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The G7 Research Group presents the
2022 G7 Elmau Summit Final Compliance Report

28 June 2022 to 17 April 2023

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in *G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit*



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Contents

Introduction.....	3
Research Team.....	4
Summary.....	6
The Final Compliance Score.....	6
Compliance by Member.....	6
Compliance by Commitment.....	6
The Compliance Gap Between Members.....	6
Future Research and Reports.....	6
Table A: 2022 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*.....	7
Table B: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores.....	9
Table C: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Member.....	10
Table D: 2022 G7 Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Commitment.....	11
1. Regional Security: Global Effects of the War in Ukraine.....	12
2. Regional Security: Military and Financial Support for Ukraine.....	41
3. Climate Change: Health Sustainability.....	103
4. Climate Change: Decarbonizing the Power Sector.....	120
5. Energy: Securing Supply.....	165
6. Human Rights: The Digital Sphere and Beyond.....	190
7. Democracy: Rules-Based Multilateral Order.....	227
8. Health: Pandemic Preparedness.....	367
9. Environment: Funding and Resources.....	387
10. Food and Agriculture: Resilience.....	433
11. Digital Economy: Empowering Citizens.....	460
12. Gender: Access to Education.....	477
13. Trade: Free Trade.....	499
14. Macroeconomics: Safe, Resilient, Equitable and Rules-Based Growth.....	535
15. Health: Noncommunicable Diseases.....	570
16. Crime and Corruption: Transnational Crime.....	605
17. Labour and Employment: Social Protection.....	624
18. Infrastructure: Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment.....	641
19. Non-proliferation: Non-proliferation Treaty.....	675
20. Terrorism: Cooperation on Extremism.....	715
21. Development: Debt Transparency.....	734

6. Human Rights: The Digital Sphere and Beyond

“[Guided by the conviction that democratic values make us stronger in tackling global challenges, we will cooperate with civil society and our partners beyond the G7 to] ... promote human rights online and offline.”

G7 Leaders’ Communiqué Executive Summary

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

Background

Though human rights discourse within the G7 has a long track record, its connection to and general discussion of the digital sphere is far more recent. Beginning with the inception of the Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT Force) in 2000, the protection of human rights online focused primarily on the potential benefits of technology in supporting efforts towards access in health care and education.¹¹⁰⁴ The DOT Force aimed to “report...findings and recommendations on global action to bridge the international information and knowledge divide.”¹¹⁰⁵ As such, much of the G7’s history in addressing human rights in the digital sphere has concerned itself with bridging development gaps through information and communication technology. In later years, as the digital sphere has progressed, the G7 has turned its attention to the ways in which information and communication technology can both inhibit and support human rights in free speech, privacy and principles of the rule of law.¹¹⁰⁶ To protect the integrity of cyberspace, the G7 consistently reaffirms its commitment to the regulation of the digital sphere through multilateral collaboration efforts across states and their respective private and public sectors.¹¹⁰⁷

At the 1989 Paris Summit, forty years after the United Nations’ General Assembly’s adoption of the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights,” G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to the document and its principles.¹¹⁰⁸ This declaration marked the first time the topic of human rights was explicitly addressed at a G7 summit.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 members introduced an economic declaration aimed at protecting “the practice of free elections, the freedom of expression and assembly, the increased respect for human rights and the rule of law.”¹¹⁰⁹ Emphasizing the principles of freedom and consent with respect to labour, the Houston

¹¹⁰⁴ Digital Opportunities Task Force Report Card: Digital Opportunities for All, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) June 2002. Access Date: 23 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce_reportcard.pdf

¹¹⁰⁵ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

¹¹⁰⁶ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

¹¹⁰⁷ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

¹¹⁰⁸ 1898 Declaration on Human Rights, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 July 1989. Access Date: 4 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/human.html>

¹¹⁰⁹ Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 4 October 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

Economic Declaration affirmed the protection of human rights as a necessary component for economic growth and prosperity.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 members commended developing countries who had begun to implement “radical policy reforms” in human rights.¹¹¹⁰ The group cited the protection of human rights as a main contributor to economic development and reaffirmed the need for “open systems of administration, accountable to the public” that may monitor human rights abuses.

At the 1992 Munich summit, G7 members stated human rights as a common value shared between East and West states following the democratic revolution in Europe.¹¹¹¹ Members emphasized the need for the maintenance of these rights regardless of the specific inclinations of individual governments.

At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 members put forth their support for the creation of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights office.¹¹¹² G7 members outlined their support for the “improvement of international monitoring mechanisms and procedures for the promotion and protection of human rights everywhere, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.”

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 members implored the UN Secretary-General to utilize the High Commissioners on Human Rights and Refugees to foster better analysis for the prevention of negative impacts through disaster and conflict.¹¹¹³ The summit emphasized upholding human rights as being integral to crisis control and sustainable development.

At the 1997 Denver summit, G8 members explicitly endorsed the work of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.¹¹¹⁴ The summit focused most specifically on development in Sub-Saharan Africa through the protection of human rights by way of good governance, democracy and the cooperation of the private sector—reaffirming their support of institutions of international humanitarian law.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders pledged to explore the ways in which they could support Africa in development through human rights protection.¹¹¹⁵ These included humanitarian aid as well as financial and technical assistance in building stronger “social and economic systems.”

At the 2000 Okinawa summit, G8 members mentioned digital opportunities in connection to public welfare and development and formed the DOT Force.¹¹¹⁶ The creation of this task force marked the beginning of the G8’s work on tackling inequality in the digital sphere.

¹¹¹⁰ Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

¹¹¹¹ Political Declaration: Shaping the New Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 July 1992. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1992munich/political.html>

¹¹¹² Chairman’s Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1994. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/chairman.html>

¹¹¹³ Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communique/index.html>

¹¹¹⁴ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 1997. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

¹¹¹⁵ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

¹¹¹⁶ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

At the 2001 Genoa summit, the DOT Force fulfilled the mandates set at Okinawa and reported on the potential of digital technologies to contribute towards development and social cohesion.¹¹¹⁷ These findings resulted in the consideration of the role of “e-Government” in political and social progress.¹¹¹⁸

At the 2002 Kananaskis summit, G8 leaders released a key document from the DOT Force Report Card that was titled “Digital Opportunities for All.”¹¹¹⁹ This document elaborated upon the mandates that states had given in prior summits’ addressals of digital development and put forth an action plan for increased access to health care and education through the use of information and communication technology.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 members released a statement condemning the human rights violations occurring in Sudan.¹¹²⁰ Leaders called on the Sudanese government and other parties involved in the political conflict to disarm and approach a diplomatic solution.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm summit, G8 members urged the Sudanese government to follow ceasefire agreements and allow humanitarian aid access into the country—invoking UN Security Council resolution 1591.¹¹²¹ Member states expressed their continued disapproval of human rights violations in Sudan, as well as their desire for perpetrators to be held accountable.

At the 2009 l’Aquila Summit, G8 members produced the “Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future” declaration.¹¹²² This document contained the group’s first-ever explicit connection between human rights and global health, with members condemning any violations or discrimination inflicted against those suffering from HIV/AIDS.

At the 2010 Muskoka summit, G8 leaders cited the upcoming Kabul Conference as an opportunity for the Government of Afghanistan to prove its progress in human rights.¹¹²³ Members committed to supporting the country in its period of “transition and development” by promoting more credible, inclusive and transparent parliamentary elections.

At the 2011 Deauville summit, G8 leaders emphasized the need to maintain the integrity of human rights on the internet through the protection of citizens’ privacy and democratic freedoms.¹¹²⁴ It stated the potential of the internet as “an instrument for political liberty and emancipation.”¹¹²⁵

At the 2016 Ise-Shima summit, G7 leaders explicitly committed to “the protection and promotion of human rights online.”¹¹²⁶ In a document titled “G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber,” leaders emphasized the

¹¹¹⁷ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>

¹¹¹⁸ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommunique.html>

¹¹¹⁹ Digital Opportunities Task Force Report Card: Digital Opportunities for All, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) June 2002. Access Date: 23 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce_reportcard.pdf

¹¹²⁰ G8 Statement on Sudan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/sudan.html>

¹¹²¹ G8 Summit Statement on Sudan/Darfur, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-sudan.html>

¹¹²² Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

¹¹²³ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings. G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 4 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

¹¹²⁴ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

¹¹²⁵ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

¹¹²⁶ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

importance of a secure and fair cyberspace. This document created the foundation for future discussion of the threats, rather than solely the positive potential, of digital connectivity.

At the 2018 Charlevoix summit, G7 members produced the “Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts.”¹¹²⁷ This summit marked the first time in which gendered-violence was addressed specifically as a major concern of digital safety and security.

At the 2021 Carbis Bay summit, G7 members approved of the “Digital Ministers’ Internet Safety Principles document outlining parameters for online ethics.”¹¹²⁸ The group formally condemned state-imposed restrictions on digital democratic processes and government-mandated internet shutdowns and also committed to combatting hate speech and privacy infringement. In a G7 Trade Ministers meeting on 28 May 2021, members restated their commitment to international instruments such as the ILO and the “UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.”¹¹²⁹ This was a reaffirmation of former commitments made by the group concerning the eradication of forced labour in global supply chains.

At the 2022 Elmau summit, G7 members aimed to “maximise the coherent implementation of and compliance with international standards relating to human rights, environment, and labour across global supply chains.”¹¹³⁰ G7 members emphasized support for strengthening human rights in the labour sphere by strengthening “compliance with international standards, including through mandatory measures that protect rights-holders, provide for greater multilateral cooperation to address abuses and support remedy, thus enhancing predictability and certainty for business.” G7 members condemned the human rights situation in China, including in Tibet and Xinjiang; Myanmar; Iran, specifically discussing the increased use of arbitrary arrests, detention and capital punishment; Afghanistan; and Syria. In the digital sphere, G7 members pledged to center human rights and fundamental freedoms in discussion of the Internet as reflected in the G7 Resilient Democracy Statement. G7 members discussed their support for states “to increase digital access while ensuring that security, interoperability and respect for human rights are built into global connectivity.”

Commitment Features

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders made the following commitment: “[Guided by the conviction that democratic values make us stronger in tackling global challenges, we will cooperate with civil society and our partners beyond the G7 to]...promote human rights online and offline.”¹¹³¹ This commitment can be interpreted as having one main target: the promotion of human rights. The target includes two central dimensions: one, the promotion of human rights in the digital sphere; and two, the promotion of human rights offline. Further, in each area — online and offline — the G7 member must cooperate with civil society as well as other partners beyond the G7.

“Democratic values” refer to the “values of freedom, respect for human rights and the principle of holding periodic and genuine elections by universal suffrage.”¹¹³² In the context of this commitment, democratic values should help guide responses to human rights abuses.

¹¹²⁷ Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/violence-commitment.html>

¹¹²⁸ Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communication.html>

¹¹²⁹ G7 Trade Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 4 October 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/210528-communication.html>

¹¹³⁰ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 1 October 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

¹¹³¹ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 1 October 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

¹¹³² Democracy, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/democracy>

“Cooperate” refers to “acting together or in compliance.”¹¹³³ In the context of this commitment, G7 members should aim to work alongside civil society which is defined as “any non-profit, voluntary citizens’ group which is organized on a local, national or international level.”¹¹³⁴ Some examples of civil society include community groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), charitable organizations, labour unions and professional associations. Additionally, G7 members should also act with partners outside of the G7, or anyone other than a G7 member associated through collaborative action, to ensure the universal promotion of human rights. This can include other countries or international organizations.

“Promote” refers to “supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area” or “to contribute to growth or prosperity of, to help bring into being.”¹¹³⁵ Within the context of this commitment, promoting human rights can refer to directly opposing rising digital authoritarianism, investing in the cyber resilience of digital infrastructure within and across G7 countries, developing and implementing robust international cyber norms, upholding human rights standards across global supply chains, tackling instances of forced labour and protecting refugees and forcibly displaced persons..

“Human rights” are defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) as “rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any status.”¹¹³⁶ Within the context of this commitment, G7 members should promote human rights such as “the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education,”¹¹³⁷ and other rights specified in the UDHR.

“Online” is defined as “connected to, served by, or available through a system and especially a computer or telecommunications system.”¹¹³⁸ Online human rights issues can include instances of digital transnational repression, censorship or surveillance programs and the promotion of digital authoritarianism.

