

PRESS KIT



**FRANCE**

BIARRITZ  
2019





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## Introduction

France has held the Presidency of the G7 (Group of 7) since 1 January 2019. The G7 brings together France, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, decided to profoundly overhaul the format and ambitions of the G7 around a central goal set out in his speech before the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly: combating inequality.

### **There are three dimensions to this desire:**

- Taking the initiative to transform the G7 to restore its relevance and effectiveness, in the spirit of strong multilateralism, with no second thoughts about shaking up working habits and opening it up to key partners: African countries and four other major democracies, with which the Biarritz agenda has been prepared throughout the year;
- Addressing the great global challenges of inequality, protection of the planet, and defence of democratic freedoms, through tangible commitments and building on expanded partnerships and coalitions of stakeholders such as civil society which provide direction;
- Addressing crucial subjects, the importance of which is immediately clear to our citizens: international security and crisis management, the challenge of digital transformation for our democratic societies, climate crises and biodiversity. Responding to these issues is urgent.



# The French G7 Presidency in 2019

The G7 has a rotating Presidency. Each year, it is held by one of the member countries, in the same order: France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada. France thus took over the Presidency from Canada in 2019, and the United States will hold the Presidency from 1 January 2020.

Holding the G7 Presidency involves France organizing the Leaders' Summit, determining the major priorities that will shape discussions, setting down a schedule for preparatory meetings, including at ministerial level, and facilitating the organization of work. The host country is also responsible for relations with non-G7 countries, international organizations and civil society.

## KEY EVENTS DURING THE FRENCH G7 PRESIDENCY

The Leaders' Summit will be held in Biarritz, from 24 to 26 August 2019. Ministerial and Sherpas meetings have been held in Paris and several French cities this year.

Nine G7 Ministers Meetings have taken place:

**4-5 April:**  
Interior Ministers (Paris)

**5-6 April:**  
Foreign Ministers (Dinard and Saint-Malo)

**5-6 May:**  
Environment Ministers (Metz)

**9-10 May:**  
Gender Equality Ministers (Paris)

**15 May:**  
Digital Technology Ministers (Paris)

**16-17 May:**  
Health Ministers (Paris)

**6-7 June:**  
Social Affairs Ministers (Paris)

**4-5 July:**  
Development and Education Ministers (Paris and Sèvres)

**17-18 July:**  
Finance Ministers (Chantilly)

A number of partners were invited to each of these meetings, as part of a renewed format for the G7.

For more information on these meetings and their outcomes, see the attached document "A LOOK BACK OVER A YEAR OF WORK".

## THE PRIORITIES OF THE FRENCH G7 PRESIDENCY ARE CENTRED AROUND THE KEY AMBITION OF COMBATING INEQUALITY

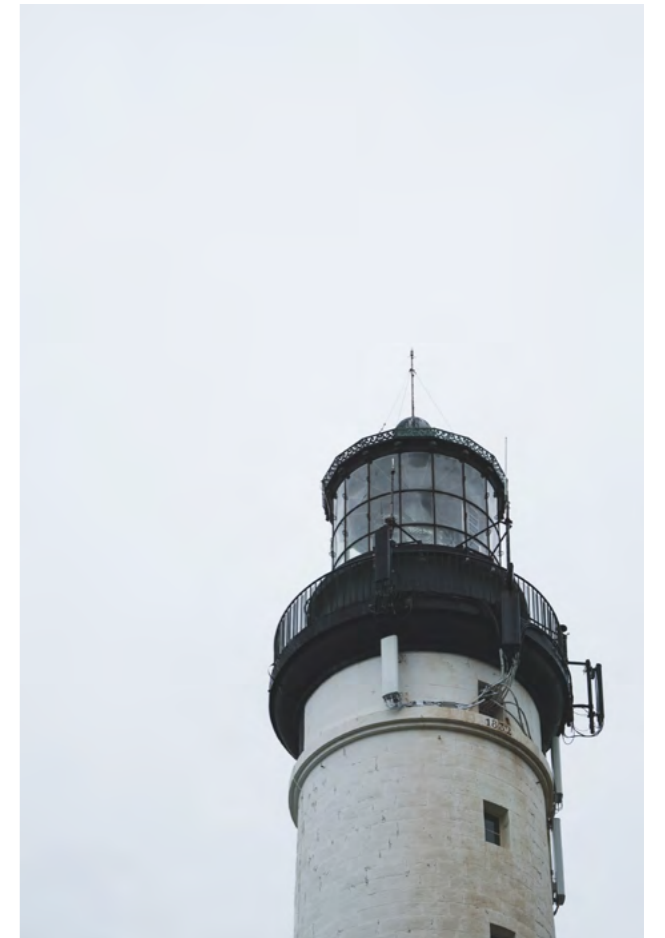
During his speech at the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, the President of the Republic announced that combating inequality would be the key theme of the French G7 Presidency.

As such, the work of the G7 throughout this year has focused on:

- Responding to the worsening of inequality within our countries, through coordination on tax issues, access to social protection, respect for labour norms, trade policy, and corporate social responsibility;
- Combating global inequality, by forging a new partnership with Africa and launching an initiative for the Sahel, a region where all the continent's challenges intersect;
- Eliminating gender inequality, by generating international momentum to amend legislation and act tangibly to combat violence and foster economic empowerment.

