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WORKING DOCUMENT

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Coreper II
Working Party on Transatlantic Relations

Subject: EU-Canada Summit (Montreal, 29/30 October 2026): Draft Joint Statement

Delegations will find attached the draft EU-Canada Joint Summit Statement, as received from Canada.

Delegations are kindly requested to submit written comments by Monday, 28 September 2026, at noon.

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CANADA-EU LEADERS' SUMMIT 2026 DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT

Building together an Alliance for the Future

1. Today we, the Leaders of Canada and the European Union (EU), at our 21st Summit in Montreal, launch the Canada-EU Alliance for the Future.
2. The strong partnership between Canada and the European Union (EU) is deeply rooted in trust, shaped by a shared history of human connection and robust economic ties, and grounded in the core values of democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and open, rules-based markets.
3. Our existing relationship includes one of the most successful free trade arrangements in the world as well as significant ties ranging from security to migration and labour mobility.
4. The world is rapidly changing with unprecedented geopolitical challenges as well as challenges across trade, energy, technology, climate, and resources. Canada and the EU, with our unparalleled trade access, shared values, and complementary economic strengths, can build a deeper and more integrated relationship. This will strengthen economic resilience, accelerate trade diversification, deepen defence cooperation, and act ambitiously to deliver greater security, stability, and prosperity for citizens, and businesses on both sides of the Atlantic. And our partnership may become a model for other countries seeking friendship in a challenging world.
5. We will mobilize investment to catalyse job creation, grow strategic industries, and ensure our workers and critical industries succeed – while prioritizing competitiveness and protecting our interests. Together, we will build reliable and secure supply chains, world-class innovation ecosystems, and an economy that is resilient, competitive, and sustainable on both sides of the Atlantic. We will work together to ensure the armed forces of Canada and EU Member States are equipped, capable, and ready to defend our sovereignty and advance our shared interests, including in our respective Arctic territories.

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6. We will align strategies and standards, connect industries, and focus our ambitions on sectors with greatest returns for our peoples. This includes the development of low-carbon, reliable energy that much of the world is hungry for, from liquified natural gas to hydro, solar, wind, and nuclear. It includes digital infrastructure with unprecedented demand, including the full-artificial intelligence (AI) stack across sovereign cloud, compute, and code. It includes strategic industries, such as critical minerals and critical minerals supply chains, semi-conductors, vaccines, and spaced-based communications, where shared resilience is becoming an imperative.
7. We will reaffirm our unwavering commitment to effective multilateralism, democracy and to the rules-based international order, with the United Nations at its core. We will continue to promote and defend international law, to uphold the rules and principles of the UN Charter, including those of sovereignty and territorial integrity. We will fight to protect and promote human rights everywhere, for everyone. We are determined to deliver on our global commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement.
8. We will work together to accelerate our defence readiness to ensure transatlantic security and support Ukraine, defend our sovereignty and advance our shared interests, [including in the Arctic]. We will accelerate the implementation of our Security and Defence Partnership. This includes stronger cooperation on crisis response, sanctions, defence industry, and protecting our societies and partners against hybrid threats as well as bolstering democratic resilience. We will coordinate diplomatic efforts and advance joint or mutually reinforcing initiatives in key regions and multilateral fora. This alliance will be anchored in a more active and aligned foreign policy partnership. Building on the 2025 Joint Declaration, Canada and the EU will deepen coordination on global challenges, cultivate a dense web of new connections to leverage our strengths, expertise, and workforces to bolster our sovereignty.

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9. We will sharpen our focus on shared priorities. These include continued support for a just peace in Ukraine and its reconstruction. We will also seek accountability of the Russian government for its actions in Ukraine. We will promote stability in the Indo-Pacific. And we will coordinate our engagement within our shared multilateral system. In the Middle East, we will work more closely to support de-escalation, respond to humanitarian needs, and contribute to the conditions for lasting peace. We will deepen economic cooperation by strengthening economic security and supply chain resilience, supporting open and rules-based trade, fostering innovation and competitiveness, and expanding opportunities for our workers and businesses to be part of these solutions. We will ensure economic strategies are tied to protecting, defending, or creating opportunities for students and workers in Canada and the EU – where our partnerships across key sectors and industries can lead to higher income, employment, and quality of living.
10. We recognise the existential threat of the interdependent crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and pollution. The EU-Canada Green Alliance remains our compass. Carbon pricing and industrial decarbonisation alongside clean-tech value-chains are key to reaching our shared 2050 net-zero and decarbonisation goals. The EU and Canada will work together to ensure that COP31 delivers an ambitious outcome.