“Offline” is defined as “not connected to, served by, or available through a system and especially a computer or telecommunications system.”¹¹³⁹ In the context of this commitment, “online and offline” are understood to mean both within and beyond the global digital ecosystem.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is assigned to G7 members who demonstrate strong action to promote human rights through both dimensions of cooperation: online and offline. In the online sphere, examples of strong actions regarding promoting human rights include, but are not limited to, enforcement of laws through policy action, such as fines for disobeying government guidelines on online harm, digital transnational repression or digital authoritarianism; investing in the cyber resilience of digital infrastructure within and across G7 countries; developing and implementing robust international cyber norms; changing legislation to prevent the malicious use of cyberspace by state and non-state actors and ensuring its accountability through democratic oversight of a legitimate government; and increased funding for digital access while ensuring that security and respect for human rights are built into global connectivity.¹¹⁴⁰ Examples of strong actions regarding promoting

¹¹³³ Cooperate, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cooperate>

¹¹³⁴ The UN and Civil Society, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/en/get-involved/un-and-civil-society>

¹¹³⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 30 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹¹³⁶ Human Rights, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/human-rights>

¹¹³⁷ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

¹¹³⁸ Online, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/online>

¹¹³⁹ Offline, Merriam-Webster Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/offline>

¹¹⁴⁰ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communiqué.html>

human rights offline include, but are not limited to, providing financial support to protect refugees and forcibly displaced persons, women and children in areas of conflict; and joining and/or participating in international organizations that aim to uphold human rights standards across global supply chains, tackle instances of forced labour, or improve the accountability and documentation for human rights violations and abuses like sexual and gender-based violence including in conflict situations.¹¹⁴¹ In order to achieve full compliance, a member must take strong actions in both dimensions of the commitment in cooperation with civil society and other G7 members.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is assigned to G7 members who demonstrate strong action in only one of the two commitment dimensions. This means that in one dimension of the commitment the member has taken weak action. Weak actions include verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, or sharing information on human rights abuses without cooperating to address such issues. Additionally, if a member demonstrates strong action in only one dimension of the commitment—online or offline—or if a member does not cooperate with civil society and other G7 members then a partial compliance score is given.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, is assigned if the G7 member takes weak or less than strong action in one dimension of the commitment while not cooperating with either civil society or other international partners. It will also receive a -1 if it fails to take any action to protect human rights both online or offline, or the G7 member actively threatens human rights both online and offline.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member took insufficient or no action to promote human rights both online or offline and did not cooperate with civil society or international partners.
0	The G7 member took some action to promote human rights offline and online alongside, while also cooperating with civil society or international partners OR took strong action either offline OR online while cooperating with one of the relevant stakeholders.
+1	The G7 member took strong action to promote human rights online AND offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

Compliance Director: Saarah Khan

Lead Analyst: Faye Rozario

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 31 July 2022, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced that CAD9 million would be devoted to three projects for promoting LGBTQ2I+ human rights.¹¹⁴² Along with the APCOM Foundation, Cuso International and World Bank, Canada will use this funding to improve LGBTQ2I+ services in Asia, create safer communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo and further research minority conflicts in developing countries.

On 1 September 2022, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly gave a statement on a report by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights discussing the human rights situation in the Xinjiang Uyghur

¹¹⁴¹ G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 23 September 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

¹¹⁴² Canada announces funding for 3 LGBTQ2I-related projects in developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Vancouver) 31 July 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/07/canada-announces-funding-for-3-lgbtq2i-related-projects-in-developing-countries.html>

Autonomous Region in China.¹¹⁴³ Minister Joly urged China to listen to the international community and uphold human rights obligations.

On 8 September 2022, Canada participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹¹⁴⁴ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹¹⁴⁵ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

On 3 October 2022, Minister Joly announced that Canada would impose additional sanctions under the current "Special Economic Measures (Iran) Regulations" in light of continuous extreme human rights violations.¹¹⁴⁶ Specifically, these measures aim to combat the systematic persecution of women, such as Mahsa Amini, by Iran's police force.

On 6 October 2022, Minister Joly announced that CAD9.7 million was going toward four projects in Latin America and the Caribbean.¹¹⁴⁷ One of the projects would receive CAD2.2 million in partnership with the International Organization for Migration to combat human trafficking within Latin America and support the integration of Venezuelan refugees throughout communities.

On 7 October 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau declared further measures against the human rights violations in Iran after the death of Mahsa Amini.¹¹⁴⁸ These measures will include denying the Iranian regime — including the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and its top leaders — access to Canada, expanding sanctions against those conducting human rights abuses and restricting the finances and property of perpetrators.

On 7 October 2022, the Ministry of International Development announced a fund of CAD9.7 million to help developmental assistance projects aimed at advancing 2SLGBTQI+ rights and gender equality. Additionally, the fund will support "Venezuelan refugees, migrants and their host communities across Latin America and the Caribbean."¹¹⁴⁹

¹¹⁴³ Statement by Minister Joly on UN report on human rights situation in Xinjiang, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 September 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/09/statement-by-minister-joly-on-un-report-on-human-rights-situation-in-xinjiang.html>

¹¹⁴⁴ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹¹⁴⁵ G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

¹¹⁴⁶ Canada imposes sanctions on Iran for systematic human rights violations, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/canada-imposes-sanctions-on-iran-for-systematic-human-rights-violations.html>

¹¹⁴⁷ Canada's investments in Latin America and the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 6 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/canadas-investments-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean.html>

¹¹⁴⁸ Canada to implement new measures against the Iranian regime, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/10/07/canada-implement-new-measures-against-iranian-regime>

¹¹⁴⁹ Minister Joly concludes visit to Peru and announces projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 12 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/minister-joly-concludes-visit-to-peru-and-announces-projects-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean.html>

On 20 October 2022, Canada, along with the members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions.¹¹⁵⁰ Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declares that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

On 28 October 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau announced plans to impose new sanctions on Russia's justice and security sectors for violating the human rights of Russian opposition leaders.¹¹⁵¹ These new measures will be based on the current sanctions which target over 1,400 Russian justice system members accountable.

On 28 November 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau visited James Smith Cree Nation to announce CAD62.5 million over six years to support Indigenous approaches to community safety and to support the healing, mental health and well-being of community members impacted by the September attacks that took the lives of 11 people.¹¹⁵² The aim of this investment is to increase access to mental health, trauma and substance use services as well as end violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

On 2 December 2022, Minister Joly announced that Canada is imposing additional sanctions under the Special Economic Measures (Iran) Regulations.¹¹⁵³

On 7 December 2022, Minister Joly and Minister Sajjan announced CAD4.3 million in funding to support projects aimed at ending gender-based violence around the world.¹¹⁵⁴ The announcement also voiced support for the UN Population Fund, Grace Farms Foundation and included stakeholders and partners in "conducting research on technology-facilitated gender-based violence in the Global South."

On 8 December 2022, the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse released a joint statement urging technology companies to enable women and girls' access to online information.¹¹⁵⁵ The statement urges the implementation of "proactive measures to combat the abuse of their platforms to threaten, harass, and silence Iranian women and girls by surging resources for Persian (Farsi) language content moderation and other Iranian languages, applying policies on harassment and abusive content in a timely and consistent manner, and providing resources and transparent reporting options for those experiencing online harassment and abuse."

On 10 December 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau provided a statement for Human Rights Day announcing further action against the human rights violations of regimes of Russia, Iran and Myanmar.¹¹⁵⁶ The restrictions will affect 67 individuals and 9 entities named in the human rights violations.

¹¹⁵⁰ Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

¹¹⁵¹ Prime Minister announces new measures to support Ukraine, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 28 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/10/28/prime-minister-announces-new-measures-support-ukraine>

¹¹⁵² Prime Minister visits James Smith Cree Nation and announces mental health supports for those impacted by the tragic attacks in September, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2022. Access Date: 17 April 2023.

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/11/28/prime-minister-visits-james-smith-cree-nation-and-announces-mental>

¹¹⁵³ Canada imposes additional sanctions on the Iranian regime, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/canada-imposes-additional-sanctions-on-the-iranian-regime.html>

¹¹⁵⁴ Canada announces new support for projects working to end gender-based violence around the world, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/canada-announces-new-support-for-projects-working-to-end-gender-based-violence-around-the-world.html>

¹¹⁵⁵ Joint Statement through the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse on Standing with the Women and Girls of Iran, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-through-the-global-partnership-for-action-on-gender-based-online-harassment-and-abuse-on-standing-with-the-women-and-girls-of-iran.html>

¹¹⁵⁶ Statement by the Prime Minister on Human Rights Day, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 10 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2022/12/10/statement-prime-minister-human-rights-day>

On 15 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada and New Zealand released a joint statement condemning the execution of protesters in Iran.¹¹⁵⁷

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the “barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations from the workplace” as it “puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.”¹¹⁵⁸ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 10 January 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced “targeted sanctions under regulations pursuant to the Special Economic Measures Act against four Sri Lankan state officials responsible for gross and systematic violations of human rights during armed conflict in Sri Lanka, which occurred from 1983 to 2009.”¹¹⁵⁹ These sanctions aim to condemn Sri Lanka for the continued impunity it has afforded to those who have committed human rights violations.

On 10 January 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau, Mexico’s President Andrés Manuel López Obrador and the US President Joe Biden met for the tenth North American Leaders’ Summit in Mexico City.¹¹⁶⁰ The goal of the meeting was to remove barriers for marginalized populations, ensure safe migration between countries and reduce both gender-based violence and violence against the LGBTQ+ community.

On 19 January 2023, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Élisabeth Brière announced CAD598,272 in funding an advocacy intervention program to support women who experience intimate partner violence.¹¹⁶¹ This fund aims to support older adults who are at a higher risk for elder abuse like social isolation, loneliness and family-based violence.

On 26 January 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau announced the appointment of Amira Elghawaby as Canada’s first Special Representative on Combatting Islamophobia.¹¹⁶² This action aims to fight hatred, racism and discrimination for Muslim communities.

¹¹⁵⁷ Joint Statement of the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada and New Zealand on the Execution of Protesters in Iran, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2023. Access Date: 15 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-of-the-foreign-ministers-of-australia-canada-and-new-zealand-on-the-execution-of-protesters-in-iran.html>

¹¹⁵⁸ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban’s ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹¹⁵⁹ Canada imposes sanctions on Sri Lankan state officials for human rights violations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2023. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/canada-imposes-sanctions-on-sri-lankan-state-officials-for-human-rights-violations.html>

¹¹⁶⁰ FACT SHEET: Key Deliverables for the 2023 North American Leaders’ Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2023. Access Date: 2 March 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2023/01/10/fact-sheet-key-deliverables-2023-north-american-leaders-summit>

¹¹⁶¹ Government of Canada Supports Project to Prevent and Address Abuse in the Atlantic Region, Public Health Agency of Canada (Fredericton) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2023/01/government-of-canada-supports-project-to-prevent-and-address-abuse-in-the-atlantic-region.html>

¹¹⁶² Prime Minister announces appointment of Canada’s first Special Representative on Combatting Islamophobia, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 January 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/01/26/prime-minister-announces-appointment-canadas-first-special>

On 24 February 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau announced an increase in aid to Ukraine and sanctions on Russia.¹¹⁶³ Specifically, Canada provided CAD32 million to Ukraine for stabilization and defense and sanctioned over 100 of Russia's elite and government officials as well as weapons and chemicals.

On 27 February 2023, Minister Sajjan announced CAD45 million towards the humanitarian needs of those affected by the conflict in Yemen.¹¹⁶⁴

On 6 March 2023., Prime Minister Trudeau hosted European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen for discussions on maintaining robust sanctions against Russia and promoting women's empowerment in the workplace.¹¹⁶⁵ With the two leaders promising to coordinate efforts to assist Ukraine's neighbours affected by the displaced populations, Prime Minister Trudeau also committed an additional CAD3 million to clear landmines and unexploded ordinances in Ukraine. Towards the efforts of gender equality, Prime Minister Trudeau announced an investment of CAD7.5 million towards the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.

On 15 March 2023, Minister of Public Safety Marco Mendicino met with Victim Services Toronto and Project Recover which provide support to survivors of human trafficking looking to reclaim their financial independence.¹¹⁶⁶ The aim of this action is to prevent, protect and empower victims and survivors.

On 24 March 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau and US President Biden met to discuss their shared priorities of creating a fairer migration system between the two countries and promoting security in Haiti.¹¹⁶⁷ Respectively, Canada announced that it would welcome 15,000 migrants on a humanitarian basis from the Western Hemisphere and invest CAD100 million in equipment for the Haitian National Police.

On 29 March 2023, Prime Minister Trudeau promised over CAD50 million to support human and digital rights at home and abroad.¹¹⁶⁸ CAD2 million will go to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen its digital tools while CAD5 million will go to Lawyers without Borders to fight against human rights violations in Honduras.

On 14 April 2023, Canada announced over CAD37 million in funding for 42 innovative community-led projects across Canada.¹¹⁶⁹ The goal of these projects is to scale up prevention, harm reduction and treatment efforts for those at risk of experiencing substance-related harms and overdose.