The G7 has continued to play its part on the three challenges that have to be resolved in order to ensure the long-term success of the fight against inequality:

- Protecting the climate and biodiversity, by emphasizing enhancement of climate action ambition and the development of effective coalitions capable of transforming how we produce and consume;
- Taking action for peace, against security threats and terrorism, by improving our responses to the crises and conflicts which undermine the foundations of our societies;
- Defending democracy, ensuring in particular that the digital transition and artificial intelligence serve the empowerment of individuals and foster their rights and freedoms.



## A RENEWED FORMAT FOR THE G7

Combating inequality within our societies and worldwide is a matter of justice, just as it is an urgent task we must address if we are to win back the trust of our citizens in our international governance system.

To fight this battle, the G7, an informal forum for the major economic powers that share democratic values and the ambition to address great global issues, provides a good setting to generate momentum and put forward tangible solutions.

But as President Macron stressed in his speech before the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2018, "the time when a club of rich countries could alone define the world's balances is long gone."

That is why he decided to make the French G7 Presidency in 2019 an opportunity to adjust the format of the group, involving: i) major democracies with major regional influence; ii) African partners to build an equal partnership; and iii) key representatives of civil society, with

the aim of forming coalitions around projects and producing solutions to combat all forms of inequality more effectively and tangibly.

The following partners will be involved in the Leaders' Summit in Biarritz, as they were in preparatory events:

### • Four major partners committed to protection of the planet and digital transformation

- South Africa and its President, Cyril Ramaphosa;
- Australia and its Prime Minister, Scott Morrison;
- Chile and its President, Sebastián Piñera;
- India and its Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

These four great democracies have taken part in the G7 preparatory meetings and have been invited to Biarritz to support initiatives aimed at enhancing protection of fundamental freedoms in the context of the digital revolution and artificial intelligence, and protecting the planet, with an emphasis on biodiversity, global warming and the oceans. Chile, as host of the upcoming COP25 in December 2019, will be a key ally.

### • Six African partners to build an equal partnership

The fight against inequality cannot be fought without Africa, the continent most affected by global imbalances. The participation of African countries is particularly important as Africa is an ally in our defence of multilateralism and calls for a balanced partnership to address demographic, economic and climate challenges.

In addition to South Africa, four countries with a key role in promoting multilateral cooperation have been invited to Biarritz, as they were to several preparatory meetings:

- Burkina Faso and its President, Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, this year chairing the G5 Sahel;
- Egypt and its President, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, current Chairperson of the African Union;

- Senegal and its President, Macky Sall, currently chairing the Heads of State or Government Orientation Committee of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD, the African Union development agency);
- Rwanda and its President, Paul Kagame, 2018 chair of the African Union.

Moussa Faki, as Chair of the African Union Commission, will also attend the Summit.

This format will help identify new solutions to two key challenges for African political and economic stability: the situation in the Sahel, a region where all the challenges the continent faces intersect, and promotion of women's entrepreneurship across the whole continent.



Emmanuel Macron, President of France, next to Moussa FAKI, Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

### • A G7 open to key civil society stakeholders

The G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which is made up of leading figures in the fight against violence and discrimination against women, promoting girls' education, and fostering women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship, will submit proposals to the President Macron at the Élysée Palace on 23 August which will feed into the discussions at the Biarritz Summit.

The French G7 Presidency is also building on the recommendations of the G7 Engagement Groups: young people (Youth 7), women (Women 7), non-governmental organizations (Civil 7), trade unions (Labour 7), employers (Business 7), think tanks (Think tank 7), academies of science (Science 7), lawyers (Lawyers 7) and universities (Universities 7). The latter two were launched during France's G7 Presidency.

Lastly, solutions promoted and implemented by local stakeholders from Biarritz, the Basque country, the Pyrénées-Atlantiques Department, and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region, will be highlighted. Three debates have already been organized in the Basque country on the themes of combating inequality and protection of biodiversity and oceans.



G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, on the 19th of February 2019



# Biarritz Summit

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF THE BIARRITZ SUMMIT, 24-26 AUGUST 2019

### SATURDAY, 24 AUGUST 2019

**19:30:**  
Greeting of G7 leaders by the President of the French Republic

**20:30:**  
Informal dinner for G7 Heads of State and Government

### SUNDAY, 25 AUGUST 2019

**09:30 – 11:00:**  
Working session – International economy/ Trade, and talks on the international security agenda (format: G7)

**11:15:**  
Bilateral meetings

**12:45:**  
Greeting of the leaders of the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the International Labour Organization, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the African Union and the African Development Bank by the President of the Republic

**13:00 – 14:30:**  
Working lunch – The fight against inequality (format: G7 + 6 international organization (UN, World Bank, OECD, WTO, ILO, IMF))

**14:00:**  
Presentation of the report by the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council by the Executive Director of UN Women, Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, and Nobel Prize winners Dr Denis Mukwege and Ms Nadia Murad, members of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council

**14:45:**  
Greeting of the leaders of African international organizations (AfDB, AU) and of Burkina Faso, Egypt, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa by the President of the Republic

**15:00 – 16:30:**  
Working session – The G7 partnership with Africa - Format: G7 + Burkina Faso, Egypt, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa + 5 international organizations (UN, World Bank, AU, AfDB, IMF)

**16:45:**  
Press briefing on the Sahel

**17:15:**  
Press briefing on the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative

**17:00 – 18:30:**  
Bilateral meetings

**19:15:**  
Greeting of the leaders of Spain, Australia, Chile and India by the President of the Republic

**19:30:**  
Family photo of the Heads of Delegation attending the G7 Summit

**20:45:**  
Dinner in honour of the Heads of Delegation attending the G7 Summit and their spouses

### MONDAY, 26 AUGUST 2019

**09:00 – 10:00:**  
Bilateral meetings

**10:00 – 11:30:**  
Working session – Climate, biodiversity, oceans (format: G7 + Australia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Egypt, India, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa + 5 international organizations (UN, World Bank, OECD, AU, AfDB) + 3 civil society representatives (One Planet Lab))

