European Parliament

2025 G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada

G7 leaders gathered under this year's Canadian Presidency in Kananaskis, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 2025. The 51st leaders' summit was overshadowed by the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran (which forced United States (US) President Donald Trump to leave the summit earlier), trade tensions between the US and the G7 nations, Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine, and the Israel–Hamas war and the situation in Gaza. While the G7 issued several joint statements, for instance on the Israel–Iran crisis, no final G7 leaders' communiqué was adopted, contrary to previous summits. The EU and other G7 members did not achieve a breakthrough in the trade talks with the US.

Background

The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum that brings together the **advanced industrialised economies** of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom (UK) and the US. The EU also participates in the group and is represented at the summits by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission. The group meets annually under the presidency of one of the member states to discuss issues such as global economic governance, international security or artificial intelligence (AI). Over the past three decades, the G7 has lost economic power, while other intergovernmental forums, in particular BRICS and the G20, have increased their economic importance significantly: while in 1992, the combined gross domestic product of G7 member states, not including the EU, was about 63 %, it fell to 29 % in 2024. Russia joined the G7 in 1998, turning the G7 into the G8. However, since 2014 leaders have been meeting in G7 format, following Russia's suspension for annexing Ukraine's Crimea region.

Canada's G7 priorities

- Protecting our communities and the world – strengthening peace and security, countering foreign interference and transnational crime, and improving joint responses to wildfires.
- Building energy security and accelerating the digital transition – fortifying critical mineral supply chains and using artificial intelligence and quantum technology to unleash economic growth.
- Securing the partnerships of the future – catalysing enormous private investment to build stronger infrastructure, create higher-paying jobs, and open dynamic markets where businesses can compete and succeed.

Source: G7 2025, website.

Canada's G7 Presidency

On 1 January 2025, Canada took over the G7 presidency from Italy (France will follow in 2026). While the Italian Presidency focused on AI, Ukraine, Gaza, migration and Africa, the 2025 Canadian Presidency has been guided by **three priorities**: (i) protecting communities and the world; (ii) building energy security and accelerating the digital transition; and (iii) securing the partnerships of the future (see text box). In the run-up to the summit, the G7 held several sectoral ministers' meetings and issued statements outlining joint commitments, such as the G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' communiqué and the G7 Foreign Ministers' statement on India and Pakistan.

EU position

Ahead of the summit, during a joint press conference with European Council President António Costa, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen outlined **four key priorities for Europe**: (i) addressing the profound uncertainty and volatility of the global economy; (ii) economic security; (iii) Ukraine; and (iv) the Middle East. In her political guidelines, presented to the European Parliament in July 2024, President von der Leyen identified the G7 as principal partners to develop economic security standards for key supply chains. Against the backdrop of the 50th anniversary of the first G7 Summit, President Costa stressed the importance of unity between the G7 states. On the trade dispute with the US, Costa said that the EU could not increase defence spending if it had to fight a trade war at the same time.

Author: Marc Jütten, Members' Research Service

PE 772.923 – June 2025

Summit outcome

The 2025 G7 Summit took place in a **new constellation**. Out of the seven leaders, five participated at a G7 leaders' summit for the first time: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney; German Chancellor Friedrich Merz; Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba; UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer; and US President Donald Trump (for the first time since his re-election). In line with previous G7 presidencies, the Canadian Presidency underlined the G7 ambition to **foster alliances with other partners**, particularly from what is known as the 'Global South', by extending invitations to a range of partner countries and international organisations. The Presidents of Brazil, Mexico and South Africa and the Prime Minister of India, among other participants, took part in some of the working sessions. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was invited but could not hold a planned bilateral meeting with President Trump owing to Trump's sudden early departure on the first day, as the war between Israel and Iran intensified.

During the summit, G7 leaders held **working sessions** on: the global economic outlook; economic growth, security and resilience; safer communities; a more secure world; a strong and sovereign Ukraine; and the future of energy security. Traditionally, G7 leaders adopt a **comprehensive communiqué** at the summit, addressing a series of geo-economic and geopolitical issues. In 2024, for example, G7 leaders adopted a communiqué of 36 pages. This year, however, the media focused on the fact that there was **no final declaration and no official joint declaration on Ukraine**. Nevertheless, Prime Minister Carney issued a chair's summary — noting, among other things, that G7 leaders expressed support for President Trump's efforts to achieve just and lasting peace in **Ukraine**, recognising that Ukraine has committed to an unconditional ceasefire, and stating that Russia must do the same. Canada announced, on its own, new support for Ukraine worth CA$4.3 billion, along with another set of sanctions on Russia.

Moreover, joint statements were issued in the following areas: securing critical minerals supply chains; adopting, powering and sharing AI; collaborating on quantum innovation; preventing, fighting and recovering from wildfires; countering foreign interference, including transnational repression; and fighting transnational crime such as migrant smuggling. Another joint statement on the recent developments between Israel and Iran defined Iran as the principal source of regional instability and terror, and stressed that Iran could never have a nuclear weapon. While **China** was a key point on last year's G7 agenda, with the final communiqué referencing the country 29 times – among other things, expressing concern about China's harmful trading practices – this year's joint statements did not refer to China explicitly, instead mentioning 'non-market policies and practices in the critical minerals sector'.

Looking from an **EU perspective** at the impending trade conflict caused by the threat of increased US tariffs, no concrete progress has reportedly been made. Following her bilateral meeting with Trump, President von der Leyen said the ongoing US–EU trade talks were advancing, with the goal of reaching a deal by 9 July. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Starmer and President Trump signed a UK–US trade deal. In another side meeting, the **EU and Australia** agreed to start negotiations on a security and defence partnership (SDP), and stressed their renewed engagement to conclude an Australia–EU free trade agreement.

Views and outlook

According to experts, the summit exposed significant rifts between the US and the rest of the G7 members on critical international issues, in particular due to the absence of a final leader's communiqué and the ongoing trade conflict within the G7. Regarding President Trump's statement that ejecting Russia from the former G8 was a strategic mistake, one expert referred to the possibility that Trump could invite Russian President Vladimir Putin to the G7 Summit in 2027, under the US G7 Presidency. French President Emmanuel Macron announced that the city of Evian would host the next G7 leaders' summit during the French G7 Presidency, which will begin on 1 January 2026.

The **G7 Speakers' Meeting** provides an opportunity for the presidents of the G7 countries' **parliaments** and of the **European Parliament** to meet annually to discuss parliamentary responses to international issues. The next meeting will take place **in Ottawa, Canada, from 4 to 7 September 2025**. European Parliament President Roberta Metsola participated in the last G7 Speakers' Meeting from 5 to 7 September 2024 in Verona, Italy. The meeting focused on critical global issues such as security, development and the digital transition, and concluded with the adoption of a final declaration, highlighting the G7 nations' shared commitments.

This document is prepared for, and addressed to, the Members and staff of the European Parliament as background material to assist them in their parliamentary work. The content of the document is the sole responsibility of its author(s) and any opinions expressed herein should not be taken to represent an official position of the Parliament. Reproduction and translation for non-commercial purposes are authorised, provided the source is acknowledged and the European Parliament is given prior notice and sent a copy. © European Union, 2025.