



European
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40 actions that made a difference: EU Foreign Policy Instruments 2019-24



Foreign
Policy
Instruments

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**40 actions that made a difference:
EU Foreign Policy Instruments 2019-24**

**Service for Foreign
Policy Instruments**
EU foreign policy in action





Foreword



As Director - Head of the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), I am delighted to be sharing this booklet highlighting some critical contributions from EU instruments managed by FPI since 2019.

FPI's mission is to turn EU foreign policy into action: fast and flexibly to make the EU a stronger security, geopolitical and geoeconomic actor on the global stage. As a Service of the European Commission, FPI reports directly to the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission (HR/VP).

The present booklet is far from exhaustive, but it illustrates already the wide range of activities the EU is currently invested in and will have to remain so in order to play its role as a global actor, notably in peace and security, public diplomacy, democracy and rule of law. This global reach is only possible via the presence of dedicated colleagues both in headquarter and in EU Delegations around the world.

Peter M. Wagner
FPI Director - Head of Service



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Securing maritime trade between Europe and the Indo-Pacific region

The IORIS maritime communication platform fosters regional cooperation and enhances maritime domain awareness, in this way supporting the fight against illicit activities, protecting seafarers and safeguarding trade to and from Europe.





Group picture of a regional conference organised in Panama on Beneficial Ownership in November 2022

Countering money laundering and fighting terrorism globally

Thanks to EU support, Jordan and Panama were taken off the grey list by the Financial Action Task Force in October 2023. Their newly adopted legislation will facilitate greater financial and economic cooperation between the EU and both countries.





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The TV show “Ms President”: a successful peacebuilding initiative for Kenya

The project entertainingly demonstrated to an average weekly viewership of 3.5 million Kenyans the qualification and capability of a diverse selection of Kenyan women to lead and encourage several participants to pursue political careers at all levels.





Survivor Adel-Rose Tsibey, © John Van/Trinity Studio

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Reparations and redress for victims of conflict-related sexual violence

The Global Survivor's Fund has provided comprehensive interim reparative measures to more than 3,000 survivors in Guinea, DRC, Iraq and Türkiye (with survivors from Syria). The project has also led governments to take first steps in developing legislation and conceptualising reparation programmes, for example in Ukraine and Guinea.





Photo: © Pauline Caplet

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Unlocking the power of cultural relations

The FPI's Cultural Relations Platform serves as a powerful tool to capture the hearts and minds of artists, creators, cultural operators, and citizens, fostering authentic connections and links between the EU and the rest of the world. In conflict areas, like Ukraine, Sudan, and Nicaragua, the Platform unlocked the potential of culture to preserve cultural heritage, build resilience and peacebuilding through arts.





Dictionary of Misunderstandings

European and Chinese Horizons

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Transcultural Dictionary of Misunderstandings. European and Chinese Horizons

The “Transcultural Dictionary of Misunderstandings European and Chinese Horizons” is an initiative launched in 2020 by the EU Delegation to China, which emerged from the observation of an existing perceptual gap on key concepts between Europe and China. The writing of this Dictionary counted with the support of a selected group of high level European and Chinese intellectuals and scholars. It aims to provide meaningful, scientific, and literate explanations to these observed gaps, in an attempt to overcome deeply rooted cultural prejudices; and hopefully contribute to a better mutual understanding. The “Transcultural Dictionary of Misunderstandings” is a concrete example of EU cultural diplomacy: while political tensions require political solutions, cultural cooperation is a privileged and non-controversial vehicle to share values, increase mutual understanding and build trust.





1000+
North America

Europe
1500+

Asia
1300+

400+
Africa

400+
South America

170+

Australia
& Oceania

OVER
5 000
PARTICIPANTS FROM
ALL OVER THE WORLD

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People-to-people diplomacy

The European Union Visitors Programme (EUVP) is the key strategic tool of the EU's public, people-to-people diplomacy enhancing the EU's smart power, global impact and outreach. In close cooperation with EU Delegations and European Parliament Liaison Offices throughout the world, during this Commission's mandate and despite the Covid pandemic, the EUVP has continued to forge precious people-to-people contacts, inviting young political leaders and opinion-formers from countries and international organisations outside the EU to visit Brussels. Since its creation, EUVP has welcomed around 5000 participants from around the world. Hosting these study visits enhance mutual knowledge and understanding, foster common values, and promote EU interests and policies.