**12:00 – 13:00:**  
Bilateral meetings

**13:00:**  
Working lunch – Digital transformation (format: G7 + Australia, Chile, India and South Africa + OECD)

**14:45 – 15:00:**  
G7 closing session (format: G7)

**15:00:**  
Closing press conference by the President of the French Republic and press conferences by other G7 leaders

## MAIN FOCUSES OF THE BIARRITZ SUMMIT

France has focused its G7 Presidency on one goal: providing tangible responses to the great challenges of our times to have an impact and benefit citizens.

### PLANNED G7 DELIVERABLES

(further information on these deliverables will be provided in Biarritz based on the discussions between the leaders)

#### • The Biarritz Partnership for Gender Equality

The law is one of the tools available to governments to advance equality between men and women. That is why the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council was tasked with identifying the most effective legislative measures worldwide to further the cause. At the Summit, the countries that join the Biarritz Partnership will undertake to adopt at least one of these 70 laws or public policies identified by the Advisory Council and to report back next year.

For further information on the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council and its members, visit: <https://www.elysee.fr/en/g7/advisory-council>



G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, on the 19th of February 2019

#### • The global Fund for victims of sexual violence related to conflict

When they received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018, Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad highlighted the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war. The G7 will provide both political and financial support to the Fund promoted by the two laureates, in order to help thousands of survivors to recover.

#### • A renewed partnership with Africa

Fostering women's entrepreneurship: African women are the leading force for innovation and job creation on the continent, but their initiatives are currently undermined by the difficulty of accessing bank credit. The financing gap of African women's business projects is estimated at \$42 billion. The French G7 Presidency aims to lift these barriers to women's entrepreneurship in Africa by supporting the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, which will use a guarantee mechanism to radically reduce the cost of accessing credit for women. The monitoring of this programme's implementation will be carried out by a committee of African businesswomen, led by Angélique Kidjo, an artist who has been working to support African female entrepreneurs for many years.

#### • A Partnership for the Sahel

In the Sahel, all the challenges faced by Africa intersect, including insecurity and terrorism, weak State institutions, the demographic explosion and the impact of climate change. The Sahel is also a region on our doorstep, the destabilization of which directly affects our own security. That is why Germany and France are proposing an enhanced international commitment to the Sahel in the G7 framework, in liaison with regional countries and the G5 Sahel in particular. This Partnership will seek to strengthen support to the national security forces of the region's States and will be combined with development efforts under the Sahel Alliance, which all G7 leaders will be encouraged to join.

#### • The Charter on Biodiversity

The Charter on Biodiversity, signed by all G7 Environment Ministers in Metz, will be presented for adoption by the leaders in Biarritz. This Charter should send a strong signal on the acknowledgment of the warning from IPBES scientists in May, and enshrine a commitment to take action to stop the erosion of biodiversity that threatens our planet. It opens the way for major progress at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, which France will be hosting in Marseille in June 2020, and then COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity that will be held in China at the end of that year.

### INITIATIVES SUPPORTED UNDER THE FRENCH G7 PRESIDENCY

Because only joint action can address today's major challenges, France supports initiatives that join the forces of the G7 members, partner countries and civil society stakeholders.

#### • Multilateral dialogue to combat inequality

While the major multilateral agreements and texts which govern development efforts globally all advocate combating inequality, the action of international organizations is all too often limited to the sole field in which each is competent. At the G7, France expects commitments from the international organizations to encourage enhanced dialogue between them, to ensure they promote greater compliance with international labour norms and that they work to foster social protection. The aim is to strengthen the coherence of their policies to better combat inequality.

#### • Combating the major pandemics

The Summit will be an opportunity to generate momentum for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The G7 was a driving force for the creation of the Global Fund, which has already saved 27 million lives. The Replenishment Conference will be held in Lyon on 9 and 10 October. The aim is to save 16 million lives, prevent 234 million infections and eradicate these diseases.

#### • Protecting our planet

Green Climate Fund: Because it helps vulnerable societies adapt to the inevitable impact of climate change, the Green Climate Fund is an essential tool in leveraging finance to support the climate. The French Presidency of the G7 is taking steps to ensure that the replenishment conference, scheduled for autumn 2019, is a success.

Three groups of public and private stakeholders are working in key sectors to fight global warming:

- Coalition of maritime transport companies for the climate and biodiversity: Although the maritime transport sector currently only accounts for 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions, this figure is likely to rise to 17% by 2050 if significant action is not taken. Maritime transport also has a direct impact on marine environments, due to collisions with marine mammals, sound pollution and threats for sea life. This coalition, led by Bertrand Piccard (Chairman of Solar Impulse) and Rodolphe Saadé (Chairman and CEO of CMA CGM) within the G7 framework, brings together a dozen maritime transport companies seeking to reduce their climate impact and minimize damage to marine biodiversity.

- Coalition for the energy efficiency of the cooling sector: Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are mainly used as refrigerants in air conditioning, are powerful greenhouse gases. Demand for air conditioning and cooling appliances is booming (according to some statistics, 10 air conditioners will be sold per second for the next 30 years). In this context, improving energy efficiency and swiftly phasing out HFCs, in accordance with the Montreal Protocol, could help prevent up to 1°C of global warming and result in considerable savings. The G7 will launch a coalition bringing together businesses and Heads of State and Government. One of the coalition's main goals will be to double the energy efficiency of cooling systems produced by businesses in the coalition by 2050.

