in legal definitions and entitlements.

Glossary

COP:

Conference of Parties

DSA:

Digital Service Act

EU-ETS:

European Union Emissions Trading System

GDP:

Gross Domestic Product

GPAI:

Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence

JETP:

Just Energy Transition Partnership

LMIC:

Low- or Middle-Income Country

NGO:

Non-Governmental Organisation

OECD:

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

PFAS:

Per- and PolyFluoroAlkyl Substances

SDR:

Special Drawing Right

SME:

Small and Medium Enterprise

STEM:

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

UNEA:

United Nations Environment Assembly

UNFCCC:

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UN SEEA:

United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting

WHO:

World Health Organization