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The EU upholds the Kimberley Process' core mandate

Since February 2022, FPI has lead calls for the KP to address the consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine as Russia is the largest world producer of diamonds and Russian diamonds contribute to finance this war. FPI will continue to work relentlessly to reform KP in order to ensure that the proceeds from diamonds are never used to fund directly or indirectly conflicts or to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another State.





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Democracy and elections in action

For the past 5 years, the EU has deployed around 3000 electoral observers and experts to cover more than 80 electoral processes around the world, despite the pandemic, tense security contexts and many challenging transport conditions.

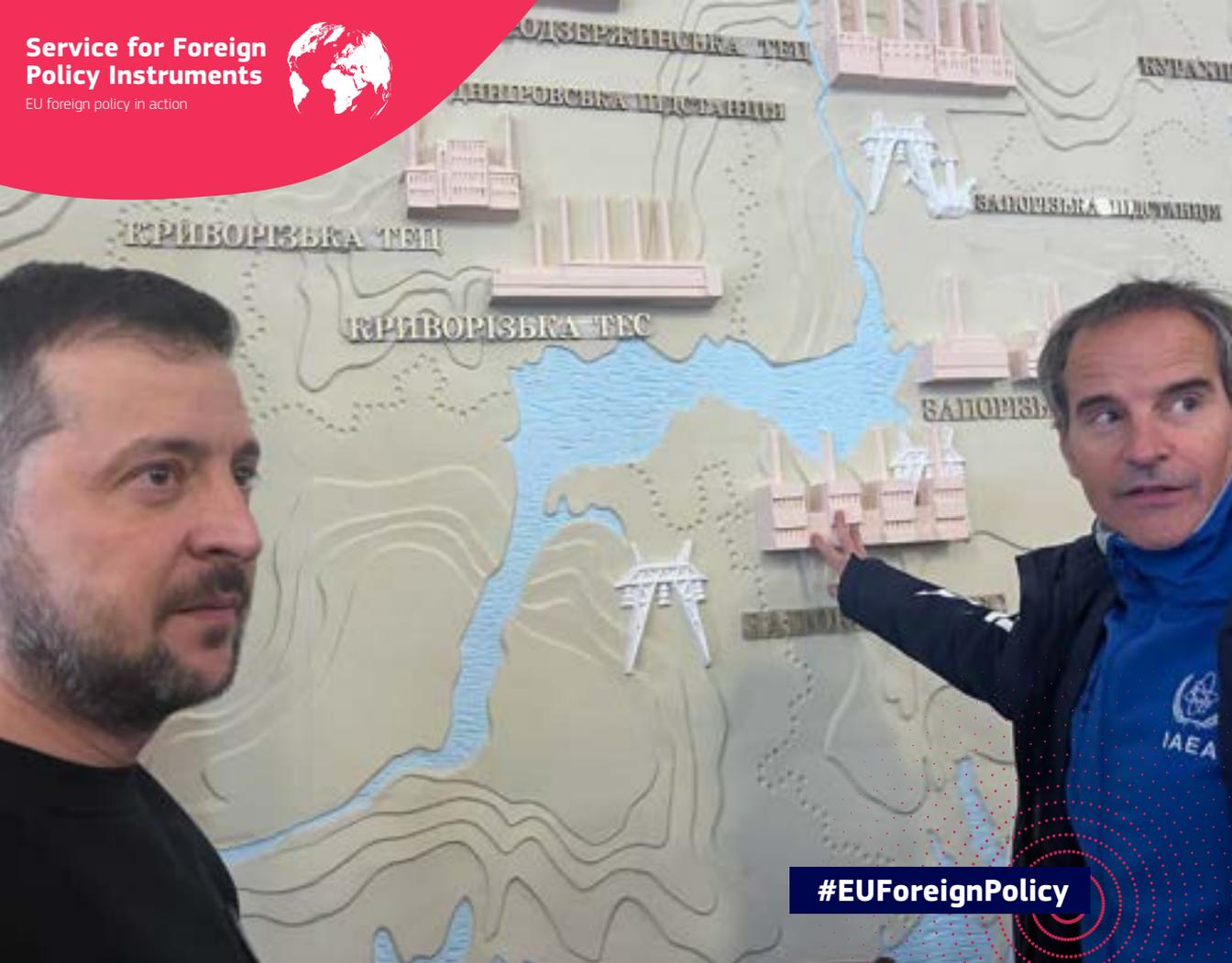




EU monitors deployed to help implement the ceasefire in Armenia

40 European Union ceasefire monitors were deployed as part of a civilian CSDP mission to Armenia in a record time of less than 1 month. Their patrols along the Armenia-Azerbaijan border improve human security in the conflict-affected areas. The swift set-up of the civilian EU Mission in Armenia underlined the EU's commitment to peace and security in the region.





EU helps securing nuclear plants in Ukraine

The EU provided EUR 2.2 million to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to support nuclear security in Ukraine. The IAEA sent experts to all five nuclear power plants in Ukraine, including the Zaporizhzhia one. The experts make sure that the facilities operate in full security despite the Russia's military aggression against Ukraine.





Supporting operational capacities of Armed Forces of the Republic of Moldova

Since 2021, the EPF supports the Moldovan Armed Forces for a total amount of EUR 87 million. To date, medical and demining equipment has been delivered, increasing the capacity of the Armed Forces to provide advanced resuscitation and prehospital emergency care as well as conduct Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) activities more efficiently and safely. For example, the EOD reaction time from identification to neutralisation decreased from 120 to 60 minutes.





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Supporting operational capacities of Armed Forces of Mauritania

Thanks to the speedy procurement and delivery of over 2,300 pieces of equipment (riverine, medical and individual) within the first 6 months of signing the contract and less than a year of adoption of the Council Decision, the Armed Forces have enhanced: surveillance and operational capacities on the borders with Mali and Algeria.