- Coalition for sustainable fashion: The fashion industry accounts for 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions, with textile production resulting in 1.2 billion tonnes of greenhouse



gas emissions every year. This is more than all of the emissions produced by international flights and maritime transport combined. The sector is also responsible for 17% of industrial water pollution worldwide, and the microfibers shed by synthetic fabrics are responsible for up to 35% of plastic pollution in oceans. Major companies representing 25% of the fashion sector in terms of volume, led by François-Henri Pinault, will sign a Fashion Pact, committing to tangible steps towards reducing their environmental impact, particularly in terms of ocean pollution.

• **Carbon Neutrality Coalition:** To minimize global warming, we must all aim to be carbon neutral by 2050. This is the goal of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition, which was launched at the first One Planet Summit in Paris in December 2017. Currently, 19 countries and 32 cities have committed to producing long-term strategies that are consistent with the goals set by the Paris Agreement. At the Biarritz Summit, France will build on its past and current efforts to support carbon neutrality by 2050 at the European level, by encouraging more countries to adopt this vital goal.

### • **Making democratic values central to the digital transformation**

**Charter for an Open, Free and Safe Internet:** To fight hate speech, cyber bullying and online terrorism, the French G7 Presidency calls for the joint adoption of a Charter for an Open, Free and Safe Internet by governments, the private sector and civil society. This charter aims to create a collective movement guaranteeing transparency and cooperation for the safe and positive use of the Internet. It builds on the Christchurch call by widening the scope of commitments made by platforms, particularly in terms of taking down content, moderating, ensuring transparency and supporting victims. The Charter will be signed by major digital stakeholders in Paris on 23 August, before being presented to the G7 States in Biarritz.



Elysée Palace, press conference after the launching of the Christchurch Call with Jacinda ARDERN, Prime minister of New Zealand.

**International Group of Experts on Artificial Intelligence:** Like all forms of major technological progress, artificial intelligence (AI) raises ethical issues and challenges in the fields of employment, education, health, defence and security. A group of independent experts shedding light on this topic, similar to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, would help ensure this technology is developed to serve humanity. Given this context, the French G7 Presidency suggests creating an International Group of Experts on Artificial Intelligence to better understand the changes this technology will give rise to, guide work led by research organizations and businesses, and promote a humanist vision of AI.

**Partnership for information and democracy:** Freedom of opinion and expression, which underpin democracy, are facing both political and technological challenges (manipulation of information, radicalization of debates, censorship, etc.). Nineteen States, led by Reporters Without Borders and supported by the French President, are prepared to commit to defending the information model that is central to our democracies. An intergovernmental text has been written for this purpose. This text acknowledges the global communication space as a common good of humankind, sets out responsibilities for States and Internet stakeholders, and creates a monitoring body to ensure that principles are complied with. The French Presidency of the G7 will call on countries invited to the Summit to support this initiative for independent, diverse and reliable information.

### • **Mobilizing the private sector to fight inequality**

**Business for Inclusive Growth (B4IG) coalition:** Business for Inclusive Growth is a unique coalition of companies that are pioneers in the fight against inequality. They have committed to working together and with governments to speed up the transition towards a fairer and more inclusive market economy. Launched by the French President within the G7 framework, this initiative is led by Emmanuel Faber (Chairman and CEO of Danone) with support from the OECD. It brings together some 30 multinational enterprises, representing over 3,5 million employees worldwide. It aims to step up efforts by businesses to support equal opportunity, fight interregional and gender inequality, and develop synergies with public policies by G7 governments. On 23 August, CEOs from these companies will put forward a Business Pledge, where they commit to stepping up efforts to fight inequality within their businesses and the regions they operate in. They will also present investments and inclusive growth actions that they will bring to the platform B4IG. A project incubator and finance forum will be launched to develop innovative blended finance instruments, particularly results-based payment, with a view to co-financing projects that fight exclusion and poverty.



## Regions committed to finding solutions

Locally, the regions hosting the Summit are ensuring their voices are heard by promoting solutions implemented in regions to fight inequality and putting forward recommendations to the G7 leaders. The involvement of local representatives and civil society in hosting the Summit is visible in three forums organized by local authorities and one major event run by the Surfrider Foundation Europe:

### THREE REGIONAL FORUMS:

#### FORUM ON REGIONAL SOLUTIONS FOR GENDER EQUALITY

(14 June, Bayonne)

A key priority of the French G7 Presidency, gender equality, was the focus of the event organized in Bayonne on 14 June and steered by the Development Council of the Basque Country (CPBD). Round tables were held on such themes as women's sports, fighting violence against women and female entrepreneurs.

#### REGIONAL DIFFERENCES – LOCAL MOVEMENTS WITH INTERNATIONAL POTENTIAL

(28 June, Saint-Palais)

Another event involving socio-economic stakeholders and a wide variety of associations was held on 28 June on the theme of regional equality. This debate, organized by the Pyrénées-Atlantiques Departmental Council under the aegis of the Regional Promotion

Committee, a multi-partner G7 forum, was held in Saint-Palais and attended by local elected officials.

The aim was to discuss regions, their differences and successful experiences. Several regional stakeholders discussed regional traits that explained their successful experiences in industry, sport, cooperative projects, innovation and artificial intelligence.

