



Leaders' Agenda

9 May 2019

Strategic Agenda 2019-2024 - outline

Next June, just ahead of the new institutional cycle, the European Council will adopt the EU's new Strategic Agenda, setting out the overarching priorities that will guide the work of the EU over the next five years. In order to start that process, Leaders are invited to have a first discussion in Sibiu of what direction should be given to EU policies in the future, on the basis of the attached outline. In the light of that discussion, a first draft of the Strategic Agenda will be issued in early June.

Protecting citizens and freedoms

Europe should be a place where people feel free and safe. We need to defend our peoples' rights and freedoms, and make sure we can protect them from existing risks and emerging threats.

Ensuring our security

- effectively protect our external borders
- fight terrorism and organised crime
- tackle hybrid threats and ensure cybersecurity
- increase resilience against and relief after natural and man-made disasters

Safeguarding our democracies

- uphold the rule of law
- fight disinformation

Tackling migration challenges

- fight illegal migration comprehensively (external/ borders/internal)
- reform the EU asylum policy
- ensure the good functioning of the Schengen area

Protecting our values and freedoms

- protect individual freedoms
- engage citizens, civil society and social partners as well as regional and local actors

Developing our economic base: the European model for the future

A strong economic base is of key importance for Europe's prosperity and competitiveness, and for its role on the global stage. This should be achieved through an integrated approach addressing the current and emerging global, technological, security and sustainability challenges, and connecting all relevant policies and dimensions.

Mobilising all relevant policies

- deepen and strengthen the single market
- develop an industrial strategy
- ensure fair and effective taxation
- deepen EMU

Investing in our future

- invest in people's skills and education
- promote innovation and research
- encourage and support public and private investment, including in infrastructure
- promote sustainable agriculture

Promoting a level-playing field

- ensure fair competition
- fight unfair practices and security risks
- secure our strategic supply chains

Embracing the digital transition

- develop artificial intelligence
- promote access, sharing and use of data
- ensure connectivity

Building a greener, fairer and more inclusive future

Europe should remain a model of inclusion and sustainability, embracing the changes brought about by the green transition, technological evolutions and globalisation while making sure we leave no-one behind.

Ensuring sustainable, secure and affordable energy

- accelerate the energy transition
- increase energy independence
- seize economic opportunities offered by the green transition
- invest in mobility of the future

Preserving environment and climate

- work towards climate neutrality
- preserve environmental systems including oceans
- fight the loss of biodiversity

Promoting Inclusiveness

- provide opportunities for all and reduce inequalities
- ensure adequate social protection and inclusive labour markets
- reduce disparities through cohesion

Safeguarding our way of life

- support communities in managing the green transition
- protect consumers, health
- invest in culture

Promoting Europe's interests and values in the world

Only united can we help shape our immediate neighbourhood and the global environment to the benefit of Europeans. In a more uncertain world, we need to be more assertive and effective in defending our interests while standing up for the rules-based multilateral order.

Defending our interests

- give priority to and assert European economic, political and security interests
- ensure coherence and effectiveness of external policies to this end
- promote peace, stability and prosperity in our neighbourhood and uphold the European perspective of other European States
- position Europe as a global player in the new strategic context
- boost European defence investment and cooperation (including with NATO)

Projecting our values

- promote Europe as a model of cooperation
- work towards global peace and stability, and promote democracy and human rights

Promoting global rules

- maintain and develop the rules-based multilateral order, ensuring openness and fairness
- pursue a robust, ambitious and balanced trade policy, including via FTAs, based on reciprocity and mutual benefits

Tackling global challenges

- exercise global leadership in the fight against climate change
- cooperate with partners (countries of origin and transit) on migration
- promote sustainable development [SDGs, Agenda 2030]