Photo: © Shutterstock

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New partnerships bring the EU and Asia-Pacific closer together

Some of our recent actions supported the successful conclusion of EU-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA), contributed to the implementation of the Civil Aviation and Transport Agreement (CATA) and led to the creation of a EU-Japan task force to enhance technical standards and expand the use of off-shore wind power (OWP) renewables.





Dealing with legacy of war in Afghanistan

Our actions contributed to making millions of square metres of land safe across Afghanistan, mitigating the risks posed by contamination while improving the safety, security and livelihood opportunities for people.





Supporting the peace process in Colombia

The EU is a strong supporter of the peace process in Colombia and the work of the Truth Commission. Our work was crucial for the completion, broad dissemination and legacy of the Truth Commission. We will pursue our effort to advance democracy, human rights and the full implementation of the Peace Agreement.





Photo: © FIL Guadalajara - Universidad de Guadalajara

Guadalajara International Book Fair

The EU's biggest cultural diplomacy initiative to date. EU as guest of honour in a rich and diverse literary program and beyond:

- EU pavilion with an EU bookshop and interactive 'médiathèque'
- European film festival with 30 film projections
- Gastronomic festival (4000 guests)
- 14 musical and dance shows
- 2 theatre performances
- 8 visual art exhibitions
- 22 cultural mediators
- 700 VIP inaugural lunches
- a record 857,315 visitors





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Response to the largest-ever refugee crisis in the Americas

The EU has made a profound impact on the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis, responding to the largest-ever refugee crisis in Latin America. This support provided essential help to refugees and migrants, reduced crime and social trauma, and helped the integration with the host communities.





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Accountability in Ukraine: preparing the future

By strengthening the work of the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, we ensure the perpetrators of war crimes, including sexual violence, are held accountable in Ukraine and at the international level. We have also directly supported the establishment of the International Center for the Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression (ICPA), to bring together the international community to hold Russia's leaders accountable.