¹¹⁶³ Supporting Ukraine for as Long as it Takes, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2023. Access Date: 10 March 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/02/24/supporting-ukraine-long-it-takes>

¹¹⁶⁴ Canada announces funding in continuing response to humanitarian crisis in Yemen, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/02/canada-announces-funding-in-continuing-response-to-humanitarian-crisis-in-yemen.html>

¹¹⁶⁵ Joint Press Release on the Occasion of the Visit to Canada of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Prime Minister of Canada (Kingston) 7 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/03/07/joint-press-release-occasion-visit-canada-european-commission-president-ursula-von-der-leyen>

¹¹⁶⁶ Government of Canada announces funding to help empower survivors of human trafficking to regain financial independence, Public Safety Canada (Toronto) 15 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2023/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-empower-survivors-of-human-trafficking-to-regain-financial-independence.html>

¹¹⁶⁷ Working with the United States to grow our clean economies and create good, middle class jobs on both sides of the border, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 24 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/03/24/working-united-states-grow-our-clean-economies-and-create-good-middle>

¹¹⁶⁸ Backgrounder: Canada announces over \$50 million in funding during second Summit for Democracy, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 29 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023.

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2023/03/29/backgrounder-canada-announces-over-50-million-funding-during-second>

¹¹⁶⁹ Government of Canada announces over \$37 million to help address harms related to substance use across Canada, Health Canada (Ottawa) 14 April 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/04/government-of-canada-announces-over-37-million-to-help-address-harms-related-to-substance-use-across-canada.html>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. Canada has a variety of actions, working on the domestic front and in partnership with international organizations. Moreover, Canada is proactive in its approach to human and digital rights i.e., its response to Iran's internet policies. By pledging funds, sanctioning international actors perpetuating online authoritarianism, combating human trafficking and working to protect minorities, Canada has fulfilled its commitments in promoting rights within and beyond the digital sphere.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maeva Kelly

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 1 July 2022, the Interministerial Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing organized a webinar to discuss the human trafficking of Ukrainian refugees.¹¹⁷⁰ The webinar aimed to raise public awareness and provide guidelines on how to support and guide such victims towards resource centers.

On 14 July 2022, the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas Territories partnered with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs to donate a DNA analysis laboratory to the General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine.¹¹⁷¹ The goal of this donation is to increase Ukraine's capacity to store and analyze evidence of war crimes and crimes against humanity, particularly from its current war with Russia.

On 30 August 2022, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Argentina's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship reaffirmed their commitment to combat enforced disappearances of women.¹¹⁷² Together, both states encouraged all nations to sign on to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

On 8 September 2022, France participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹¹⁷³ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and the need for artificial intelligence regulations.

On 22 September 2022, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna chaired the Summit for Information and Democracy.¹¹⁷⁴ Minister Colonna reaffirmed France's commitment to ensuring all

¹¹⁷⁰ La Dihal et ses partenaires se mobilisent pour prévenir les risques de traite à l'égard des personnes déplacées d'Ukraine, Délégation interministérielle à l'hébergement et à l'accès au logement (Paris) 8 July 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/la-dihal-et-ses-partenaires-se-mobilisent-pour-prevenir-les-risques-de-traite-a-l-egard-des>

¹¹⁷¹ La France fait don d'un laboratoire mobile d'analyse ADN à l'Ukraine, Ministère de l'intérieur et de l'outre-mer (Paris) 15 July 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués/france-fait-don-dun-laboratoire-mobile-danalyse-adn-a-lukraine>

¹¹⁷² International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances – Joint press release by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Argentinean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 August 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/news/article/international-day-of-the-victims-of-enforced-disappearances-joint-press-release>

¹¹⁷³ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹¹⁷⁴ International Partnership for Information and Democracy, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/the-information-and-democracy-partnership/article/international-partnership-for-information-and-democracy>

countries' legal frameworks regarding freedom of opinion and expression are in alignment with human rights standards.

On 23 September 2022, France and Germany organized a ministerial meeting on the topic of “Shaping Global Cybersecurity: A Call for Action to Promote Responsible State Behaviour & Capacity-Building.”¹¹⁷⁵ The goal of this meeting was to discuss a plan for developing and improving current rules in cyberspace.

On 28 September 2022, France recognized International Safe Abortion Day claiming that it was “[unwaveringly] committed to this inalienable right.”¹¹⁷⁶

On 28 September 2022, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs partnered with the CMA CGM Foundation to strengthen its “A Boat for Ukraine” operation.¹¹⁷⁷ The goal of this project is to transport more than 1,000 tons of humanitarian goods to Romania where they will then be picked up by Ukrainian partners.

On 28 September 2022, President Emmanuel Macron announced a partnership between France and Germany regarding the World Food Programme.¹¹⁷⁸ The two countries plan to assist Ukraine in donating 50,000 tons of wheat to Somalia and Ethiopia.

On 29 September 2022, the National Council for Policies to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion (CNLE) held its plenary meeting.¹¹⁷⁹ Minister of Solidarity, Autonomy, and People with Disabilities Jean-Christophe Combe proposed the creation of a “Solidarity Pact” to bring together relevant stakeholders in the social security industry.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹¹⁸⁰ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

On 3 October 2022, the Secretary of State to the Prime Minister Charlotte Caubel launched a campaign to establish national helpline numbers connecting authorities with children fighting violence.¹¹⁸¹ The campaign will promote the number “119” for victims of violence, “3018” for victims of cyberbullying and “3020” for victims of bullying in schools.

¹¹⁷⁵ Joint statement by the French and German ministers for Foreign Affairs – Shaping global cybersecurity, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 September 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/united-nations-general-assembly/unga-s-77th-session/article/joint-statement-by-the-french-and-german-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-shaping>

¹¹⁷⁶ Feminist diplomacy – Global health – International Safe Abortion Day (September 28, 2022), Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/feminist-diplomacy-global-health-international-safe-abortion-day-sept-28-22>

¹¹⁷⁷ Lancement de l'opération "Bateau pour l'Ukraine", Gouvernement Français (Paris) 29 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translation. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/lancement-de-loperation-un-bateau-pour-lukraine>

¹¹⁷⁸ Global food security – Contributions from France and Germany to the World Food Programme operation transporting Ukrainian grain to Somalia and Ethiopia, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 September 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/global-food-security-contributions-from-france-and-germany-to-the-world-food>

¹¹⁷⁹ Réunion plénière du CNLE du 29 septembre 2022, Ministère des Solidarités, de l'Autonomie et des Personnes Handicapées (Paris) 13 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/article/reunion-pleniere-du-cnle-du-29-septembre-2022>

¹¹⁸⁰ Déclaration des ministres des Affaires étrangères du G7 sur l'annexion illégale du territoire ukrainien souverain, ministère des Affaires étrangères et de la Coopération internationale (Rome) 30 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

¹¹⁸¹ Harcèlement, agression, violence : trois chiffres pour aider les enfants en danger, Gouvernement Français (Paris) 4 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/harcement-agressions-violences-trois-numeros-pour-aider-les-enfants-en-danger>

On 13 October 2022, the Ministry of the Interior launched the Radio Network of the Future (RRF) project.¹¹⁸² This project aims to modernize communication between security and emergency actors by providing a high-speed communication network for all relevant actors.

On 13 October 2022, France organized a day around the concept of being “resilient in the face of risks.”¹¹⁸³ This day aimed to raise public awareness surrounding technological and cyberspace threats.

On 18 October 2022, the Cyberdefense Command opened the TAMERLAN exercise at the Cyber Center for Operational Preparation.¹¹⁸⁴ The goal of this training exercise was to strengthen cyber combatants and equip them to react in emergency situations.

On 20 October 2022, the Interministerial Mission for the Protection of Women against Violence and the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and the Ministerial Statistical Service for Internal Security published the results of its annual survey regarding victims of human trafficking.¹¹⁸⁵ The survey emphasized the threat of new technologies regarding human trafficking.

On 20 October 2022, France, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country’s nationwide internet restrictions.¹¹⁸⁶ Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declared that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

On 28 October 2022, the Minister Delegate for the Digital Transition and Telecommunications Jean-Noël Barrot announced the launch of 17 new cybersecurity projects.¹¹⁸⁷ These projects will increase training efforts, develop new solutions and strengthen partnerships between relevant actors, all within the realm of cybersecurity.

On 9 November 2022, the Directorate General of Armaments initiated the third annual DG’hAck challenge.¹¹⁸⁸ The goal of this event was to highlight vulnerabilities in France’s digital systems and challenge cyber experts to present innovative solutions to such issues.

¹¹⁸² Lancement du projet « Réseau Radio du Futur » (RRF), le réseau souverain à très haut débit des services de sécurité et de secours, ministère de l’Intérieur et de l’Outre-mer (Paris) 13 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués/lancement-du-projet-reseau-radio-du-futur-rrf-reseau-tres-haut-debit>

¹¹⁸³ Résilience face aux risques, Gouvernement de la France (Paris) 13 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/tous-resilients-face-aux-risques>

¹¹⁸⁴ TAMERLAN 2022 : les nouvelles recrues de COMCYBER pratiquent la crise, Ministère des Armées Forcées (Paris) 26 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/ema/actualites/tamerlan-2022-nouvelles-recrues-du-comcyber-sexercent-a-crise>

¹¹⁸⁵ Traite des êtres humains en France : profil des victimes accompagnées par des associations en 2021, ministère de l’Intérieur et de l’Outre-mer (Paris) 20 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 November 2022.

<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués/traité-des-êtres-humains-en-france-profil-des-victimes-accompagnées-par-0>

¹¹⁸⁶ Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

¹¹⁸⁷ France 2030 soutient 17 projets de cybersécurité, Gouvernement Français (Paris) 4 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/france-2030-soutient-17-projets-pour-la-cybersecurite>

¹¹⁸⁸ Cyberdefense: take part in the DG’hAck 2022 challenge, Ministry of the Armed Forces (Paris) 9 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/dga/actualites/cyberdefense-participez-au-challenge-dghack-2022>

On 24 November 2022, the Cyber Center for Operational Preparation under the Command of COMCYBER led a French team to engage in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Cyber Coalition 2022.¹¹⁸⁹ This team consisted of soldiers, civilians, and reservists from official positions and civil society. The team worked to address cybersecurity weaknesses across NATO states, ultimately aiming to strengthen cyber resilience.

On 25 November 2022, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs held an event for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.¹¹⁹⁰ At this event, the Ministry reaffirmed France's commitment to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence and end impunity for abusers.

On 26 November 2022, President Macron announced an additional contribution of EUR6 million to the World Food Programme.¹¹⁹¹ This donation will further support efforts to transport Ukrainian grain to Sudan and Yemen.

On 12 December 2022, Minister of the Interior and Overseas Territories Gérald Darmanin, Minister of Health and Prevention François Braun and Minister Barrot organized a meeting on hospital cybersecurity.¹¹⁹² The ministers announced a comprehensive program regarding cyber incidents involving new exercises, resources and planning tools.

On 13 December 2022, France hosted the Solidarity with the Ukrainian People Conference.¹¹⁹³ The meeting aimed to meet the needs of Ukrainians for the winter and guarantee the resilience of infrastructure in five key areas: access to energy, access to water, agri-food, health, transport.

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the Taliban's decision to prevent female employees of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from working, as this puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.¹¹⁹⁴ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

¹¹⁸⁹ COMCYBER participe à CYBER COALITION 2022, l'exercice international à grande échelle de l'OTAN, Ministère des Armées (Paris) 9 December 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/ema/actualites/comcyber-participe-a-cyber-coalition-2022-exercice-international-grande-envergure-lotan>

¹¹⁹⁰ Politique étrangère féministe – Journée internationale pour l'élimination de la violence à l'égard des femmes (25 novembre 2022), ministère des Affaires européennes et étrangères (Paris) 25 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/feminist-foreign-policy-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence>

¹¹⁹¹ Sécurité alimentaire – La France poursuit ses actions pour renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale (26 novembre 2022), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 26 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/food-security-france-continues-to-take-action-to-strengthen-global-food>

¹¹⁹² Nouveaux engagements pour renforcer la cybersécurité des établissements de santé, Ministère de l'Intérieur et de l'Outre-Mer (Paris) 21 December 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/communiqués/de-nouveaux-engagements-pour-renforcer-cybersecurite-des-etablissements-de>

¹¹⁹³ International conference in support of the Ukrainian people – Statement by the French and Ukrainian co-chairs (13 December 2022), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/ukraine/news/article/international-conference-in-support-of-the-ukrainian-people-statement-by-the>

¹¹⁹⁴ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban's ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

On 22 January 2023, France and Germany committed to strengthening the EU and to intensify efforts towards rising up to the challenge of global security challenges in Ukraine, promoting the sustainability of digital infrastructure and strengthening European digital sovereignty relating to 5G and 6G networks.¹¹⁹⁵

On 30 January 2023, Prime Minister Élisabeth Borne presented the National Plan to Combat Racism, Anti-Semitism and Origin-Based Discrimination (2023-2026).¹¹⁹⁶ The goal of this plan is to train civil servants in these issues, support victims of such discrimination and sanction the perpetrators.