An Alliance that Delivers

11. At our last Summit in June 2025, we took a series of ambitious commitments, launching the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership of the Future. Since then, we have delivered - together. We are strengthening our already deep economic ties through CETA. We are building on our defence industrial cooperation through Canada's participation in the SAFE instrument and the Ukraine Support Loan. Our Mutual Recognition Agreement for Professional Qualifications of Architects is in force, we have launched and held several dialogues focused on competitiveness, economic security and supply chains, and seen concrete investment in each others industries – from defence contracts to critical

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minerals. We have signed memoranda of understanding on Artificial Intelligence and on Digital Credentials, Digital Identity Wallets and Trust Services. We have operationalised our consular cooperation – ensuring that Canadians and Europeans have increased access to emergency consular support throughout the world in case of crisis.

12. Today, we are announcing new achievements. We have concluded negotiations on a second-generation Competition Agreement that strengthens cooperation between competition authorities, to effectively address anti-competitive conduct, and foster a more open, innovative, and competitive marketplace for businesses and consumers. We have completed negotiations of the Digital Trade Agreement to allow for faster, lower cost secure digital trade and transactions, and better protect citizens' digital security. Canada and the European Investment Bank have completed negotiations of an agreement that will facilitate European Investment in critical Canadian resources, in particular, critical minerals. We are also pleased to announce the joint purchase of 50 DeHavilland water bombers that will be ready for use in Canada and Europe in 2030. This joint purchase will contribute to the safety and security of our citizens impacted by wildfires.

An Alliance of Trust

13. The world is changing quickly and we will respond together. To that end, we welcome the participation of the Prime Minister in the meetings of the European Political Community in Yerevan and the invitation for him to attend the next such meeting in Ireland. Likewise, under the Irish Presidency of the European Union Council, Canadian ministers have been invited to participate in meetings of European Foreign Ministers, Finance Ministers, Trade Ministers, Energy Ministers, AI Ministers, Development Ministers, and Defence Ministers. Our new alliance will include such strengthened high- level engagements, including through regular Summits, as well as joint ministerial committees, joint cooperation committees, and other mechanisms for early consultation on major policy or regulatory initiatives. This will enable Canada and the EU to move faster, align more closely, and address together the challenges the world now faces.

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A New Alliance for the Future

14. To effectively address the challenges of today's world, international players of common purpose, like the EU and Canada, must work together in areas of shared strategic interest. To that end, and in the various fora we have and will create for deeper collaboration, Canada and the EU are launching today work towards a landmark new partnership which will leverage our deep connections, historic ties, and shared values to transform our relationship, create unprecedented opportunities for our peoples, and deliver ambitious action across the following areas:

Digital, Research and Communications Technologies

15. Canada and the European Union will deepen cooperation in research, innovation and emerging technologies to strengthen economic competitiveness and create new opportunities for Canadians and Europeans. Canada and the European Union will work toward Canada's participation in future European research and innovation programmes, including Horizon Europe, supporting collaborative research, breakthrough technologies and the commercialisation of innovation in areas of shared strategic interest.
16. To strengthen digital sovereignty and economic security, Canada and the European Union will advance cooperation on artificial intelligence security and sovereignty, trusted data flows and digital governance and to align emerging AI and digital regulatory frameworks through associated country status for Canada under the Cloud and AI Development Act (CADA). We will launch joint initiatives to improve global connectivity, including a feasibility study to identify the best way to enhance digital links between Europe, Canada and Asia through new subsea cable infrastructure.
17. Canada and the European Union will also launch negotiations toward a framework for Canadian participation in the Galileo programme, expanding cooperation on secure and resilient satellite navigation services and strengthening access to trusted positioning, navigation and timing technologies for citizens, businesses and public institutions.