The EU's fight against disinformation in Central African Republic

For the last 5 years, Radio Ndeke Luka and its investigation unit help combat disinformation and hate speech, dozens of fake news stories have been uncovered and reported on prime-time community radio stations.





Supporting communities after the earthquake in Northwest Syria

The White Helmets is a civil protection organisation which was the first to respond to critical needs following the February 2023 earthquake in Syria. As a result of our support, 442 thousand cubic meters of rubble were removed, camps and collective centres for survivors were set up, and water and sanitation networks were fixed to avoid the risk of cholera.



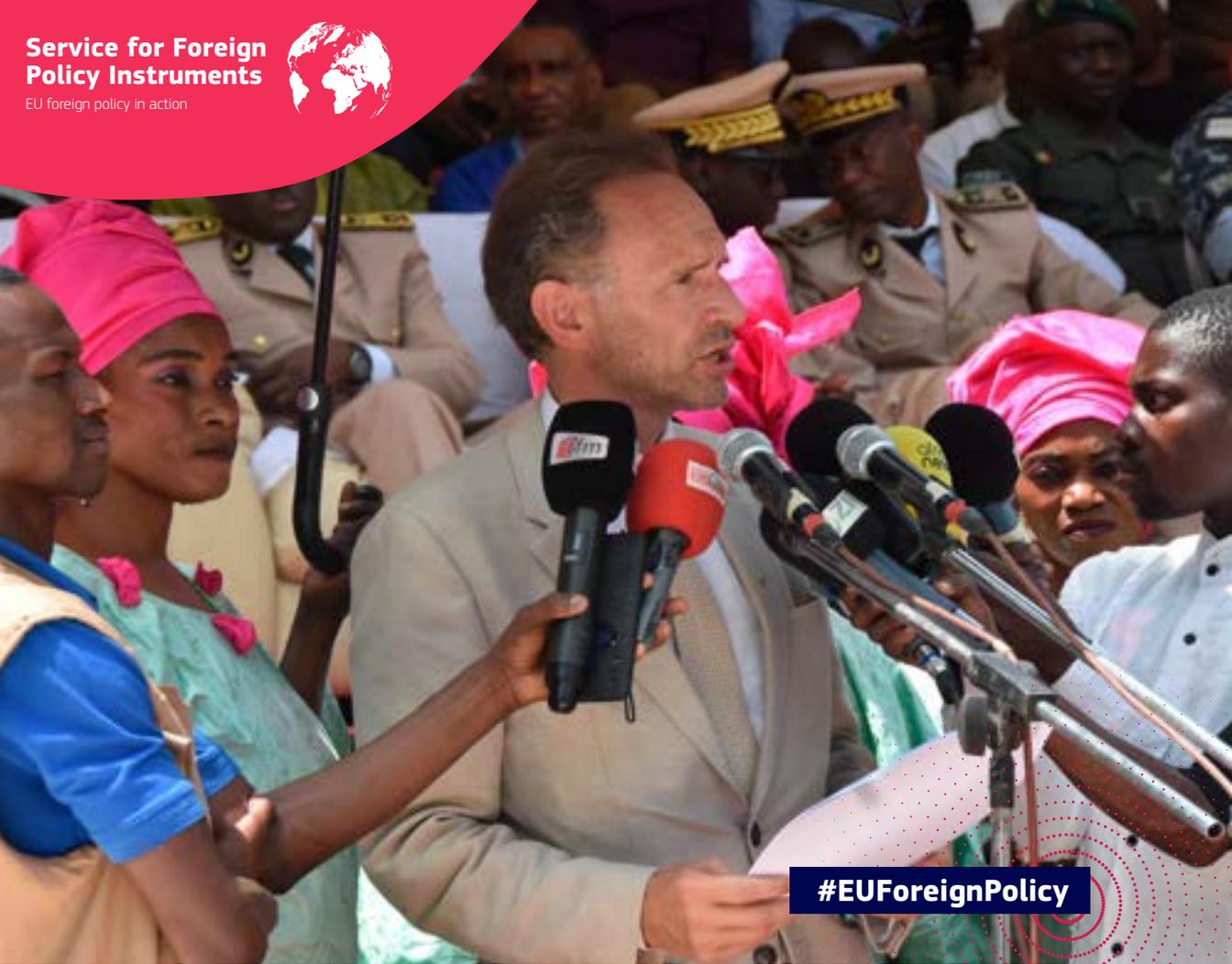


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The EU helps implementing the Ceasefire agreement in Libya