On 6 February 2023, France recognized the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and asserted that gender equality is an integral part of France's "feminist foreign policy."¹¹⁹⁷

On 7 March 2023, Prime Minister Borne announced an inter-ministerial plan for women's equality 2023-2027.¹¹⁹⁸ The goal of this plan is to fight violence against women, promote access to women's health and achieve professional and economic equality for women.

On 8 March 2023, the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas recognized International Women's Rights Day and reaffirmed its dedication to upholding gender equality.¹¹⁹⁹

On 14 April 2023, Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna and Korea's Foreign Minister Park Jin hosted the fourth Foreign Ministerial Strategic Dialogue in Seoul discussing global security priorities on preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region, condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's unlawful ballistic missiles and respecting the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine.¹²⁰⁰

On 17 April 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the ongoing clashes between the army and Rapid Support Forces in Sudan that began on 15 April 2023 and have killed 100 civilians so far.¹²⁰¹ France expressed support for Sudan's regional and international partners to mobilise and reach a ceasefire.

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. France has developed domestic policies with agencies like the CNLE to strengthen its cyberspace and provide its citizens with digital security and the RRF and TAMERLAN exercise to better equip and train first responders. France has also worked with international partners such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Germany and Ukraine to extend

¹¹⁹⁵ French-German Declaration, Elysee (Paris) 22 January 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023.

<https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2023/01/22/french-german-declaration>

¹¹⁹⁶ The Prime Minister presented the National Plan to Combat Racism, Anti-Semitism and Discrimination Related to Origin (2023-2026), Gouvernement (Paris) 30 January 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 April 2023.

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/communique/la-premiere-ministre-a-presente-le-plan-national-de-lutte-contre-le-racisme-lantisemitisme-et-les-discriminations-liees-a-lorigine-2023-2026>

¹¹⁹⁷ UN - International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, Ministère de L'Europe et de Affaires étrangères (Paris) 6 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 March 2023.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/un-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital-mutilation-feb-6-2023>

¹¹⁹⁸ Presentation of the interministerial plan for equality between women and men 2023-2027, Gouvernement (Paris) 7 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 April 2023. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/communique/presentation-du-plan-interministeriel-pour-legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-2023-2027>

¹¹⁹⁹ International Women's Rights Day: the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas is committed on a daily basis, Ministry of the Interior and Overseas (Paris) 8 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 8 April 2023.

<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/journee-internationale-des-droits-des-femmes-ministere-de>

¹²⁰⁰ South Korea - Joint Press Release on the 4th ROK-France Foreign Ministerial Strategic Dialogue (14 April 2023), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 14 April 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/south-korea/news/article/south-korea-joint-press-release-on-the-4th-rok-france-foreign-ministerial>

¹²⁰¹ Sudan - Clashes in Khartoum between the army and the Rapid Support Forces (17 April 2023), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 17 April 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sudan/news/article/sudan-clashes-in-khartoum-between-the-army-and-the-rapid-support-forces-april>

humanitarian and technological assistance thus affirming its support of human rights initiatives both within its borders and across the globe.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hannab Cluroe

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 25 August 2022, Human Rights Commissioner of Germany Luise Amtsberg released a statement calling upon the Vietnamese Government to advocate for the prison release of human rights journalist Pham Doan Trang.¹²⁰² Additionally, Commissioner Amtsberg urged the government to protect the rule-of-law and provide insight on proceedings to international observers.

On 8 September 2022, Germany participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹²⁰³ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 23 September 2022, Germany and France organized a ministerial meeting on the topic of “Shaping Global Cybersecurity: A Call for Action to Promote Responsible State Behaviour & Capacity-Building.”¹²⁰⁴ The goal of this meeting was to discuss a plan for developing and improving current rules in cyberspace.

On 28 September 2022, Germany and France announced a partnership regarding the World Food Programme.¹²⁰⁵ The two countries plan to contribute 50,000 tons of wheat provided free of charge by Ukraine to Somalia and Ethiopia.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹²⁰⁶ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia’s continued violations of Ukraine’s sovereignty and independence.

On 7 October 2022, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Niels Annen traveled to Amman, Jordan where he pledged over EUR95 million for short-term employment

¹²⁰² Statement by Human Rights Commissioner Luise Amtsberg on the decision by a Hanoi court of appeal to uphold the sentencing of human rights defender Pham Doan Trang to nine years’ imprisonment, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 August 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/human-rights-commissioner-pham-doan-trang/2548474>

¹²⁰³ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹²⁰⁴ Joint statement by the French and German ministers for Foreign Affairs – Shaping global cybersecurity, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 September 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/united-nations-general-assembly/unga-s-77th-session/article/joint-statement-by-the-french-and-german-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-shaping>

¹²⁰⁵ Global food security – Contributions from France and Germany to the World Food Programme operation transporting Ukrainian grain to Somalia and Ethiopia, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 28 September 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/news/article/global-food-security-contributions-from-france-and-germany-to-the-world-food>

¹²⁰⁶ Dichiarazione dei Ministri degli Esteri del G7 sull’annessione illegale del territorio ucraino sovrano, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 30 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

and educational programs to help over 700,000 Syrian refugees within Jordan.¹²⁰⁷ The goal of this meeting was to discuss developmental strategies of how best to implement the funding for those displaced by conflict in Jordan.

On 13 October 2022, Interior Minister Nancy Faeser conducted a high-level meeting to discuss the Ukrainian refugee situation.¹²⁰⁸ In response to the poor housing situation resulting from the large number of Ukrainian refugees, Germany pledged additional housing for 4000 more refugees. Federal, state and local governments will also launch a platform where experts may discuss solutions to the refugee housing crisis.

On 14 October 2022, Minister for Women's Affairs Lisa Paus attended the Gender Equality Ministers Meeting in Berlin.¹²⁰⁹ The Ministers made a joint declaration to increase equality in times of crisis and conflict for women. Additionally, Paus called upon Iran to honor human rights and end its oppression of women.

On 17 October 2022, Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock and Minister Faeser announced the federal humanitarian admission program.¹²¹⁰ This program is to be used for Afghans at risk due to conflict.

On 20 October 2022, Minister Faeser, along with 16 countries and the EU, met at the Western Balkans Summit in Berlin to discuss human trafficking.¹²¹¹ They committed to further increase border security ties between the countries and measures targeted at immigrant human smugglers.

On 20 October 2022, Germany, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions.¹²¹² Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declares that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

On 28 October 2022, Germany withdrew its reservations about the Istanbul Conference.¹²¹³ This action will lead to a full implementation of both Articles 59 and 44 which discuss personal situations of victims and provisions of national criminal law, respectively. This added measure will better address the human rights violation of gender-based violence.

¹²⁰⁷ Government Negotiations with Jordan: Through its development cooperation, Germany supports stabilisation in Middle East, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022.

<https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/government-negotiations-with-jordan-125772>

¹²⁰⁸ Federal Interior Minister Nancy Faeser: An extraordinary joint effort, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 13 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2022/10/high-level-meeting_refugees.html

¹²⁰⁹ Closer Cooperation and More Ambitious Goals, German Federal Government (Berlin) 14 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/g7-gender-equality-ministers-2134642>

¹²¹⁰ Humanitäres Aufnahmeprogramm für queere Geflüchtete aus Afghanistan, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 17 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: November 2022. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/humanitaeres-aufnahmeprogramm-fuer-queere-gefluechtete-aus-afghanistan-202580>

¹²¹¹ Close cooperation with the Western Balkan countries, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022.

https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2022/10/close_cooperation_with_the_western_balkan_countries.html

¹²¹² Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

¹²¹³ Bundesregierung verstärkt Kampf gegen Menschenhandel, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 28 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/bundesregierung-zieht-vorbehalte-gegen-istanbul-konvention-zurueck-202866>

On 3 November 2022, Minister Baerbock and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken hosted the US-German Futures Forum in Muenster, Germany to advance democratic shared values in an increasingly digital world.¹²¹⁴ The goal of the forum was to develop proposals for several political measures on topics like Reinforcing Democracy at Home: Delivering Democracy Digitally, Advancing Democracy and Human Rights Online and Defending Democracy: Countering Digital Authoritarianism and the Misuse of Technology.

On 18 November 2022, the Ministry for Family Affairs set up an independent reporting body to investigate human rights trafficking.¹²¹⁵ The Ministry will provide funding to the German Institute for Human Rights to “ensure that international regulations are implemented more effectively by collecting and evaluating data.”

On 28 November 2022, Minister of Justice Marco Buschmann and Italy’s Minister of Justice Carlo Nordio met to discuss the fight against war crimes in Ukraine.¹²¹⁶ Both ministers assured their utmost support for ongoing investigations by the International Criminal Court.

On 7 December 2022, the Federal Cabinet adopted the 15th Human Rights Report.¹²¹⁷ The goal of this report is to describe efforts taken to protect human rights at home and abroad including issues like digital technologies being used by autocratic regimes to violate human rights and commitment to fighting human trafficking.

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the “barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the workplace” as it “puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.”¹²¹⁸ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 3 January 2023, the Federal Foreign Office created an official set of guidelines for how they must promote women’s equality and rights entitled, “Shaping Feminist Foreign Policy Federal - Foreign Office Guidelines.”¹²¹⁹ These 10 guidelines are meant specifically to highlight “marginalized people in art and culture, research and science, education and the media.”

On 22 January 2023, Germany and France committed to strengthening the EU and to intensify efforts towards rising up to the challenge of global security challenges in Ukraine, promoting the sustainability of digital infrastructure and strengthening European digital sovereignty relating to 5G and 6G networks.¹²²⁰

On 20 February 2023, Federal Development Minister Svenja Schulze, Federal Labour Minister Hubertus Heil and Director-General of the International Labour Organization Gilbert Houngbo met in Ghana and Côte

¹²¹⁴ Strengthening democracy in a digital world - U.S.-German Futures Forum 2022, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2561692>

¹²¹⁵ Bundesregierung verstärkt Kampf gegen Menschenhandel, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Berlin) 18 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/alle-meldungen/bundesregierung-verstaerkt-kampf-gegen-menschenhandel-205132>

¹²¹⁶ Bilaterale Italia-Germania su Tub e Ucraina, Ministero della giustizia (Rome) 28 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.gnewsonline.it/g7-giustizia-bilaterale-italia-germania-su-tub-e-ucraina/>

¹²¹⁷ German Government’s fifteenth Human Rights Report, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 December 2022. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/menschenrechte/human-rights-report-15/2567970>

¹²¹⁸ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban’s ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹²¹⁹ Guidelines for Feminist Foreign Policy: a Foreign Policy for All, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/ffp-guidelines/2585074?openAccordionId=item-2585076-0-panel>

¹²²⁰ French-German Declaration, Elysee (Paris) 22 January 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.elysee.fr/en/emmanuel-macron/2023/01/22/french-german-declaration>

d'Ivoire to discuss human rights in global supply chains.¹²²¹ The aim of the meeting was to see how applying new supply chain regulations to global supply chains would lead to better working conditions.

On 1 March 2023, Minister Baerbock and Minister Schulze released a new set of directives for diplomatic and development policy to invest more on gender equality.¹²²² Promoting the Feminist Foreign Policy, Minister Schulze said that this action aims to close the digital and economic gender gap.

On 8 March 2023, Minister for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth Lisa Paus spoke at the 67th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.¹²²³ On the topic of women's involvement in the digital sphere, Minister Paus' speech covered women's disproportional lack of access to the internet and inclusion in a turning AI world.

On 6 April 2023, Germany increased military support for Ukraine including armored vehicles, trucks and drones.¹²²⁴

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. Through upholding the accountability of other countries and protecting refugees and vulnerable groups, Germany has complied with promoting human rights on a national and international level. Germany also took strong action to protect human rights in the digital sphere across different groups as seen with its involvement with the Freedom Coalition, its condemnation of the Iran government for restricting the internet and its support for women's digital economic empowerment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maeve Kelly

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 25 July 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs committed to new humanitarian corridors for 300 Afghan citizens departing from Iran and Pakistan to arrive in Rome.¹²²⁵ This initiative is part of the "Italian Plan for the Afghan People" and relates to the Memorandum of Understanding for humanitarian corridors and evacuations from Afghanistan.

¹²²¹ Development Minister Schulze and Labour Minister Heil are traveling to Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire together, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 20 February 2023. Access Date: 15 February 2023.

<https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/ministers-schulze-and-heil-travel-to-ghana-and-c%C3%B4te-d-ivoire-142488>

¹²²² German government to promote 'feminist foreign policy', Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 1 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023.