#### “THE OCEAN / OUR FUTURE” FORUM

(17 August, Cité de l’Océan, Biarritz)

On Saturday, 17 August, a series of round tables on the ocean were held at the Cité de l’Océan in Biarritz, following opening speeches by climatologist Hervé Le Treut and author Hugo Verlomme. The forum was an opportunity to focus on specific topics such as the ocean and health, the ocean as a resource, and the protection of the ocean.

In addition, at 6pm on Saturday, 24 August, the City of Biarritz will hold a specific evening event at Les Halles for accredited Summit journalists.

### A MAJOR EVENT ON THE OCEAN, RUN BY THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION EUROPE:

From 20 to 23 August, before the Biarritz Summit, the Surfrider Foundation Europe is hosting the Ocean Pavilion in Biarritz and Anglet, to underline the urgent need to act to protect oceans.

Four themes will be addressed as part of a four-day programme of debates and workshops involving experts and businesses in the fields of tourism, sport, innovation, energy and the environment.

- **Day 1 - Tuesday, 20 August:**  
Ocean, sports and sustainable tourism
- **Day 2 - Wednesday, 21 August:**  
Ocean and biodiversity
- **Day 3 - Thursday, 22 August:**  
Ocean and plastic pollution
- **Day 4 - Friday, 23 August:**  
Ocean and climate

The full programme is available at [www.surfrider.eu](http://www.surfrider.eu).  
Conferences will also be livestreamed on the Surfrider Europe YouTube channel.

### PROMOTING THE NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION AT THE IRATY PRESS CENTRE:

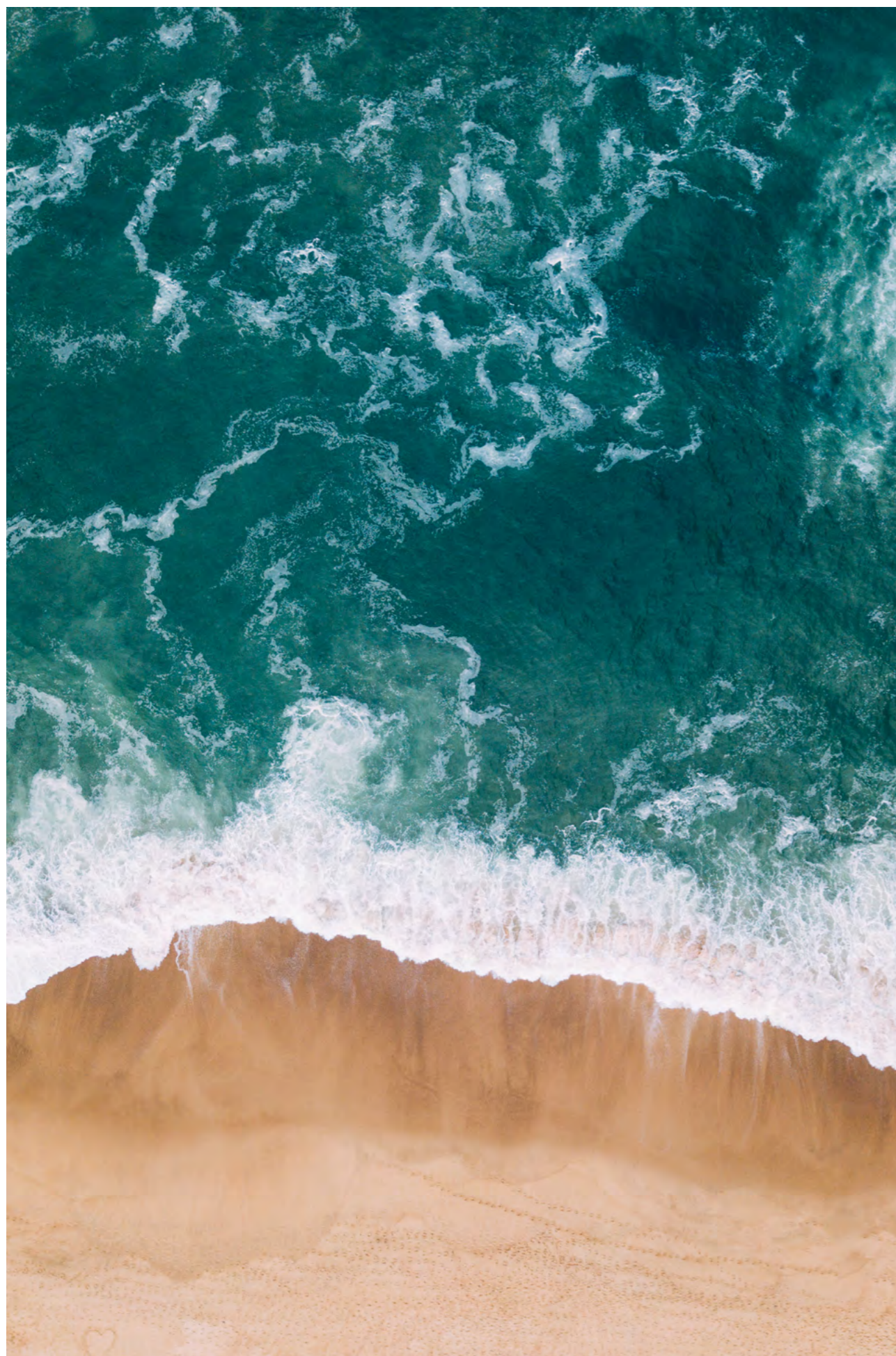
The Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region will be present at the press centre, where the Summit host region will be showcased in an area spanning 600m<sup>2</sup>.