EULINK project supported the joint military committee to implement the 2020 ceasefire by securing the coastal road. This enabled free and safe circulation for the Libyan people and help reduce the divide between Libyan security actors from both sides of the country.





The EU successfully supports peace in Senegal

In the oldest conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa (since 1982), the EU supported mediation, demining, restitution of land to communities and the reintegration of former combatants. These efforts contributed to the signing, in May 2023, of an agreement which is paramount to achieve lasting peace in the region of Casamance.





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Operationalising the first specialised CBRNe African Master's programme

Thanks to the EU, the first specialised Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and explosive risks (CBRNe) African Master's programme has been set up, including a balanced combination of theoretical and practical courses to respond to CBRN threats and incidents. Over the past two years, 50 African officials and operational staff from eight West African countries have successfully completed the programme and graduated.





The EU successfully fostering dual use trade control in Morocco

Thanks to the EU, one step forward has been done in regulating the exporting and importing of items that have both a civilian and military application: in 2022 Morocco became the 2nd African country with a dual use trade control system. Morocco is developing a list of dual-use goods, modelled according to the international control list consolidated and codified by the European Union. This milestone enhances the security and results in economic benefits.





INVESTIGATIONS

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Photo: © Shutterstock

Fighting organised crime in Latin America

One of the international law enforcement operations organised by our DISRUPT project had a major impact on fighting organised crime in Latin America, resulting in 14,000 arrests and the seizure of 8,000 illicit firearms and almost 6 billion euros worth of drugs.





Photo: © Shutterstock, Taiz Yemen: A Yemeni child stands in front of houses destroyed by the violent war

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Institutionalising peace in Yemen

By supporting inclusive local mediation efforts, the project, led by the Yemeni organisation DeepRoot, empowers local mediation capacities and addresses grievances and conflicts within communities solving issues related to basic services and road opening but also documenting mass graves and missing persons files. This is of substantial support to the efforts made by the UN mission towards practical de-escalation.