<https://www.dw.com/en/german-government-to-promote-feminist-foreign-policy/a-64855031>

¹²²³ Speech by Federal Minister Ms. Lisa Paus at the CSW67 General Debate, 8 March 2023, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations (New York) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 10 March 2023. <https://new-york-un.diplo.de/un-en/news-corner/-/2586634?view=>

¹²²⁴ Military Support for Ukraine, The Federal Government (Berlin) 6 April 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023.

<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/military-support-ukraine-2054992>

¹²²⁵ Sudan. Contributo di emergenza della Cooperazione Italiana in risposta alle forti inondazioni che hanno colpito il Paese, Ministero degli Affari Esterie della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 July 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/08/sudan-contributo-di-emergenza-della-cooperazione-italiana-in-risposta-alle-forti-inondazioni-che-hanno-colpito-il-paese/

On 31 August 2022, the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation arranged an emergency contribution of EUR250,000 towards the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (FICROSS) in Sudan.¹²²⁶

On 1 September 2022, the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation made an emergency contribution of EUR500,000 to FICROSS in Pakistan.¹²²⁷

On 8 September 2022, Italy participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹²²⁸ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹²²⁹ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

On 5 October 2022, the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation arranged two emergency grants worth a total of almost EUR2 million to meet the growing humanitarian needs of the Lebanese population.¹²³⁰ Of these, EUR750,000 is directed to the World Health Organization for the purchase and supply of drugs necessary for the treatment of patients suffering from serious diseases.

On 12 October 2022, the Department for the Digital Transition of Justice, Statistical Analysis and Cohesion Policies launched the Online Court Project in the four judicial offices of Catania, Catanzaro, Marsala and north Naples to advance their digitization.¹²³¹ The digitalization of courts allow for the increase of accessibility when patrolling human rights violations in the digital sphere.

On 20 October 2022, Italy, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions.¹²³² Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declares that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

¹²²⁶ Sudan. Contributo di emergenza della Cooperazione Italiana in risposta alle forti inondazioni che hanno colpito il Paese, Ministero degli Affari Esteri della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 July 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/08/sudan-contributo-di-emergenza-della-cooperazione-italiana-in-risposta-alle-forti-inondazioni-che-hanno-colpito-il-paese/

¹²²⁷ Pakistan. Contributo di emergenza della Cooperazione Italiana in risposta alle alluvioni, Ministero degli Affari Esteri della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 1 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/pakistan-contributo-di-emergenza-della-cooperazione-italiana-in-risposta-alle-alluvioni/

¹²²⁸ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹²²⁹ Dichiarazione dei Ministri degli Esteri del G7 sull'annessione illegale del territorio sovrano ucraino, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 30 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

¹²³⁰ Libano. Contributi di emergenza della Cooperazione Italiana in favore della FICROSS e dell'OMS, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 5 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/10/libano-contributi-di-emergenza-della-cooperazione-italiana-in-favore-della-ficross-e-delloms/

¹²³¹ Digitalizzazione della giustizia, parte il nuovo tribunale online, Ministero della Giustizia (Rome) 12 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.gnewsonline.it/digitalizzazione-della-giustizia-parte-il-nuovo-tribunale-online-2/>

¹²³² Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

On 8 November 2022, the Ministry of Education engaged in a consultation for the updating of the National Digital School Plan.¹²³³ The General Directorate for Structural Funds for Education, School Construction and Digital Schools aims to update the Plan in light of the rapid evolution of digital technologies, ensuring structural provisions for the human right of education in the digital sphere.

On 25 November 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined the “UNITE! Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls” campaign promoted by UN Women which was focused on the fundamental contribution of civil society movements, organizations and women’s rights activists to raise public awareness on these issues.¹²³⁴ Italy expressed its firmest condemnation against all forms of discrimination and violence against women.

On 28 November 2022, Minister of Justice Carlo Nordio and Germany’s Minister of Justice Marco Buschmann, met to discuss the fight against war crimes in Ukraine.¹²³⁵ Both ministers assured their utmost support for ongoing investigations by the International Criminal Court.

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the “barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the workplace” as it “puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.”¹²³⁶ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 11 January 2023, President Giorgia Meloni met with the Ukrainian Electricity Emergency working group to define major electricity sector operators and logistical arrangements for the next shipment.¹²³⁷ The goal of this group is to coordinate initiatives to support Ukraine’s electricity shortages.

On 31 January 2023, President Meloni met with UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi confirming appreciation for the UN Refugee Agency’s work for the protection and welfare of refugees and underlining the UNHCR’s cooperation with Italy, especially in Libya in creating humanitarian corridors.¹²³⁸

¹²³³ Consultazione per l’aggiornamento del Piano Nazionale Scuola Digitale, Ministero dell’Istruzione e del Merito (Rome) 8 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 December 2022.

<https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/consultazione-per-attualizzazione-del-piano-nazionale-scuola-digitale>

¹²³⁴ 25 novembre: Giornata Internazionale per l’Eliminazione della Violenza contro le Donne, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/11/25-novembre-giornata-internazionale-per-leliminazione-della-violenza-contro-le-donne/

¹²³⁵ G7 Giustizia. Bilaterale Italia-Germania su Tub e Ucraina, Ministero della Giustizia (Rome) 28 November 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.gnewsonline.it/g7-giustizia-bilaterale-italia-germania-su-tub-e-ucraina/>

¹²³⁶ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban’s ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹²³⁷ ‘Ukraine electricity emergency’ working group meets at Palazzo Chigi, Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 January 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 April 2023. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/ukraine-electricity-emergency-working-group-meets-palazzo-chigi/21494>

¹²³⁸ President Meloni meets with UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, Italian Government (Rome) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 15 March 2023. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-un-high-commissioner-refugees-filippo-grandi/21661>

On 6 February 2023, Italy reaffirmed its commitment to the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.¹²³⁹ Italy's continuous condemnation represents a commitment to the physical and psychological health of girls and young women.

On 20 February 2023, Italy sent large amounts of electrical equipment to Ukraine in support of those without access to electricity.¹²⁴⁰

On 30 March 2023, the Summit for Democracy announced a declaration reaffirming shared belief in the advancement of peace, prosperity, equality, sustainable development and security.¹²⁴¹ This declaration included commitments pertaining to the protection of human rights online and offline.

On 15 April 2023, Italy condemned North Korea's launch of a long-range ballistic missile which violates UN Security Council resolutions and poses a threat to international peace and security.¹²⁴²

On 16 April 2023, Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani expressed concern and called for an immediate ceasefire between the Rapid Support Forces and the army in Sudan as fighting had already killed 100 civilians.¹²⁴³

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. Administering emergency aid to countries experiencing hardship, adequately ensuring the human right of education in the digital sphere, and advancing digitization indicates Italy's commitment to promoting human rights on and offline. Internationally, Italy has exhibited its commitment through monetary aid and the condemnation of human rights injustices while it has focused domestically on advocating against trends of violence and abuse.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kaamilab Moola

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

¹²³⁹ Italy's commitment to eliminate the practice of Female Genital Mutilation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 6 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2023. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/02/impegno-dellitalia-per-leliminazione-della-pratica-delle-mutilazioni-genitali-femminili/

¹²⁴⁰ Large amounts of electrical equipment to be sent to Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 20 February 2023.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/large-amounts-electrical-equipment-be-sent-ukraine/21862>

¹²⁴¹ Declaration of the Summit for Democracy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 30 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 11 April 2023. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/03/declaration-of-the-summit-for-democracy/

¹²⁴² Italy condemns the new launch of a ballistic missile by North Korea, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 15 April 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 April 2023. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/04/condanna-dellitalia-del-nuovo-lancio-di-un-missile-balistico-da-parte-della-corea-del-nord/

¹²⁴³ Minister, Hon. Antonio Tajani, on the continuation of armed clashes in Khartoum and call for the immediate cessation of fighting, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 April 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 April 2023. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/04/dichiarazioni-del-vpc-e-ministro-degli-esteri-on-antonio-tajani-sulla-proseguenza-degli-scontri-armati-a-khartoum-e-appello-alla-cessazione-immediata-dei-combattimenti/

On 30 June 2022, the fourth Japan-India Cyber Dialogue was held virtually where they discussed national cyber policies and cybersecurity strategies.¹²⁴⁴ The goal of this dialogue was to underline interest in the safekeeping of human rights on the online sphere.

On 5 July 2022, Japan provided monetary assistance totaling approximately USD200 million as a response to the deterioration of global food security, as exacerbated by the conflict in Ukraine.¹²⁴⁵ This sum aims to provide food assistance and capacity building for countries facing food shortages and provide emergency food assistance as humanitarian aid to countries in the Middle East and Africa, as well as to support the promotion of grain exports from Ukraine through bilateral assistance.

On 12 July 2022, Japan provided emergency relief goods of water purifiers and jerry cans through the Japan International Cooperation Agency to the Republic of Kiribati in response to the damages caused by the drought.¹²⁴⁶

On 12 July 2022, Japan extended an emergency grant aid of USD3 million to Afghanistan in response to the damages caused by the earthquake that had occurred in eastern Afghanistan.¹²⁴⁷ This is a monetary alliance in the provision of access to health and medical care, shelter, water and sanitation through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

On 29 July 2022, Japan provided emergency relief goods like generators, portable jerry cans, tents, sleeping pads and plastic sheets through the Japan International Cooperation Agency to the Philippines in response to the damages caused by the earthquake in the northern Philippines.¹²⁴⁸

On 8 September 2022, Japan participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹²⁴⁹ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 16 September 2022, Japan decided to extend emergency grant aid of USD7 million to Pakistan in response to the damages caused by the flood disaster.¹²⁵⁰ Japan's emergency grant aid will allow implementing humanitarian assistance activities for those seriously affected by the flooding disaster in different parts of Pakistan through multiple international organizations in areas such as food, shelter, health and medical care.

On 30 September 2022, Japan, along with other G7 Foreign Ministers, released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹²⁵¹ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

¹²⁴⁴ Fourth Japan-India Cyber Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000303.html

¹²⁴⁵ Response to the Global Food Security affected by the Situation in Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 5 July 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000304.html

¹²⁴⁶ Emergency Assistance to the Republic of Kiribati in Response to the Drought, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 July 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000305.html

¹²⁴⁷ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the earthquake in eastern Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 12 July 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000423.html

¹²⁴⁸ Emergency Assistance to the Republic of the Philippines in Response to the Earthquake in the Northern Philippines, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 July 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000314.html

¹²⁴⁹ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹²⁵⁰ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the Flood Disaster in Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 16 September 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000401.html

¹²⁵¹ Dichiarazione dei Ministri degli Esteri del G7 sull'annessione illegale del territorio ucraino sovrano, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 30 September 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

On 20 October 2022, Japan, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions.¹²⁵² Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declares that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

On 28 October 2022, Japan provided an emergency grant aid of USD1 million to the Kyrgyz Republic in response to the deterioration of the local humanitarian situation caused by clashes at the country's border with Tajikistan.¹²⁵³ This Emergency Grant Aid will allow the implementation of humanitarian assistance activities through the World Food Programme and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in areas such as food, shelter and non-food items.

On 20 December 2022, Press Secretary Hikariko Ono expressed firm condemnation against the Taliban's suspension of Girls' Higher Education in Afghanistan.¹²⁵⁴ In efforts to promote human rights on a global level, Secretary Ono expressed the standard of women's education as fundamental when advocating for the right of all Afghans to be guaranteed equal access to education regardless of gender.

On 22 December 2022, the Government of Japan provided generators as support to protect the lives of the people of Ukraine.¹²⁵⁵ Generators are meant to "secure lifelines such as heating and water in the midst of continuing severe cold."

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the "barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the workplace" as it "puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival."¹²⁵⁶ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 7 February 2023, Japan held the Japan-UK Bilateral Consultations on Cyber Issues.¹²⁵⁷ Each country discussed cybersecurity strategy, policy and capacity building for cybersecurity thus promoting a secure cyberspace for the assurance of human rights.

On 14 February 2023, Japan extended Emergency Grant Aid of approximately USD550,000 as support for winterization assistance in Ukraine for victims of war.¹²⁵⁸

On 28 February 2023, Japan provided humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar affected by the coup d'état.¹²⁵⁹ In response to the rapid increase of the need for humanitarian assistance due to the deteriorating

¹²⁵² Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

¹²⁵³ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 28 October 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003173.html

¹²⁵⁴ Suspension of Girls' Higher Education in Afghanistan (Statement by Press Secretary ONO Hikariko), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 20 December 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000523.html

¹²⁵⁵ Provision of Generators to Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 22 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000525.html

¹²⁵⁶ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban's ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹²⁵⁷ UK Bilateral Consultations on Cyber Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000542.html

¹²⁵⁸ Additional Emergency Grant Aid for winterization assistance in Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 14 February 2023. Access date: 11 April 2023. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000377.html

¹²⁵⁹ Humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar affected by the coup d'état, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 28 February 2023. Access date: 11 April 2023. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000383.html

situation since last year, Japan decided to provide additional humanitarian assistance totaling approximately USD60.3 million in food, medical aid and shelter through international organizations.

