



## Security Council Briefing on Cooperation between the UN and regional and subregional organisations (UN-EU), 23 February 2023

Malta Statement delivered by the Hon Ian Borg, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta

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*[I will now make a statement in my capacity as the representative of Malta.]*

I begin by welcoming the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mr Josep Borrell Fontelles to the Security Council today, and by thanking him for his briefing.

As a committed supporter of multilateralism, Malta attaches great value to strengthening cooperation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organisations. They are an integral part of the multilateral system and can contribute in a significant manner through their unique knowledge of their region and its particular circumstances.

As a proud member of the European Union, it goes without saying that Malta strongly supports enhanced cooperation between the UN and the EU. Such cooperation has been paying dividends for several years, and we are firm in our belief that it will continue to yield tangible results during 2023 and in the years to come.



The principles enshrined in the UN Charter and the values of the European Union are fully aligned, and we believe that this complementarity makes the two organisations natural partners.

The European experiment, born from the ashes of the Second World War, is an example of how multilateralism and regional integration brings peace, stability, prosperity, and growth.

The EU's strategic relationship with the United Nations must continue to strengthen the respect for the Charter and international law, including human rights, the rule of law, and the peaceful settlement of disputes. A robust and dynamic collaboration between the EU and the UN will help us contribute to peace and security and to address global challenges that require a global approach in a more effective manner.

Towards this end, Malta welcomes the invaluable contribution of the United Nations Secretary General in presenting a comprehensive vision which outlines the necessary steps in renewing our multilateral approach. Together with the EU, Malta is fully committed to support and effectively contribute to the parallel processes which have been initiated through the Our Common Agenda report. We truly believe that multilateral and constructive engagement on such initiatives, have the potential to bring about the necessary changes to ensure that the United Nations continues to effectively address the most pressing global issues.



We are living through challenging times. The EU and its MS have consistently underlined the need to work together towards one common goal, that of upholding the UN charter and a rules based order. We have been faced with the reality of our interdependence on a multitude of occasions and yet we are still unable to come together to address global challenges including climate. We continue to fail to recognize that a unilateral failure today will translate in collective ramifications for the many during the years to come.

In this midst, we have a responsibility to ensure that where possible regional and international organisations come together to provide that much needed convergence and collaboration.

Regional cooperation is indispensable to the proper functioning of our interconnected and globalised world. Through active collaboration, we can make sure that the common good is upheld, safeguarded, and pursued.

Excellencies,

The existing comprehensive UN-EU approach to crisis management, mediation, and peace operations, including the support in different regions, has helped several countries to navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace. We also welcome fruitful UN-EU trilateral cooperation with the African Union to tackle security challenges. As an example, the EU's contribution to ATMIS in Somalia, has enabled the mission to effectively carry out its mandate.



We reaffirm our support towards the thematic joint efforts that help us to better address contemporary challenges through the implementation of humanitarian principles; the women's peace and security agenda; Children in Armed Conflict, the access to quality education and climate change frameworks.

In conclusion, Malta's commitment to peace, dialogue, and multilateralism remains stronger than ever. We believe that strengthening cooperation between the UN and the EU will only enhance our ability to prevent and resolve conflict and advance the broader goals and objectives of the UN Charter.