Tribute will be paid to local expertise, tourist attractions and regional cuisine. Highlights include items produced by “living heritage” businesses and emblematic regional companies (the Voltaire smart saddle, Hoopal fabrics, Boardriders surfboards, Don Quichosse espadrilles, Limoges porcelain, Nontron knives, etc.). A photo exhibition will feature work by Thomas Lodin, Adrien Ballanger and César Ancelle Hansen. Lastly, a stand will promote regional products.

To showcase efforts to fight inequality caused by climate change, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region will promote local and regional initiatives and best practices. Throughout the G7 Summit, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine village will host an exhibition on the ecological and energy transition, and hold conferences and presentations by innovative regional businesses.







**Conference schedule  
(at the entrance of the Halle d'Iraty)**

**SATURDAY, 24 AUGUST 2019**

**From 10:00:**  
Opening (by invitation)

**12:00 - 12:45:**  
Responsible tourism: Nine cities, including Biarritz and Bordeaux, commit to the ISO 20121 standard

**17:00 - 18:00:**  
Participative financing: how can new models involve the public to create a more virtuous economy

**SUNDAY, 25 AUGUST 2019**

**12:00 - 12:45:**  
Preserving the coastline

**17:00 - 18:00:**  
Agro-ecology: towards a sustainable transition and healthier food

**MONDAY, 26 AUGUST 2019**

**12:00 - 12:45:**  
Leveraging investment funds from the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region for the energy transition

List of innovative stakeholders and businesses:  
ADV Tech (Mérignac), Aquassay (Limoges), Aquiti Gestion (Pessac), Awake (Paris), Beyond the Sea (La Teste-de-Buch), By the Wave (Hossegor), Casagec Ingénierie (Anglet), Dominique Sigaud, Ekosea (Anglet), Facil'iti (Limoges), Félix Noblia (Bergouey-Vielle-nave), Gaïactica (Bordeaux), GEOSAT (Pessac), Groupe Voltaire (Bidart), I Clean My Sea (Bidart), Inergys (Limoges), IOT4CLIMATE, Kompaï Robotics (Bidart), Kupela (Anglet), Laboratoires de Biarritz, Loeva (Bayonne), Lucine (Bordeaux), Lumo (Bordeaux), Matter'up (Saint-Geours-de-Maremne), My Olympe (Nousty), Nobatek Inef 4 (Anglet), Odontella (Bordeaux), Pragma Industrie (Biarritz), Recycler Innovation (Guéret), Scale (Bayonne), Terra Energies (Bordeaux), Suez Rivages Pro Tech (Bidart), Suez Water Family (Biarritz), Terega (Pau), Université de Bordeaux, Wave Bumper (Bayonne), Winereef (Ciboure).

For more information, contact the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region press officer:  
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## An environmentally responsible G7

For the French Presidency of the G7, fighting inequality is a priority. In particular, this commitment concerns inequality between men and women, and inequality caused by harm to the environment.

In keeping with these underlying goals, the French G7 Presidency is keen to ensure that the Biarritz Summit and the ministerial meetings throughout 2019 reflect these dual concerns.

### It has made significant efforts to:

- Obtain ISO 20121 certification for the Biarritz Summit. Most of the G7 ministerial meetings were certified ISO 20121, demonstrating our strong commitment to sustainable development;

- Create an “Equality at a Major Event” label that applies to all G7 ministerial meetings and the Biarritz Summit. All events to date have received this label, committing through very tangible actions covering the 10 fields required by the label.

### ISO 20121 CERTIFICATION

France’s desire to make the G7 Summit sustainable by obtaining ISO 20121 certification follows on from actions to organize the COP21 event in Paris in 2015. We wish to maintain and expand these efforts, particularly in view of the 2024 Olympic Games, which will take place in France.

Our efforts to obtain ISO 20121 certification for the Biarritz Summit are guided by the following priorities:

**1. Controlling the ecological footprint** by limiting and precisely calculating the G7 Summit’s greenhouse gas emissions as well as processing and recycling resources and waste: zero disposable plastics, reuse and food donations, use of filtered water, cardboard cups, etc.

Moreover, an ambitious carbon offsetting project, situated near the Summit venue, is being implemented in the Hergarai Valley in the Basque country. This reforestation project, which also includes a biodiversity dimension, with the reintroduction of the local black bee, and an economic dimension, concerning the wood energy sector in a short supply chain, which will be the first French project to receive the “low-carbon” label.

An international offsetting programme is also being launched in Mali, in partnership with the non-profit organization GERES.

**2. Fostering equality and inclusion** by ensuring balanced representation of men and women during the Summit, combating stereotypes and mainstreaming the issue through all ministerial meetings and at the G7 Summit, as well as drawing on the work of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council. A support unit has been created in case of discrimination, and partnerships are being encouraged with female entrepreneurs, such as the Basque textile creators from Filao FABRIC. All publics, including young people, people with disabilities, and members of civil society, are invited to contribute to discussions and preparation of working sessions.

**3. Changing internal practices** by encouraging the sharing of a guide on best management practices with all those involved in events.

**4. Promoting regions and local initiatives** by getting local businesses, producers and entrepreneurs involved in organizing the summit, giving them an opportunity to showcase their expertise and promote their regions. A map is being created to help journalists dine locally in 600 partner restaurants in the Basque country, and a local caterer has been taken on to offer high-quality products from short supply chains.