On 20 March 2023, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Justice Takami Hiroyuki participated in the Justice Ministers' Conference, supporting the International Criminal Court and its investigation into Russia's involvement in Ukraine in London which was co-hosted by the UK and Netherlands.¹²⁶⁰

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. As a global contributor to humanitarian crises, as well as an open adversary of international human rights abuses, Japan has shown significant affirmation to its commitments amongst the international community. Japan has complied in taking strong monetary and ally-based action with other nations and organizations when promoting human rights within the offline sphere.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kaamilab Moola

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 8 September 2022, the UK participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹²⁶¹ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 29 September 2022, the UK invested funding up to GBP200,000 to assess the cybersecurity of business devices that are connected to the Internet.¹²⁶² This new investment is part of the GBP2.6 billion National Cyber Strategies plan, which encourages organizations to support further research into digital safety of office devices. With the intention to assess the cyber resilience across British businesses, this initiative aims to uncover vulnerabilities in these prevalently used enterprise products and subsequently expand the digital economy.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹²⁶³ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

On 3 October 2022, the UK was elected to the governing council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).¹²⁶⁴ The ITU oversees the international spectrum coordination and satellite networks that support technologies such as mobiles, Wi-Fi and GPS navigations. By becoming a member of the ITU's council, the UK promoted a free and safe cyberspace with its global partners.

¹²⁶⁰ Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Justice attended the Justice Ministers' Conference: Supporting the ICC and its Investigation into the Situation in Ukraine Co-hosted by the UK and Netherlands, Ministry of Justice (Tokyo) 20 March 2023. Access date: 11 April 2023. https://www.moj.go.jp/EN/hisho/kouhou/m_hisho06_00119.html

¹²⁶¹ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹²⁶² Up to £200,000 available to test security of smart devices used by nearly all UK businesses, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/up-to-200000-available-to-test-security-of-smart-devices-used-by-nearly-all-uk-businesses>

¹²⁶³ G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

¹²⁶⁴ UK wins seat on top UN telecoms council, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 3 October 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-wins-seat-on-top-un-telecoms-council>

On 7 October 2022, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Michelle Donelan made a joint statement with the US' Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo on the launch of “a new senior-level Comprehensive Dialogue on Technology and Data” to further joint efforts regarding technology and democratic values.¹²⁶⁵

On 13 October 2022, the UK issued an additional GBP10 million of funding to flood relief efforts in Pakistan.¹²⁶⁶ Minister of State Tariq Ahmad visited the regions most affected and spoke with important UK-funded agencies in Sindh. This announcement of further humanitarian support focused on supporting displaced people, re-establishing communal water supplies and enhancing sanitation. The UK ensured assistance facilitating Pakistan's economic recovery and resilience against future natural disasters.

On 19 October 2022, the UK announced aid to 150,000 victims of drought and conflict in Ethiopia.¹²⁶⁷ In particular, this support included an additional GBP14 million in funding of “comprehensive health, water sanitation, hygiene and nutrition services.” The package also provides mental health support to children and women who were subjected to violence and exploitation.

On 20 October 2022, the Cyber Command and the UK's Strategic Command cooperated on a joint project to strengthen cyber resilience.¹²⁶⁸ Deputy Director Cyber Command Matthew Paradise affirmed the significance of maintaining reliable digital infrastructures and networks. Similar sentiments were echoed by the UK's Director Operation at Defence Digital Nick Washer who said that collective cyber operations “offer huge shared benefits in enhancing collective defense.”¹²⁶⁹ Through joint digital collaborations, malicious online activities are suppressed and cybersecurity is further strengthened.

On 20 October 2022, the UK, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions.¹²⁷⁰ Under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Coalition declares that cutting off mobile data, disrupting social media, cutting internet services, blocking users and accessing private devices are clear violations of human rights.

On 28 October 2022, the UK granted more than GBP1 million to 17 domestic organizations to enhance media literacy skills for individuals at risk of experiencing online abuse and misinformation.¹²⁷¹ The funding scheme created “The Media Literacy Taskforce Fund” to improve vulnerable groups' media literacy skills through investing in community-led projects. Similar projects include Freshrb and Parent Zone, where both organizations mentor teenagers and parents in combating online disinformation. All the plans are part of the Online Media Literacy Strategy, which supports a safer online environment by protecting vulnerable groups from harmful content and tackling online criminal activities.

¹²⁶⁵ U.S.-UK Joint Statement: New Comprehensive Dialogue on Technology and Data and Progress on Data Adequacy, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2022/10/us-uk-joint-statement-new-comprehensive-dialogue-technology-and-data>

¹²⁶⁶ Additional £10 million of UK aid for flood relief efforts in Pakistan, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 13 October 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-10-million-of-uk-aid-for-flood-relief-efforts-in-pakistan>

¹²⁶⁷ UK announces humanitarian assistance for 150,000 women and children suffering drought and conflict in Ethiopia, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 19 October 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-humanitarian-assistance-for-150000-women-and-children-suffering-drought-and-conflict-in-ethiopia>

¹²⁶⁸ Collaborating with U.S. on Cyber, Ministry of Defense (London) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 25 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/collaborating-with-us-on-cyber>

¹²⁶⁹ Collaborating with U.S. on Cyber, Ministry of Defense (London) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 25 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/collaborating-with-us-on-cyber>

¹²⁷⁰ Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

¹²⁷¹ Help for vulnerable people to spot disinformation and boost online safety, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 28 October 2022, Access Date: 31 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/help-for-vulnerable-people-to-spot-disinformation-and-boost-online-safety>

On 28 November 2022, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office published the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative Strategy which sets out the approach to using diplomacy and defence influence to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence.¹²⁷²

On 9 December 2022, Foreign Secretary James Cleverly announced new sanctions that target “corrupt actors, and those violating and abusing human rights, as well as perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict.”¹²⁷³

On 29 December 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Denmark, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Japan, the United States and the High Representative of the European Union, released a joint statement condemning the “barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the workplace” as it “puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.”¹²⁷⁴ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 9 January 2023, the Home Office committed up to GBP36 million to the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund and other measures aimed at tackling domestic abuse and stalking.¹²⁷⁵

On 30 January 2023, the Home Office published a guidance for immigration staff to grant temporary permission to stay to victims of human trafficking and slavery.¹²⁷⁶

On 16 February 2023, Minister for Development and Africa Andrew Mitchell announced GBP80 million in funding to provide education for 20 million children living in conflict areas from Ukraine to Syria.¹²⁷⁷ This action aims to protect children affected by war, disaster and displacement.

On 23 February 2023, the UK launched the five-year National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security to protect women and girls in conflict.¹²⁷⁸

On 5 March 2023, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced a call for proposals for a project under its Conflict, Stability and Security Fund.¹²⁷⁹ The aim of this project is to pursue the Two State Solution as a means to end Israel’s apartheid state in Palestine.

¹²⁷² Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative strategy, UK Government (London) 28 November 2022. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-sexual-violence-in-conflict-initiative-strategy>

¹²⁷³ UK sanctions target 30 corrupt political figures, human rights violators and perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence around the world, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-sanctions-target-30-corrupt-political-figures-human-rights-violators-and-perpetrators-of-conflict-related-sexual-violence-around-the-world>

¹²⁷⁴ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban’s ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹²⁷⁵ Fund launched to protect domestic abuse victims through prevention, Home Office (London) 9 January 2023. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fund-launched-to-protect-domestic-abuse-victims-through-prevention>

¹²⁷⁶ Temporary permission to stay for victims of human trafficking and slavery: caseworker guidance, UK Government (London) 30 January 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-permission-to-stay-for-victims-of-human-trafficking-and-slavery-caseworker-guidance>

¹²⁷⁷ New UK Support will help provide emergency education to 20 million children in crisis, UK Government (London) 16 February 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-will-help-provide-emergency-education-to-20-million-children-in-crisis>

¹²⁷⁸ New UK plan launched to protect women and girls in conflict. UK Government (London) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-plan-launched-to-protect-women-and-girls-in-conflict>

¹²⁷⁹ Call for Proposals: the UK Government’s Conflict, Stability and Security Fund, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (London) 5 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/call-for-proposals-the-uk-governments-conflict-stability-and-security-fund>

On 15 March 2023, the UK delivered a statement in concern of the increasing attacks on Human Rights Defenders in the civil society space during the 52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council.¹²⁸⁰

On 20 March 2023, the UK co-hosted the Justice Ministers' Conference with the Netherlands in support of the International Criminal Court and its investigation into Russia's involvement in Ukraine.¹²⁸¹

On 6 April 2023, Minister Mitchell reaffirmed support to Cameroonian trade and discussed the human rights impacts of the conflict in Cameroon.¹²⁸²

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. Through implementing domestic programs and issuing multilateral initiatives, the UK has dedicated itself to ensuring digital safety and developing cyber resilience. In addition to online security, the UK has demonstrated its commitment to actively protecting victims in crises and conflicts, through the administration of humanitarian aid abroad in countries such as Pakistan and Ethiopia. Domestically, human rights victims are supported by the UK government through numerous programs towards the prevention of violence and discrimination.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Xinyi (Cindy) Zhu

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 19 July 2022, Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced a 120-Day Cybersecurity Apprenticeship Sprint.¹²⁸³ This project aims to create a "skilled and diverse cybersecurity workforce" prepared to protect digital infrastructure. The project also seeks to provide traditionally underrepresented communities with greater access to careers in cybersecurity.

On 30 July 2022, the Department of Homeland Security recognized the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, reaffirming the Department's dedication to this issue.¹²⁸⁴

On 16 August 2022, the Department of Defense partnered with Korea's Ministry of National Defense to hold the 21st Korea-US Integrated Defense Dialogue.¹²⁸⁵ The two countries pledged to continue collaborating in efforts to strengthen cyber infrastructure.

¹²⁸⁰ UN HRC52: Statement on the situation of Human Rights Defenders, UK Government (London) 15 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-hrc52-statement-on-the-situation-of-human-rights-defenders>

¹²⁸¹ Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Justice attended the Justice Ministers' Conference: Supporting the ICC and its Investigation into the Situation in Ukraine Co-hosted by the UK and Netherlands, Ministry of Justice (Tokyo) 20 March 2023. Access date: 11 April 2023. https://www.moj.go.jp/EN/hisho/kouhou/m_hisho06_00119.html

¹²⁸² The UK signals a boost to investment and trade and urges an end to conflict in Cameroon, UK Government (London) 6 April 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-signals-a-boost-in-investment-and-trade-and-urges-an-end-to-conflict-in-cameroon>

¹²⁸³ U.S. Departments of Labor, Commerce Announce 120-Day Cybersecurity Apprentice Sprint to Promote Registered Apprenticeships, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2022/07/us-departments-labor-commerce-announce-120-day-cybersecurity-apprentice>

¹²⁸⁴ DHS Center for Countering Human Trafficking observes World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 29 July 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/07/29/dhs-center-countering-human-trafficking-observes-world-day-against-trafficking>

¹²⁸⁵ Joint Press Statement for the 21st Korea-U.S. Integrated Defense Dialogue, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 17 August 2022. Access Date: 24 October 2022. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3130442/joint-press-statement-for-the-21st-korea-us-integrated-defense-dialogue/>

On 19 August 2022, the Department of Justice announced USD35.7 million in state grants intended to support sexual assault victims.¹²⁸⁶

On 25 August 2022, the Department of Justice announced USD49.85 million in grants to provide legal services for sexual assault victims.¹²⁸⁷ The purpose of these grants is to “[bring] justice within reach” for survivors of gender-based violence.

On 7 September 2022, the Department of State sponsored a training series surrounding international capacity to counter the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea’s cyberthreats.¹²⁸⁸ This nine-day training program included partner nations from across the Western Hemisphere.

On 8 September 2022, the Department of Commerce launched the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Upskilling Initiative.¹²⁸⁹ This initiative is projected to bring a plethora of digital education opportunities to women and girls.

On 8 September 2022, the US participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹²⁹⁰ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and the need for artificial intelligence regulations.

On 12 September 2022, the Department of Homeland Security held the annual Five Country Ministerial in Washington D.C., where leaders committed to a collective effort against cybersecurity threats.¹²⁹¹

On 13 September 2022, the Department of Justice announced USD224.9 million in grants intended to provide services and support to sexual and domestic violence victims.¹²⁹² Symbolically, this action was taken on the 28th anniversary of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act.

On 15 September 2022, the Department of Defense began an expansion of its Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood-PLUS program.¹²⁹³ This program aims to assist military families in obtaining access to quality child-care programs, thereby ensuring that children of military families have quality access to healthcare.

