

## TRANSATLANTIC DECLARATION

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Atlantic Expedition  
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### INTRODUCTION

*The US-European relationship has been a cornerstone of prosperity and stability for both sides since the end of the Cold War. This relationship was framed by the Transatlantic Declaration of 1 December 1990 and the New Transatlantic Agenda of 5 December 1995, which were signed by the respective governments of the United States and the European Community. These documents established common values and shared objectives of promoting peace, stability, and economic development across the Atlantic. Today, however, the architecture of international relations has changed, and the transatlantic relationship has faltered due to emerging challenges and political pressures. Given the emergence of new actors and technologies, government-to-government interaction no longer characterizes the totality of US-European relations.*

*Therefore, we propose a New Transatlantic Declaration that reaffirms the values of the aforementioned documents but acknowledges the enhanced role of non-governmental and underrepresented actors. In addition, this Declaration emphasizes areas that have undergone changes since the 1990s such as digitalization, migration, environment, and new security challenges. We encourage NGOs, commercial enterprises, local governments, and individuals to sign this Declaration, acknowledge their role in shaping transatlantic relations, and participate in constructing the future of US-European cooperation.*

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# TRANSATLANTIC DECLARATION

## PEACE AND SECURITY



Peace is the highest achievement of the Transatlantic Community. It must be maintained to ensure the security and economic prosperity of the transatlantic area and to enable of freedom of its people.

Security is a requirement to establish and maintain peace in the transatlantic area. To ensure a safe and secure environment, we commit to utilize diplomacy and dialogue to resolve conflicts, and to avoid violence and the use of force in intra- and inter-state disputes.

We commit to protect environmental and health standards. We commit to reducing the human impact on climate change and recognize that long-term stability and security is dependent on a standard of living supported by an inhabitable environment —not only in the transatlantic area but around the world.

We condemn disinformation campaigns and the use of cyber and information warfare to infringe on the national sovereignty and we expect a joint transatlantic response toward such threats.

Special protection must be forwarded to the most vulnerable groups of society, especially, but not exclusively, born children, indigenous nations and peoples, people with disabilities, and persons who have been granted international protection. Also, individuals or communities who are endangered on the basis of their identity must receive a special protection if they run the risk of being discriminated against.

## **CULTURAL VALUES**



Human dignity is unalienable. Everyone is entitled to the rights, freedoms, and obligations set out in this Declaration.

Everyone must be treated equally. There must be no discrimination based on the ethnicity, origin, political opinions, native language, gender, sex, sexual orientation, religion, physical or mental abilities or social status, or any other identity that subjects one to discrimination.

Everyone must respect the value of democracy. Efforts to undermine or abolish the democratic system will be condemned by the parties. No person can quote the right of equality and non-discrimination to justify efforts to undermine or abolish democracy.

## **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**



The cultural, social, and political diversity of each nation is the transatlantic community's greatest strength as it emphasizes tolerance, freedom, pluralism, and diverse cultural resources that contribute to national security and sustainable economic growth.

Migrants entering the transatlantic region or moving within its perimeters are integral to the transatlantic identity. As such, the cultural, social, and political diversity migrants bring forth is an opportunity for each nation, its residents, and the transatlantic community as a whole.

We must protect the human rights of all migrants and refugees, regardless of their status and ensure that they are treated humanely, compassionately, and justly.

In turn, migrants must uphold the values and laws of the respective region.

Inclusion is the highest objective. This necessitates acceptance, openness, and adaptability from both the resident community and the newly arrived migrants.

## **FREEDOM**



Freedom is an irrefutable right which we must protect. Freedom, however, is only granted to the extent that it does not restrict or undermine others' freedoms and rights. This includes but is not limited to:

Freedom of speech, expression, conscience, and opinion.

Freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

Freedom to choose and practice, in public and in private, any religion or belief one freely and conscientiously chooses, and freedom to discard and change any religion or belief.

Freedom to partake in national and transnational political, social, cultural, or economic processes.

Freedom to attend educational programs, to choose an occupation, and to access public services.

## **SOVEREIGNTY**



A further integration of transatlantic political, cultural, social, and economic spheres is not an attempt to replace each country's unique identity, but an addendum that unites while respecting the sovereignty and integrity of each party.

We must accept each other's differing approaches to political, cultural, social, economic, or legal matters. We shall be willing to learn and adapt to each other's policies.

We share responsibility towards other nations, individuals, entities, and organizations not subject to this Declaration. We consider external interests and consequences in all decisions undertaken within the transatlantic relationship.

## **RULE OF LAW**



We reaffirm the importance of effective, transparent, and impartial judicial processes. All parties must be held accountable for their actions under their respective constitutions.

Laws have to be just. Every person or entity is equal before the law. The sentence or penalty must be commensurate with the severity of the crime committed.

The United States and Europe must commit to cooperation in developing a contemporary legal framework that addresses new questions in digital, intellectual property, and cybersecurity law.

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The undersigned pledge to embody the spirit of this document and support the principles outlined within it. They remain open to exploring new policies, engaging in dialogue, and considering conflicting points of view, and hope to encourage a new generation of transatlantic stakeholders to take ownership of this relationship to help guide and steward it into the future.