### GREEN SOLUTIONS OF OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

To attain our ISO 20121 certification and Equality at a Major Event label goals, several sponsors and partners have provided invaluable support:

- Orange, which has made major efforts to develop and secure local infrastructures;

- Engie, which has provided green energy and low environmental impact solutions (a solar field powering electric trambuses – provided by the Urban Community of the Pays Basque with the support of the Syndicat des Mobilités – for journalists and the press centre; and 200 hydrogen-powered bikes – provided by the Biarritz company Pragma Industries – for accredited journalists at the Summit, to make it easier for them to travel around the different Summit zones, with the support of the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region);

- L’Oréal, which has provided its assistance to the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which has made recommendations over the past year to the G7 leaders on how to make gender equality a great global clause;

- Suez, which has helped to reduce waste and set up an extensive waste sorting system in the Summit venues, but also a waste collection and recycling plan to convert waste for the benefit of the region;

- Edenred, which has provided restaurant passes accepted by a network of 600 local restaurants as part of a “Welcome to the G7 in the Basque country” campaign, backed by the cities of Biarritz, Anglet and Bayonne and with the support of professional associations. This initiative helps to encourage people to try Basque cuisine and products and also to reduce food waste.



In addition to efforts to shrink the G7's ecological footprint, organizers took advantage of a low-carbon label in France in April 2019, overseen by the Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition and the Ministry of Agriculture. The first low-carbon label will be awarded to a carbon offsetting project in the Hergarai Valley of the Basque country. This project will receive significant support from La Poste Group, which has been carbon neutral since 2012 and was closely involved in the creation of the low-carbon label.

This voluntary offsetting project in France is reinforced by an international offsetting project conducted in Mali by the non-profit organization GERES.

All of these initiatives have been showcased to raise the awareness of G7 delegations. France has suggested adding to these by signing a "responsible delegation charter" including specific commitments.

It asked delegations to participate in one of the two offsetting projects.

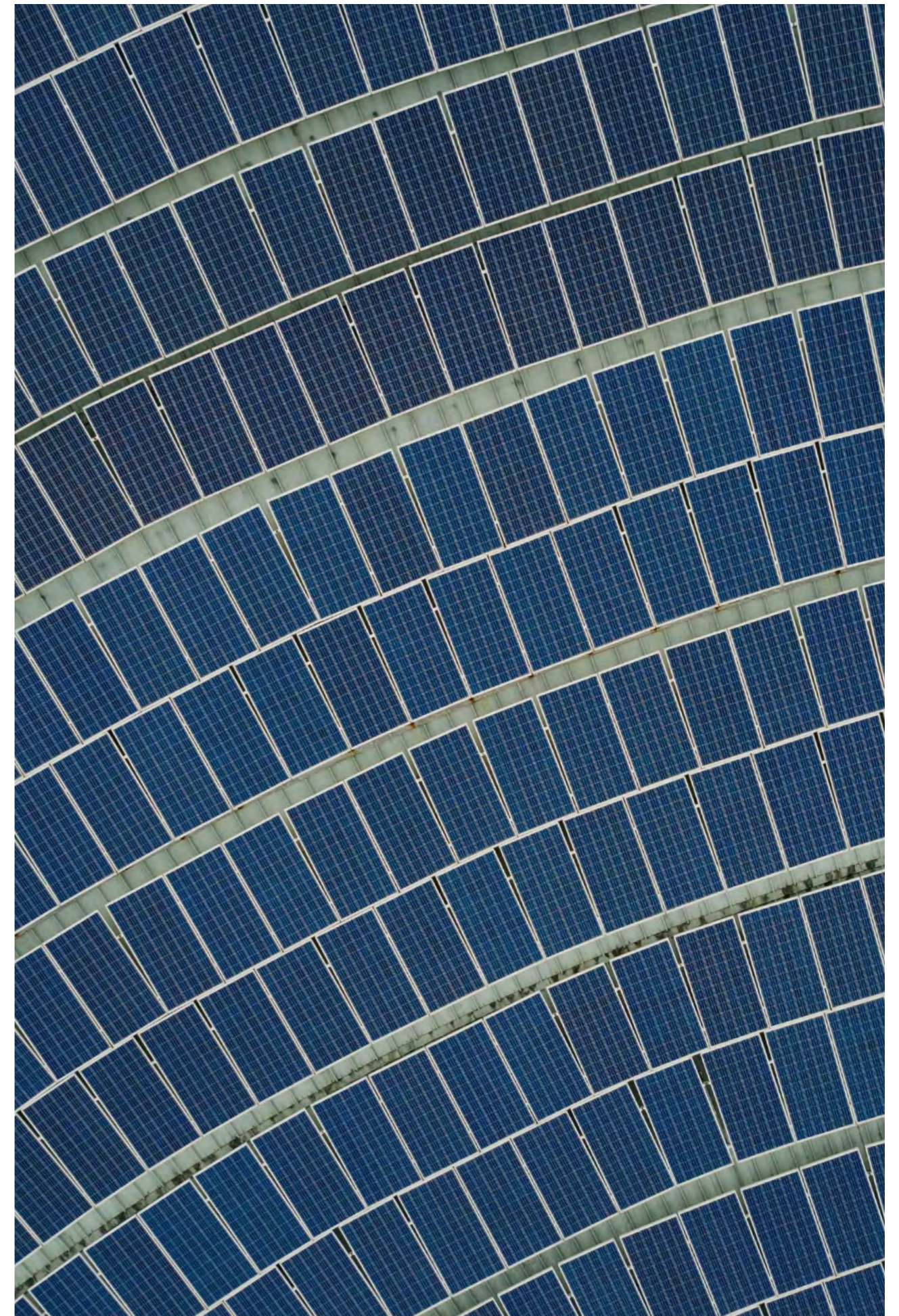
#### **AN AREA FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTRE**

All of these responsible projects implemented under France's G7 Presidency will be presented throughout the Summit in an area dedicated to responsible events.