¹²⁸⁶ Department of Justice Announces \$35.7 Million in Grants for States to Support Victims of Sexual Assault, Department of Justice (Washington D.C.) 19 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/department-justice-announces-357-million-grants-states-support-victims-sexual-assault>

¹²⁸⁷ Justice Department Announces \$49.86 Million in Office on Violence Against Women Grants to Support Legal Services and Related Programs for Survivors, Department of Justice (Washington D.C.) 25 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-4985-million-office-violence-against-women-grants-support-legal>

¹²⁸⁸ Department of State Cybersecurity Training Series Boosts Global Resilience Against Democratic People’s Republic of Korea Malware, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 7 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.state.gov/department-of-state-cybersecurity-training-series-boosts-global-resilience-against-democratic-peoples-republic-of-korea-malware/>

¹²⁸⁹ FACT SHEET: Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Upskilling Initiative for Women and Girls, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 8 September 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2022/09/fact-sheet-indo-pacific-economic-framework-prosperity-upskilling>

¹²⁹⁰ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹²⁹¹ DHS Hosts the Five Country Ministerial Meeting in Washington D.C., Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/09/13/dhs-hosts-five-country-ministerial-meeting-washington-dc>

¹²⁹² Justice Department Announces Nearly \$225 Million in Grants to Support Coordinated Community Responses to Domestic and Sexual Violence on the 28th Anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act, Department of Justice (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-nearly-225-million-grants-support-coordinated-community>

¹²⁹³ Defense Department Expands Military Child Care Program to Increase Availability of Affordable, Quality Child Care for Military Families, Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 15 September 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3160232/defense-department-expands-military-child-care-program-to-increase-availability/>

On 16 September 2022, the Department of Homeland Security announced its State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program.¹²⁹⁴ This program will equip state, local and territorial governments with the resources to address cybersecurity threats and strengthen their cyber infrastructure.

On 22 September 2022, the Department of State announced that it will be sending nearly USD376 million in humanitarian assistance to Venezuela.¹²⁹⁵ This assistance is meant to support the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the region.

On 22 September 2022, the Department of State announced that it will be sending over USD170 million in humanitarian assistance to the Rohingya community within Burma and Bangladesh.¹²⁹⁶ This assistance will protect the human rights of the survivors of the Rohingya refugee crisis.

On 22 September 2022, the Department of Justice announced USD21.72 million in grants intended to reduce sexual and domestic violence on college campuses.¹²⁹⁷ These will be administered through the Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program and the Consolidated Youth and Engaging Men Grant Program.

On 25 September 2022, the Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves travelled to Romania for the International Telecommunication Union 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference.¹²⁹⁸ This conference discussed issues related to telecommunication and communication technology.

On 28 September 2022, the Department of Labor released new tools to combat child and forced labor.¹²⁹⁹ These include the Comply Chain app, the Sweat & Toil app and the ILAB Knowledge Portal, all of which provide quick access to relevant information on the topic. The Department also published its annual “List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor” and “Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor” reports.

On 30 September 2022, G7 Foreign Ministers released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹³⁰⁰ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia’s continued violations of Ukraine’s sovereignty and independence.

¹²⁹⁴ Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$1 Billion in Funding for First-Ever State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 16 September 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022.

¹²⁹⁵ Humanitarian Assistance to Respond to the Venezuela Regional Crisis, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.state.gov/humanitarian-assistance-to-respond-to-the-venezuela-regional-crisis/>

¹²⁹⁶ United States Announces More Than \$170 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for the Rakhine State/Rohingya Refugee Crisis, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-more-than-170-million-in-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-rakhine-state-rohingya-refugee-crisis/>

¹²⁹⁷ Justice Department Announces \$21.72 Million to Reduce Sexual and Domestic Violence on Campus, Support Children and Youth and Engage Men and Boys as Allies, Department of Justice (Washington D.C.) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-2172-million-reduce-sexual-and-domestic-violence-campus-support>

¹²⁹⁸ Deputy Secretary Graves to Travel to Bucharest, Romania for International Telecommunication Union Plenipotentiary Conference, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2022/09/deputy-secretary-graves-travel-bucharest-romania-international>

¹²⁹⁹ US Department of Labor Announces New Reports, Tools in Global Effort to End Child, Forced Labor, Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 28 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20220928>

¹³⁰⁰ G7 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

On 1 October 2022, the Department of Homeland Security recognized Cybersecurity Awareness Month.¹³⁰¹ The Department pledged to engage with partners across the nation to promote cyber hygiene and strengthen the technology ecosystem.

On 1 October 2022, the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons announced seven new awards under its Program to End Modern Slavery.¹³⁰² The award recipients include the Innovations for Poverty Action, International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, New York University Marron Institute, University of Georgia Research Foundation, Washington University and Winrock International.

On 7 October 2022, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo made a joint statement with the UK's Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Michelle Donelan on the launch of "a "new senior-level Comprehensive Dialogue on Technology and Data" to further joint efforts regarding technology and democratic values.¹³⁰³

On 14 October 2022, Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with activists to discuss human rights in Iran.¹³⁰⁴ The conversation focused particularly on the rights of Iranian women.

On 20 October 2022, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas met with Japanese government officials to discuss US strategic objectives in Japan.¹³⁰⁵ The officials discussed cybersecurity issues within the Indo-Pacific maritime space.

On 20 October 2022, the Cyber Command and the UK's Strategic Command cooperated on a joint project to strengthen cyber resilience.¹³⁰⁶ Deputy Director Cyber Command Matthew Paradise affirmed the importance of maintaining reliable digital infrastructures and networks. Similar sentiments were echoed by the UK's Director Operation at Defence Digital Nick Washer who claimed that collective cyber operations "offer huge shared benefits in enhancing collective defense."

On 20 October 2022, the United States, along with the undersigned members of the Freedom Online Coalition, called upon the Government of Iran to lift the country's nationwide internet restrictions, which they claim constitutes a human rights violation.¹³⁰⁷

¹³⁰¹ Department of Homeland Security Kicks Off Cybersecurity Awareness Month, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 3 October 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/10/03/departments-homeland-security-kicks-cybersecurity-awareness-month>

¹³⁰² The Trafficking in Persons Office Announces Recipients of the 2022 Program to End Modern Slavery Awards, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 October 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.state.gov/the-trafficking-in-persons-office-announces-recipients-of-the-2022-program-to-end-modern-slavery-awards/>

¹³⁰³ U.S.-UK Joint Statement: New Comprehensive Dialogue on Technology and Data and Progress on Data Adequacy, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2022/10/us-uk-joint-statement-new-comprehensive-dialogue-technology-and-data>

¹³⁰⁴ Secretary Blinken's Meeting with Human Rights Defenders on Women and Human Rights in Iran, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 14 October 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-blinkens-meeting-with-human-rights-defenders-on-women-and-human-rights-in-iran/>

¹³⁰⁵ Readout of Secretary Mayorkas's Trip to Tokyo, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/10/21/readout-secretary-mayorkas-trip-tokyo>

¹³⁰⁶ Collaborating with U.S. on Cyber, Ministry of Defense (London) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 25 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/collaborating-with-us-on-cyber>

¹³⁰⁷ Freedom Online Coalition Joint Statement on Internet Shutdowns in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/10/freedom-online-coalition-joint-statement-on-internet-shutdowns-in-iran.html>

On 21 October 2022, the Department of State announced the launch of its Global Emerging Leaders in International Cyberspace Security Fellowship.¹³⁰⁸ The goal of this fellowship is to foster a “diverse global network of future policy leaders” who will ultimately uphold a framework for state behaviour in cyberspace.

On 31 October 2022, President Joe Biden issued a proclamation regarding Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month.¹³⁰⁹ Within this proclamation, President Biden emphasized the importance of fortifying cybersecurity in the face of malicious cyber activity and cyberattacks.

On 3 November 2022, Secretary Blinken and Germany’s Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock hosted the US-German Futures Forum in Muenster, Germany to advance democratic shared values in an increasingly digital world.¹³¹⁰ The goal of the forum was to develop proposals for several political measures on topics like Reinforcing Democracy at Home: Delivering Democracy Digitally, Advancing Democracy and Human Rights Online and Defending Democracy: Countering Digital Authoritarianism and the Misuse of Technology.

On 4 November 2022, Secretary Blinken condemned President of the Haitian Senate Joseph Lambert for his involvement in human rights violations.¹³¹¹ This condemnation was charged by evidence that President Lambert was involved in corrupt activity and many human rights violations, most notably an extrajudicial killing.

On 15 November 2022, Secretary Mayorkas testified in front of the House of Representatives regarding the Department of Homeland Security’s response to cyberthreats.¹³¹² Secretary Mayorkas discussed the growing threat of cyber criminals who attempt to exploit the cyber ecosystem. In response, Secretary Mayorkas claimed that the US must adopt a “whole of society approach” including local, state and federal governments.

On 28 November 2022, Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons Jessica Stern travelled to Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines.¹³¹³ On this trip, Stern discussed human rights, particularly those of LGBTQI+ individuals.

On 8 December 2022, the US issued a Joint Statement along with the eight countries involved in the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse on women’s rights in Iran.¹³¹⁴ The

¹³⁰⁸ Global Emerging Leaders in International Cyberspace Security (GEL-ICS) Fellowship, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2022. Access Date: 30 October 2022. <https://www.state.gov/global-emerging-leaders-in-international-cyberspace-security-gel-ics-fellowship-2/>

¹³⁰⁹ A Proclamation on Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month, 2022, White House (Washington D.C.) 31 October 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/10/31/a-proclamation-on-critical-infrastructure-security-and-resilience-month-2022/>

¹³¹⁰ Strengthening democracy in a digital world - U.S.-German Futures Forum 2022, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 3 November 2022. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2561692>

¹³¹¹ Designation of Haitian Senate President, Joseph Lambert, for Involvement in Significant Corruption and a Gross Violation of Human Rights, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-haitian-senate-president-joseph-lambert-for-involvement-in-significant-corruption-and-a-gross-violation-of-human-rights/>

¹³¹² Secretary Alejandro N. Mayorkas’ Testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security on “Worldwide Threats to the Homeland,” Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/11/15/secretary-alejandro-n-mayorkas-testimony-us-house-representatives-committee>

¹³¹³ U.S. Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons Stern’s Travel to Vietnam, the Philippines, and Indonesia, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 November 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-special-envoy-to-advance-the-human-rights-of-lgbtqi-persons-sterns-travel-to-vietnam-the-philippines-and-indonesia/>

¹³¹⁴ Joint Statement Through the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse on Standing with the Women and Girls of Iran, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/joint-statement-through-the-global-partnership-for-action-on-gender-based-online-harassment-and-abuse-on-standing-with-the-women-and-girls-of-iran/>

statement declared the countries' support for protestors and condemnation of Iranian authorities under their overall commitment to supporting the rights of Iranian women.

On 20 December 2022, Secretary Blinken issued a statement in support of the rights of Afghan women.¹³¹⁵ He condemned the Taliban's restrictions on women's rights and specifically the choice to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools.

On 27 December 2022, President Biden signed the "Countering Human Trafficking Act of 2022" to expand the Department of Homeland Security's Center for Countering Human Trafficking.¹³¹⁶ This action aims to support the Department's outreach to victims while increasing traffickers' accountability.

On 29 December 2022, the US alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the High Representative of the European Union released a joint statement condemning the "barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations from the workplace" as it "puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival."¹³¹⁷ The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 10 January 2023, President Biden, Mexico's President Andrés Manuel López Obrador and Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met for the tenth North American Leaders' Summit in Mexico City.¹³¹⁸ The goal of the meeting was to remove barriers for marginalized populations, ensure safe migration between countries and reduce both gender-based violence and violence against the LGBTQ+ community.

On 19 January 2023, Secretary Blinken recognized National Human Trafficking Prevention Month in a press statement affirming the State Department's commitment to fighting against the issue on all fronts.¹³¹⁹

On 25 January 2023, the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Transportation hosted a roundtable on "Intersections of Human Trafficking and International Aviation."¹³²⁰ The meeting discussed how human trafficking can be countered through global partnerships and industry best practices.

On 31 January 2023, the Department of Homeland Security announced its Annual Awards in Countering Human Trafficking to recognize Department leaders in the fight against human trafficking.¹³²¹

¹³¹⁵ Standing with Afghanistan's Women and Girls, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2022. Access Date: 24 December 2022. <https://www.state.gov/standing-with-afghanistans-women-and-girls/>

¹³¹⁶ President Biden Signs legislation that codifies and expands DHS fight against human trafficking, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2022/12/29/president-biden-signs-legislation-codifies-and-expands-dhs-fight-against-human>

¹³¹⁷ Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban's ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹³¹⁸ FACT SHEET: Key Deliverables for the 2023 North American Leaders' Summit, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2023. Access Date: 2 March 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2023/01/10/fact-sheet-key-deliverables-2023-north-american-leaders-summit>

¹³¹⁹ National Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2023, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.state.gov/national-human-trafficking-prevention-month-2023/>

¹³²⁰ U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Host Joint 'Intersections of Human Trafficking and International Aviation' Roundtable, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 25 January 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2023/01/25/dhs-and-dot-host-joint-intersections-human-trafficking-and-international-aviation>

¹³²¹ DHS Annual Awards in Countering Human Trafficking, Department of Homeland Security (Washington D.C.) 2 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.dhs.gov/medialibrary/assets/video/39901>

On 13 February 2023, the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons met at the White House.¹³²² The meeting discussed how the government can strengthen its human trafficking policies, specifically to reflect the insights of human trafficking victims.