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Critical Resources

18. Recognising Canada's role as a trusted supplier of energy and critical minerals and Europe's role as a key investment partner, Canada and the European Union will jointly assess opportunities to expand energy connectivity and strengthen long-term energy cooperation. This will include a long-term feasibility study on Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) exports to Europe including environmental sustainability of long-term off-take agreements.
19. Canada and the European Union will accelerate collaboration to support responsible investment in critical mineral projects, strengthen resilient supply chains and explore mechanisms to improve preparedness and security of supply for strategic resources essential to both civilian and defence industries including stockpiling of critical resources to insulate from market fluctuations and geopolitical impacts. Building on the EIB engagement, Canada and the EU will identify commitments for export of Canadian critical minerals to Europe.
20. These efforts will help create jobs, attract investment and secure access to the resources required for clean technologies, advanced manufacturing and emerging industries on both sides of the Atlantic.

Financial Services and Markets

21. Canada and the European Union will work to make it easier for businesses and investors to operate across the Atlantic and to unlock new opportunities for growth, innovation and investment. Canada and the European Union will pursue closer cooperation to increase cross-border capital flows, strengthen financial market integration and improve opportunities for financial institutions, businesses and investors.
22. We will also work toward connecting next-generation payment systems to facilitate faster, lower-cost and more seamless cross-border transactions, making it easier for Canadians and Europeans to conduct business, invest and transfer funds internationally. These efforts will help mobilise capital for strategic sectors and support long-term economic growth and competitiveness.

People-to-People

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23. Canada and the European Union will expand opportunities for Canadians and Europeans to study, work, conduct research and build lasting connections across the Atlantic. Canada will launch negotiations toward participation in Erasmus+, the European Union's flagship education and mobility programme. This will expand opportunities for students, researchers, educators and young people to gain international experience and build lasting institutional partnerships.
24. Canada and the European Union will also launch discussions on enhancing labour mobility, with a focus on reducing barriers for young people and highly skilled workers and promoting greater recognition of professional qualifications. These initiatives will strengthen cultural ties, deepen people-to-people connections and help address workforce needs in sectors of strategic importance.

Security and Preparedness

25. Canada and the European Union will strengthen cooperation to better protect Canadians and Europeans from health emergencies, natural disasters and evolving security threats. We will deepen cooperation on pandemic preparedness, health surveillance and emergency response to improve collective readiness for future public health crises. Health Canada and the European Centre for Disease Control will work towards a special cooperation status, as well as Canada's participation in Be Ready.
26. We will also expand collaboration on disaster response and wildfire management, strengthening the ability of both partners to prepare for and respond to increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters, including enhanced cooperation with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.
27. We will accelerate work on the implementation of the Strategic Partnership Agreement and strengthen Canada's participation in EU civilian missions. Building on existing security cooperation through Europol and Frontex, we will work together on protecting our citizens by establishing an EU-Canada internal security dialogue and further broaden judicial cooperation.

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28. Canada and the European Union will enhance cooperation on cyber security, information-sharing and supply-chain resilience, helping to protect critical infrastructure, strengthen economic security and respond more effectively to emerging threats.

Trade and Regulatory Cooperation

29. Canada and the European Union will build on the success of CETA and our trade partnership to create new opportunities for workers, businesses and investors while strengthening resilient and secure supply chains. Canada and the European Union will explore new avenues for economic cooperation that support innovation, competitiveness and participation in strategic industrial and technology value chains. This includes identifying opportunities for collaboration in the development of the European Competitiveness Fund and the Canada Strong Fund, including other relevant public funds. We will also intensify efforts to address remaining barriers to trade, improve regulatory cooperation and strengthen supply chain resilience in strategic sectors, including health and advanced manufacturing.
30. These actions will help Canadian and European businesses compete, innovate and grow in an increasingly interconnected global economy.
31. This is a moment to act with clarity and ambition. By aligning more closely—economically, technologically, and strategically—Canada and the EU are building an alliance that is equal to the scale of today's challenges and opportunities. Through our Alliance for the Future, Canada and the EU will together reinforce the freedom and safety our citizens expect and deserve. We are stronger together.