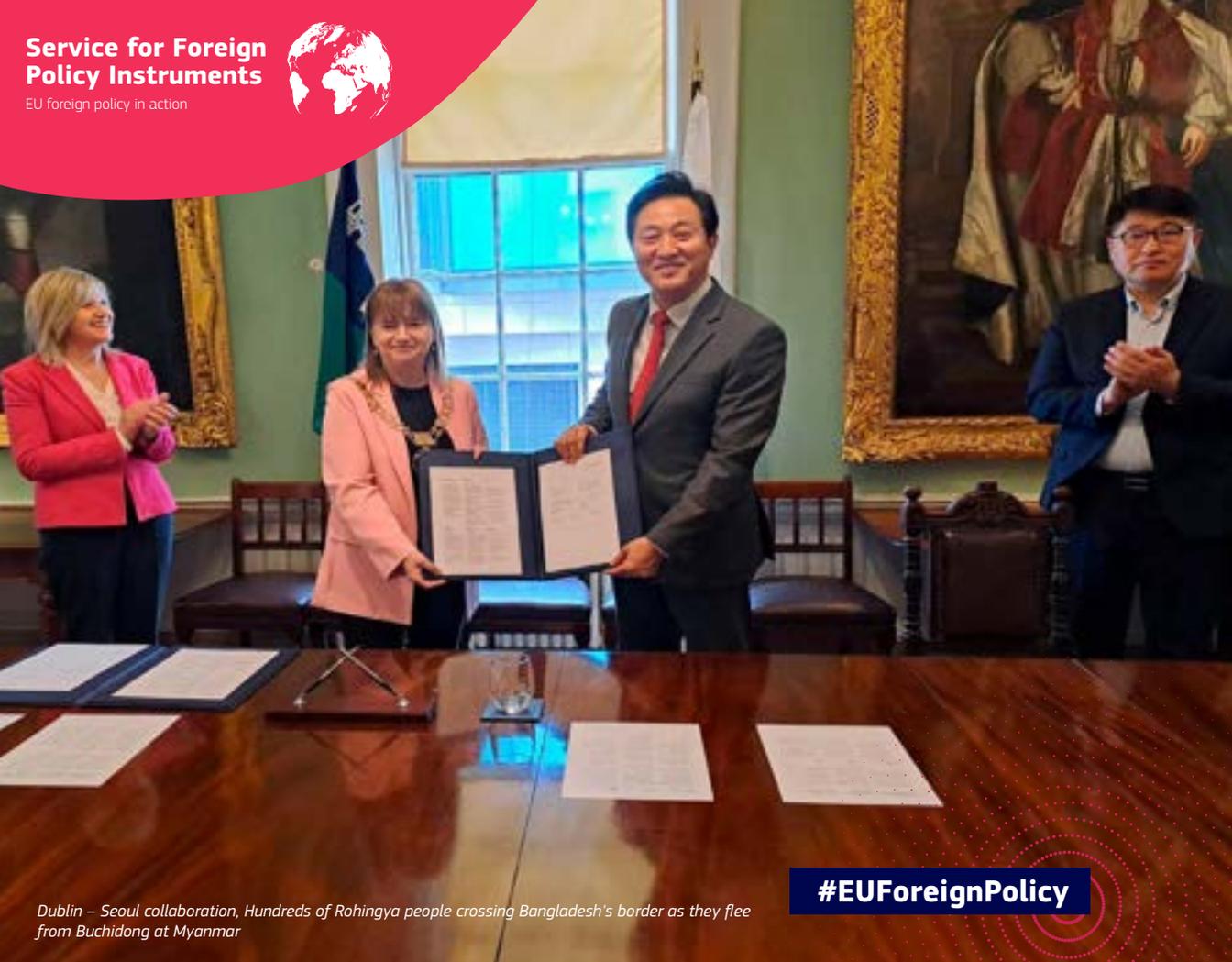




Financial management of EUAM Ukraine

With 370 staff on the ground, the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) Ukraine is the largest international presence in the war-torn country. After Russia's invasion, it supports stabilising the liberated areas by training the local police force and helping the investigation and prosecution of war crimes.





Dublin – Seoul collaboration, Hundreds of Rohingya people crossing Bangladesh's border as they flee from Buchidong at Myanmar

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New Europe - Asia-Pacific sustainable city partnerships

Asia is fast urbanising. The International Urban and Regional Cooperation - IURC Asia advanced decentralized sustainable urban development and regional innovation including through 39 city pairings between cities in the EU and Asia, notably the following : Bangkok and Milan teamed up resulting in the first Bangkok's food policy; Grenoble/ Essen twinned with Toyota/Koriyama to create business relationships on energy transition (hydrogen); Vilnius and New Plymouth's (NZ) cooperated on waste management technology; Dublin and Seoul published blueprints on digital transition for climate neutral mobility.





Photo: © Shutterstock

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International Justice for the Rohingya people

The fate of the Rohingya is one of the most hidden tragedies - but can also be the story of writing new chapters on protecting people through law. Our action “Legal Action Worldwide” works in Bangladesh with Rohingya to make their voices heard in courts across the globe. A key success was supporting Rohingya survivors in a historic witness testimony in Argentina in 2023, where a court applies universal jurisdiction to secure accountability for crimes perpetrated against the Rohingya in Myanmar. Other proceedings to restore dignity and justice take place in Germany, Indonesia, and at the ICJ and ICC. The investigations in the historic universal jurisdiction cases are ongoing.





Engage – Connect – Share – Build trust

Through Public and Cultural Diplomacy, FPI supported the EU delegations in Japan, Korea, China, Indonesia and ASEAN to engage millions of Asian youths, citizens, think tanks, future leaders and key institutions, fostered networks, and alliances for future cooperation and built and nurtured like-minded partnerships – for a stronger Europe in the world.