On 14 February 2023, the Department of Labor announced USD2.5 million in grants to promote human rights in labor relations, aimed at countering practices such as child labor and forced labor.¹³²³

On 22 February 2023, the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons announced an open competition for grants which support the Program to End Modern Slavery.¹³²⁴

On 28 February 2023, Acting National Cyber Director Kemba Walden hosted a discussion titled "The State of Cybersecurity in the Black Community."¹³²⁵ Organized in honour of Black History Month, this discussion sought to delineate methods of working towards widespread digital and economic security for Black Americans.

On 6 March 2023, Principal Deputy Chief Technology Officer Alexander Macgillivray delivered a speech at the State of the Net Conference.¹³²⁶ He affirmed the Biden administration's dedication to responsible technology innovation which "strengthens democracy, safeguards civil rights, [and] includes everyone."

On 8 March 2023, the Department of State held its annual International Women of Courage Award Ceremony to celebrate women who "lead the charge for human rights, democracy, and justice."¹³²⁷

On 20 March 2023, Secretary Blinken launched the 2022 Human Rights Report which accounts for global human rights conditions and the ways in which the US supports them.¹³²⁸

On 24 March 2023, President Biden and Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met to discuss their shared priorities of creating a more fair migration system between the two countries and promoting security in Haiti.¹³²⁹

On 27 March 2023, President Biden signed an Executive Order prohibiting the use of commercial spyware which is a form of spyware which has been used by various governments to perpetuate human rights abuses.¹³³⁰

¹³²² FACT SHEET: President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, White House (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/02/13/fact-sheet-presidents-interagency-task-force-to-monitor-and-combat-trafficking-in-persons-2/>

¹³²³ US Department of Labor Awards \$2.5M Grant to Promote Human, Labor Rights in the International Cut Flower Supply Chains, Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20230214>

¹³²⁴ 2023 Program to End Modern Slavery Call For Proposals, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 22 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.state.gov/2023-notice-of-funding-opportunity-program-to-end-modern-slavery>

¹³²⁵ Readout: Office of National Cyber Director Hosts Roundtable on "The State of Cybersecurity in the Black Community," White House (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/oncd/briefing-room/2023/02/28/readout-office-of-national-cyber-director-hosts-roundtable-on-the-state-of-cybersecurity-in-the-black-community/>

¹³²⁶ Remarks of Alexander Macgillivray at the State of the Net Conference, White House (Washington D.C.) 6 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2023/03/06/remarks-of-alexander-macgillivray-at-the-state-of-the-net-conference/>

¹³²⁷ 2023 International Women of Courage Award, Department of State (Washington D.C.) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.state.gov/2023-international-women-of-courage-award/>

¹³²⁸ Secretary Antony Blinken on the 2022 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, Department of State (Washington, DC) 20 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-on-the-2022-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/>

¹³²⁹ Working with the United States to grow our clean economies and create good, middle class jobs on both sides of the border, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 24 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/03/24/working-united-states-grow-our-clean-economies-and-create-good-middle>

¹³³⁰ FACT SHEET: President Biden Signs Executive Order to Prohibit U.S. Government Use of Commercial Spyware that Poses Risks to National Security, White House (Washington D.C.) 27 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/03/27/fact-sheet-president-biden-signs-executive-order-to-prohibit-u-s-government-use-of-commercial-spyware-that-poses-risks-to-national-security/>

On 31 March 2023, President Biden released a statement on National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.¹³³¹ President Biden highlighted his past efforts to address sexual assault, such as the Violence Against Women Act, and promised to continue countering the issue.

On 31 March 2023, the White House recognized the Transgender Day of Visibility by announcing new commitments to addressing the issue.¹³³² These commitments include creating a report on supporting LGBTQI+ youth and issuing guidance on supporting LGBTQI+ public servants.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. The US has worked extensively to build cyber resilience and promote digital safety while involving stakeholders across its various departments. The US has also taken significant action to uphold human rights globally, setting a strong example for the international community.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hannah Cluroe

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end.

On 29 July 2022, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) adopted a joint opinion on the EU's Proposal for a Regulation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse.¹³³³ The proposal imposes obligations with regard to detecting, removing and reporting online child sexual abuse materials, as well as grooming on providers of relevant information society services. Negotiations are ongoing within the Council of the EU to reach an agreement with the EU member states on an effective compromise text. This will be followed by negotiations with the European Parliament and the Commission.

On 8 September 2022, the EDPS participated in a Roundtable of G7 Data Protection Authorities in Bonn, Germany.¹³³⁴ The goal of this roundtable was to address the significance of privacy-enhancing technologies, the role of data protection authorities and regulations of artificial intelligence.

On 16 September 2022, the EDPS requested that the Court of Justice of the European Union annul two sections of the newly amended Europol Regulation.¹³³⁵ These two provisions, articles 74a and 74b, legalize Europol's possession of individual personal data even in the absence of established links to criminal activity. This new proposal aims to protect individual's privacy in legal digital access by requiring legal certainty for supervisory enforcement.

¹³³¹ A Proclamation on National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, 2023, White House (Washington D.C.) 31 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/03/31/a-proclamation-on-national-sexual-assault-awareness-and-prevention-month-2023/>

¹³³² FACT SHEET: White House Honors Transgender Day of Visibility, White House (Washington D.C.) 31 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/03/31/fact-sheet-white-house-honors-transgender-day-of-visibility/>

¹³³³ Proposal to combat child sexual abuse online presents serious risks for fundamental rights, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 29 July 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2022/proposal-combat-child-sexual-abuse-online-presents-serious-risks-fundamental-rights_en

¹³³⁴ EDPS attends roundtable of G7 Data Protection and Privacy Authorities, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 4 November 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/publications/newsletters/newsletter-97_en#roundtable

¹³³⁵ EDPS takes legal action as new Europol Regulation puts rule of law and EDPS independence under threat, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/press-news/press-releases/2022/edps-takes-legal-action-new-europol-regulation-puts-rule-law-and-edps-independence-under-threat_en

On 30 September 2022, the European Commission, along with other G7 Foreign Ministers, released a statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.¹³³⁶ All G7 members expressed united condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's continued violations of Ukraine's sovereignty and independence.

On 12 October 2022, the EDPB adopted Opinion 28/2022 on the Board of the Europrivacy certification criteria, submitted by the Luxembourg Data Protection Authority.¹³³⁷ This opinion marks the approval of the first European Data Protection Seal, which targets operations performed by data controllers and processors from various sectors. The scheme is another milestone towards greater General Data Protection Regulation compliance advocated by the EU in enhancing cybersecurity.

On 17 October 2022, the European Council added 11 individuals and four entities to the list of those subject to restrictive measures.¹³³⁸ The updated sanctions include the Morality Police, the Iranian Enforcement Forces, numerous local chiefs responsible for the repression of protests, and Iran's Minister of Information and Communications Technology Issa Zarepour. The current measures include a travel ban and asset freeze, an export control list targeting equipment used for telecommunication monitoring and domestic oppression and an EU prohibition on financial aid to restricted parties. The EU and its member states reaffirm their condemnation of brutality against peaceful demonstrations, asserting that individuals' rights to non-violent protests should be protected.

On 20 October 2022, the EU, along with 16 countries and Germany's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock met at the Western Balkans Summit in Berlin to discuss human trafficking.¹³³⁹ They committed to further increase border security ties between the countries and measures targeted at immigrant human smugglers.

On 28 October 2022, the EU provided EUR1 million to finance the activities and work of the Envoy on Technology of the UN Secretary General over the next two years.¹³⁴⁰ The EU is dedicated to supporting the UN's agenda of developing a Global Digital Compact and promoting a model of internet governance. Under this global cooperation, the EU continues to advocate for a secure digital community in upholding free speech, protecting online data and combating disinformation.

On 24 November 2022, the European Commission established a common EU helpline number for victims of violence against women in an effort to supplement rules to "combat violence against women, including online" established in March.¹³⁴¹

¹³³⁶ G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the illegal annexation of sovereign Ukrainian territory, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/09/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-illegal-annexation-of-sovereign-ukrainian-territory/

¹³³⁷ EDPB adopts "wish list" of procedural aspects, first EU data protection seal and a statement on digital euro, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 12 October 2022. Access Date: 31 October 2022. https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2022/edpb-adopts-wish-list-procedural-aspects-first-eu-data-protection-seal-and-statement_en

¹³³⁸ Iran: EU sanctions perpetrators of serious human rights violations, European Council (Brussels) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/10/17/iran-eu-sanctions-perpetrators-of-serious-human-rights-violations>

¹³³⁹ Close cooperation with the Western Balkan countries, Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (Berlin) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/kurzmeldungen/EN/2022/10/close_cooperation_with_the_western_balkan_countries.html

¹³⁴⁰ EU provides €1 million in funding to the Office of the Envoy on Technology of the UN's Secretary-General, European Commission (Brussels) 28 October 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_6452

¹³⁴¹ Violence Against Women: The European Union establishes an EU-wide helpline number and calls to end violence against women worldwide, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2022. Access Date: 27 February 2023. <https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/violence-against-women-european-union-establishes-eu-wide-helpline-number-and-calls-end-violence-2022-11-24>

On 29 December 2022, the High Representative of the European Union alongside the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States, released a joint statement condemning the “barring of female employees of national and international non-governmental organizations from the workplace” as it “puts at risk millions of Afghans who depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.”¹³⁴² The statement called on the Taliban to immediately reverse this decision.

On 24 January 2023, the EDPB approved a EUR5.5 million fine issued by the Irish Data Protection Authority (DPA) and instructed the DPA to further investigate WhatsApp IE’s operations in lawfully handling users’ personal data.¹³⁴³

On 7 February 2023, the EU published its Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles to establish a secure, safe and sustainable digital transformation.¹³⁴⁴

On 23 February 2023, the EDPS started piloting the use of Open Source Software to foster a secured online cloud environment.¹³⁴⁵ This plan not only furthers compliance with the EU’s data protection law, but also avoids data transfer to non-EU states to have more control over personal data.

On 6 March 2023, President Ursula von der Leyen met with Canada’s Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for discussions on maintaining robust sanctions against Russia and promoting women’s empowerment in the workplace.¹³⁴⁶ Towards the efforts of gender equality, President Von Der Leyen announced plans to join the Alliance for Feminist Movements and Equal by 30 campaign.

On 7 April 2023, the EU released a statement condemning the decisions of the Taliban to ban Afghan women from working for the UN and its agencies, funds and programs.¹³⁴⁷ The EU urged the Taliban to deliver on their promises to protect the human rights for the entire population of Afghanistan.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote human rights online and offline while also cooperating with civil society and international partners to this end. Through extensive cooperation among allies in various multilateral platforms, the EU has significantly advanced its dedication to combating online harm, developing international cyber norms and investing in increased digital access. Aside from promoting a free and secure cyberspace, the EU also actively tackles human rights violations offline, primarily through implementing penalties in targeting infringements against individual freedoms.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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¹³⁴² Joint statement from foreign ministers on the Taliban’s ban on Afghan women working for national and international NGOs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 11 January 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-talibans-ban-on-afghan-women-working-for-national-and-international-ngos.html>

¹³⁴³ EDPB publishes Binding Decision concerning WhatsApp, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. https://edpb.europa.eu/news/news/2023/edpb-publishes-binding-decision-concerning-whatsapp_en

¹³⁴⁴ European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/european-declaration-digital-rights-and-principles>

¹³⁴⁵ EDPS to pilot the use of Open Source Software, European Data Protection Board (Brussels) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/press-news/press-releases/2023/edps-pilot-use-open-source-software_en

¹³⁴⁶ Joint Press Release on the Occasion of the Visit to Canada of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Prime Minister of Canada (Kingston) 7 March 2023. Access Date: 17 April 2023. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2023/03/07/joint-press-release-occasion-visit-canada-european-commission-president-ursula-von-der-leyen>

¹³⁴⁷ Afghanistan: Statement by the High Representative on Behalf of the EU on Taliban banning Afghan women from working for the UN, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 April 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 April 2023. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/04/afghanistan-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-taliban-banning-afghan-women-from-working-for-the-un/