

**6<sup>th</sup> European Union - African Union summit**  
**Brussels, 17-18 February 2022**

The leaders of the EU and the African Union (AU), as well as their respective member states, will meet for the European Union - African Union summit in Brussels. This will be the sixth EU-AU summit, five years after the last one was held in 2017 in Abidjan, and eight years after the last summit in Brussels in 2014.

The summit will be hosted by the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, who will represent the EU together with the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen and the President of the rotating presidency, Emmanuel Macron. The EU High Representative, Josep Borrell, will also be present.

Ahead of the summit on Thursday, **EU27 leaders will gather for an informal meeting of the members of the European Council** to discuss the state of play of the latest developments related to Russia/Ukraine.

The summit motto is “**Africa and Europe: A joint vision for 2030**”. The meeting will have the following objectives:

- 1) to build a **new partnership between Africa and Europe**, based on the unique relationship between our two continents in all sectors;
- 2) **to cement the principles for the future partnership** between Africa and Europe: mutual respect, respect of African sovereignty, solidarity, security, sustainability, transparency and multilateralism;
- 3) **to expedite recovery beyond the pandemic** to promote prosperity and sustainable growth in Africa and Europe through transformative projects and by harnessing the potential of our partnership, including in the context of the green and digital transitions;
- 4) to promote an **ambitious large-scale investment package in Africa**

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## Format of the meeting

To ensure concrete deliverables, instead of a traditional plenary format, EU and AU heads of state or government will be participating in **seven thematic roundtables**, together with a selected group of external guests who are experts in their respective fields.

### Roundtables session 1:

- financing for sustainable and inclusive growth
- climate change and energy transition, digital and transport [connectivity and infrastructure]
- peace, security and governance

private sector support and economic integration

### Roundtables session 2:

- education, culture and vocational training, migration and mobility
- agriculture and sustainable development
- health systems and vaccine production

Each roundtable will be co-chaired/moderated by one or two AU member states and one or two EU member states. Co-chairs/moderators will play an important role in preparing, leading and animating the discussions and will be responsible for presenting the key takeaways from the roundtable discussions to the other leaders during the plenaries. In addition, one or two experts will be invited to take part in each of the roundtables and introduce the topic.

At the end of the summit, a **joint declaration on a joint vision for 2030 is expected to be adopted** by leaders.

## Indicative agenda

### Thursday, 17 February

12.30 Informal meeting of the members of the European Council

13:00 Arrivals ahead EU-AU summit

14.15 Official welcome

14.45 Opening ceremony

15.45 Family photo

16.00 Thematic roundtables - session 1

19.30 Dinner for heads of state or government (external venue)

### Friday, 18 February

8.30 Arrivals

9.15 Side event: press statements on mRNA technology transfer

10.00 Thematic roundtables - session 2

12.00 Closing ceremony

TTBC Press conference

TBC National press conferences or statements

TTBC Departures

## **EU-Africa relations**

The summit comes at a difficult time. Current challenges include **COVID-19**, **migration** and the **economic situation** in a number of African countries.

The EU is by far the first partner of Africa in terms of investment and security.

The renewed partnership should be built on:

- **prosperity** - in both Africa and in Europe, taking into account the global challenges: climate change, the digital revolution, energy, infrastructure and health
- **stability** - developing and using the tools needed to support African partners' efforts to improve security and the fight against terrorism

[EU-Africa relations \(background information\)](#)

[Council adopts conclusions on Africa \(press release, 30 June 2020\)](#)

[Africa and the EU \(EEAS\)](#)

[Africa-EU Partnership \(European Commission, DG International Partnerships\)](#)

[African Union website](#)

## **Financing for sustainable and inclusive growth**

The goal is to build well-phased and progressive support to accelerate sustainable growth and decent jobs in Africa.

Short-term goals: to support a rapid, green, inclusive and sustainable recovery by mobilising financing instruments and tackling debt vulnerabilities.

Mid-term goals: to support Africa's industrialisation and a vibrant private sector, deepen cooperation between African and non-African private companies (value chain integration), including mobilising businesses in the EU to invest alongside African SMEs and accelerate reforms.

## **Climate change and energy transition, digital and transport [connectivity and infrastructure]**

Here leaders will focus on expediting Africa's connectivity through human-centric digitalisation and sustainable energy, boosting clean, climate-resilient and sustainable investments for a just energy transition and promoting priority infrastructure projects.

## **Peace, security and governance**

Ensuring long-lasting peace and security in Africa is a shared interest. That is why the EU will increase its support to African peace operations. The EU aims at strengthening practical cooperation, strategic AU-EU engagement and joint decision-making, with key areas of cooperation being: security, including maritime security, cybersecurity and fighting terrorism. Peace is not just the absence of war: partners are also working on conflict prevention, enhancing the rule of law, promoting human rights and preventing gender-based violence.

## **Private sector support and economic integration**

Africa and Europe work together to better connect countries, people, services and businesses. For the private sector, helping find the right financing instruments is crucial, especially for young entrepreneurs. Deepening Africa's economic integration can boost sustainable industrialisation and job creation, including through the development of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

## **Education, culture and vocational training, migration and mobility**

Leaders will focus on equitable, inclusive and high-quality education and vocational training. On migration, they will discuss safe and regular migration as an opportunity. Protecting lives and fighting against smuggling and human trafficking will also be a topic of this roundtable.

## **Agriculture and sustainable development**

The focus will be on activating Africa's farming potential: containing food insecurity and accelerating the transformation of sustainable and nutritious African food systems. In the context of the green transition and fighting against desertification, the aim is to strengthen the response to climate change and promote the sustainable management of resources.

## **Health systems and vaccine production**

Speeding up the global vaccination effort is key (nobody is safe until everyone is safe), so Europe has led global solidarity efforts to address the pandemic. Team Europe has exported more than half of its production since the crisis began; it supported the creation of ACT-A which has delivered more than one billion doses (including 350 million vaccines for Africa) and European countries have shared doses destined for their own citizens, including 125 million to African countries where it is the principal donor. The EU reaffirms its commitment to also provide 700 million vaccine doses by mid-2022 to developing countries, of which at least 450 million will benefit Africa.

## **Investment package**

At the end of the summit, a joint declaration on a joint vision for 2030 is expected to be adopted by the participants. It will announce a EUR 150 billion Africa-Europe Investment Package that will support our common ambition for 2030.

This Global Gateway Investment Package will aim to boost public and private investment building on existing initiatives and partnerships.

It will boost large-scale sustainable investments, supported by Team Europe Initiatives, in key joint priority areas focusing on:

- green transition;
- digital transition that supports trusted connectivity;
- sustainable growth and decent job creation;
- human development.

[The Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package \(European Commission\)](#)

## **Previous summit**

The fifth African Union - European Union (AU-EU) summit was held on 29-30 November 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

- EU and African leaders adopted a joint declaration outlining common priorities for the EU-Africa partnership in four strategic areas:
  - economic opportunities for youth
  - peace and security
  - mobility and migration
  - cooperation on governance

[5th African Union - EU Summit, 29-30 November 2017](#)