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Low Carbon Business Action: Commercialise EU SME's green technologies in the Americas

The Low Carbon and Circular Economy Business Action in the Americas has facilitated the commercialisation of green, low-carbon technologies of European SMEs in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia and Mexico. This led to the signing of over 160 commercial agreements for a total value of almost EUR 200 million.





Mexico: Circular Economy / Industrial Symbiosis Stepping Stone Approach

Four FPI-funded projects came together to support the goal of Chihuahua state, the municipality and the business community to move from a linear to a circular economy. The Chihuahua business association has become the ambassador of industrial symbiosis models in other Mexican states and beyond in Latin America.





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Raising awareness of the aggression against Ukraine in Latin America: Nobel Peace Prize Dialogue

This public diplomacy initiative influenced public perception and discourse in Latin America on the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. It highlighted the EU's diplomatic action and its support to Ukraine by facilitating exchange between Russian civil society and Latin American public, decision-makers and influencers across Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.





Source: © Shutterstock

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Fight against violent extremism in Uganda

Uganda victims of violent attacks and former terrorist fighters have become key players to prevent and combat violent extremism and terrorism in Uganda thanks to the EU-funded action of the Kofi Annan Foundation. By testifying before dozens of communities in sensitive districts through 31 videos and documentaries they are helping to reduce the vulnerability of those most likely to be recruited.





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More security for communities in northern Mozambique

This EU funded action, implemented by IOM, during the heavy insurgents' infiltration period in the northern province of Cabo Delgado in Mozambique, nurtured trust between security forces and community members. As a result, the national police training curriculum of the Police Academy was updated to integrate community policing modules. Through various art-based activities, the project was able to deepen dialogues and debunk prejudices among the community members, security forces and local authorities. Rehabilitation of key police posts, distribution of essential equipment to mobile brigades, facilitation of national identity cards and small seed grants to local organisations to promote dialogues were the main results of the project.





Iraq: EU digitisation project

Since 2020, the 'EU digitisation project', implemented by UNITAD, has mapped 51 different collections of relevant evidence of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide committed by ISIS in Iraq, digitizing around 10 million pages so far. The project has also enabled the establishment of a case management system and more speedy procedure to access case files. By so doing, the action foster accountability and help the country dealing with a dramatic past.





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Syria: Rehabilitation and maintenance of essential drinking water and irrigation infrastructures in Raqqa and Jazeera regions

In Northeast Syria, the water crisis impacts the everyday life of millions of people. This serious water scarcity is a result of various factors, conflict among others, and create competition, posing a major threat to the stability of the area. Climate change exacerbates this situation, adding another layer of complexity to the existing challenges. Since 2022, the EU help addresses protracted water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs, with the additional objective of increasing livelihoods opportunities through its focus on sustainable irrigation support.





Source: © Shutterstock

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Egypt: Supporting the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27).

The EU with Denmark and other partners supported the capacity of the Presidency of Egypt to host the summit in 2022 in Sharm El-Sheikh. By so doing, the action contributed to positioning the EU as a prominent actor in climate change negotiations. The campaign “Sharm Is Going Single-Use Plastic Free” and initiatives related to “Greening Sharm” were launched. The consultations paved the road for a breakthrough: parties reached a historic agreement on the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund at the opening plenary of the COP28 in Dubai.





Photo: © Shutterstock

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Efficient management of the financial and operational components of the EU foreign policy

As regards to the EU budget, FPI manages an operational budget of €6.3 billion for the 2021-2027 period. Rigorous budget monitoring and permanent communication between units have led to a consistent 100% execution of the EU budget, with all indicators above 95%. Thanks to streamlined procedures and rules, contracts are signed in a rapid manner, responding to EU's emerging needs and priorities in foreign policy.

As regards to funds outside of the EU budget, the FPI manages the budget for the assistance measures under the European Peace Facility (EPF). The EPF is a fund worth €17 billion for the period 2021-2027 (including the dedicated Ukraine Assistance Fund (UAF) of €5 billion).



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