



87th EU-US Inter-Parliamentary Meeting
TRANSATLANTIC LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE

Washington DC - 1 December 2023

JOINT STATEMENT

We, the members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the European Parliament, met in Washington D.C. on 30 November and 1 December 2023 to hold our 87th Inter-Parliamentary Meeting of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue (TLD). The **shared history and common values** that bind our alliance together - democracy, rule of law, and freedom - remain our key compass in this era of geopolitical strife and rise in authoritarianism that we are living.

We discussed the EU/US response to Russia's aggression against **Ukraine** and concluded that neither partner can sustain the support for Ukraine on their own. Our collective and complementary support has made the difference and helped Ukraine stand up to Russia's unprovoked war of aggression. If we allow Russia to escape a strategic defeat in Ukraine, the costs of dealing with an emboldened Russia and its enablers will be exponentially higher for our citizens in the future. We must therefore continue all necessary support to Ukraine in order to make this war unsustainable for Russia and ensure victory for Ukraine. Our adversaries have been waiting for us to blink since February 2022 and have been working together to undermine U.S. and EU interests and security. We will not and should not do them this favor. We also acknowledged Ukraine's commitment and progress in their reform efforts, and underlined the strategic importance of its EU accession process.



Furthermore, we discussed the importance of the EU's significant efforts to decrease its dependence on Russian energy. The EU has banned most Russian imports of crude oil and petroleum products, and has welcomed the increase of liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies provided by the US. This increased share of EU LNG imports from the US has additionally facilitated the EU's clean energy transition. We agreed our governments should continue and strengthen enforcement efforts to prevent Russia from financing its war through **energy** exports.

Food security remains one of the most pressing global challenges. The weaponization by Russia of its grain and exports and its actions to block Ukrainian agricultural exports, further aggravate the crisis and make many African countries suffer. Furthermore, Russia's repeated attacks in the Black Sea pose a threat to commerce and Ukrainian grain exports. The EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes remain instrumental in bolstering global food security. The EU and the US should continue our cooperation to mitigate the situation, work with partners to offer help but also change the false narratives about whose policies are exacerbating the global situation.

We updated each other on our legislative work on **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**. As the technology evolves at an accelerating pace, our citizens are gradually becoming aware of its opportunities, implications and risks. For both their sake and that of our technology industries, understanding and considering our respective priorities is important. We are committed to collaborating with our international partners to develop AI policies that ensure that AI is used in ways consistent with our common democratic values and human rights.

We discussed the expansion of **China's** military and economic influence. Even though we continue to engage on global challenges, the aspects of competition and systemic rivalry have become more prominent in our bilateral relations with China. We condemn China's usage of secret police stations across sovereign nations and their intimidation of our citizens. We call again on China to cease its support for Russia and press Vladimir Putin to stop its war of aggression and unconditionally



withdraw his troops from Ukraine, in respect of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and the principles UN Charter. We remain committed to preserving peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and Indo-Pacific region and will oppose any unilateral attempts to undermine security in the region. We also discussed the alignment of U.S. and E.U strategies of de-risking and securing our supply chains.

We condemn the despicable attacks by Hamas on Israel on 7 October 2023, which killed over 1,200 people. We also welcome the release of hostages and call on Hamas to unconditionally and safely release all remaining hostages. We welcome unity in the support of **Israel's** right to defend itself. We believe in renewed efforts by the US, the EU, and our partners in the region to identify a viable path to lasting peace for Israelis and the Palestinians.

We condemn **Iran's** support to Hamas and other terrorist groups in the Gaza Strip and its destabilizing role in the region through its actions to incite violence, as well as its support to its proxies Hezbollah and the Houthis. We also condemn attacks by Iran-backed proxies on U.S. troops who are serving in the region. We welcomed the European Parliament's call to expand the sanctions against the Iranian regime and urge the EU follow through by listing the entirety of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Hezbollah on the EU list of terrorist organizations.

We are deeply concerned by and strongly condemn the sharp increase in anti-Semitic speech, threats, and attacks directed towards Jewish people since the terrorist attacks. We also encourage the EU and the US to continue combatting **anti-Semitism** and to implement measures that address all forms of hate and discrimination.

Ahead of our respective **elections** in 2024, we commit to stay vigilant about the dangerous spread of Russian and Chinese influence and hybrid activities, including information manipulation, interference, in electoral processes and the promotion of polarization in our societies. The strong, stable and trustful partnership between the U.S. and E.U. and our common action globally is a pre-



requisite for a safer world and the defense of our shared values. This is not a partisan issue but a fundamental shared interest.

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