Located in the International Press Centre in the Halle d'Iraty, several main themes and initiatives will be highlighted and presented by our partners:

- The first environmentally friendly watches, made using plastic collected from oceans, and gifted to delegates;
- A presentation of the responsible services provided by the local catering company Instant Traiteur;
- Efforts to combat food waste through donations to local associations;
- The minimization and recycling of all types of waste; presentation of the batiRIM innovative solution;
- Carbon offsetting projects in the Basque country's Hergarai Valley and Mali;
- Presentation of the "Equality at a Major Event" label;
- Environmentally friendly transport: tram-buses connected to a solar farm and electric shuttle buses;
- Launch of the Sustainable International Destinations initiative.

For further information: <http://iso20121.fr/>





# Annex - The G7: Members, history and workings



## WHAT IS THE G7?

The Group of 7 (G7) is an informal group of seven countries, the Heads of State and Government of which meet at an annual summit. It has no legal existence, permanent secretariat or official members. It is the Presidency, which is held by one of the seven countries in turn every year, that provides the resources required for the group's work.

## WHO ARE THE G7 MEMBERS?

The members of the G7 are Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The group started out as the G6 at the first summit in Rambouillet (France) in 1975, before becoming the G7 when Canada joined the following year.

The G7 members currently represent close to 40% of global GDP and 10% of the world's population. When the group was created in 1975, they represented 70% of global GDP.

The European Union was gradually involved in the G7 starting from 1977. It now takes part in all discussions and is represented jointly by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.

## WHY WAS THE G7 CREATED?

The G7 was created on France's initiative following the first oil crisis. It was conceived as an informal forum for dialogue between the leading economic powers at the time, with the primary aim of acting as a forum to coordinate economic and financial policies free of any specific protocol. Over the years, the work of the G7 has expanded to wider issues where collective action is essential: peace and security, counter-terrorism, development, education, health, the environment and climate change, for example.

## WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF THE G7 FORUM?

The G7 offers a unique framework: its select and informal membership allows the leaders of the seven powers to engage in frank and direct dialogue. The effectiveness of this dialogue draws on a set of shared values within the group: democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, free trade, and respect for international law. This possibility of free expression and these shared values make it possible to tackle sensitive issues that are not always consensual.

## WHAT IS THE LINK BETWEEN THE G7 AND THE G20?

The G20, which was launched in 1997 at Finance Minister level following the Asian financial crisis, has since 2008 and the global financial crisis brought together Heads of State and Government. The G20 has 20 members, including the European Union and 19 States: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Its discussions mainly concern subjects relating to global economic governance. The G20's greater diversity compared to the G7 makes it difficult to achieve a high level of ambition. It does, however, give it greater legitimacy.

## THE G7 PROCESS

The G7 culminates annually in the leaders' Summit, which in 2019 will be held in Biarritz, from 24 to 26 August. But the G7 is more than just a short Summit: many preparatory events take place throughout the year, including meetings of experts, working sessions with civil society and meetings of G7 ministers.

Negotiating sessions will also be held several times over the year, bringing together what are known as "sherpas", representing their own leaders, supported in turn by their "sous-sherpas".

## G7 RESULTS

The G7 is not just a discussion forum. It has been behind very concrete achievements including the creation of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Muskoka Initiative to reduce maternal and infant mortality.



Meeting with the G7 Sherpas on the 13th of June of 2019.

## PREVIOUS G7 SUMMITS IN FRANCE

France has already hosted the Summit six times:

1975

### **Reform of the international monetary system**

The Rambouillet G6 Summit in 1975 was launched on the initiative of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing to reach a common position to address the first oil crisis. The Rambouillet Declaration was adopted at the end of the Summit. It showed from the outset that the members of the G6 were aware of their responsibility in the development of the poorest countries. This Summit, which notably produced an agreement between France and the United States on reforming the international monetary system, was considered a success by its members and has therefore been repeated each year.

1982

### **Assistance to developing countries**

The Versailles Summit in 1982 was the first to be organized during the Presidency of François Mitterrand, who received the foreign delegations at the Grand Trianon. The economy, international trade, energy issues and information and communication technologies were on the agenda. International issues such as the Falklands crisis and the Lebanon War were also discussed in Versailles. A consensus emerged in Versailles as to the need to step up development assistance, and support for developing countries has been central to talks ever since.

1989

### **Recognition of shared values**

The Summit of the Arch in 1989 was held at the Arche de La Défense near Paris, which was inaugurated for the occasion. The Summit coincided with the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution, an opportunity for participants to reaffirm their commitment to a foundation of shared values, including democracy, human rights, the free market and international law. The issues of developing countries' debt and climate change were central to talks. The Summit also saw the creation of one of the major

international security achievements of the G7: the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

1996

### **Globalization for the benefit of all**

The Lyon Summit was held in 1996, during the Presidency of Jacques Chirac. He decided to make the Summit an opportunity to promote globalization for the benefit of all. An agreement was reached on debt alleviation for the poorest countries. Lastly, measures were adopted to coordinate the fight against drugs and organized crime.

2003

### **The environment and inclusion of african countries**

The Évian Summit in 2003 was the first to expand Summit invitations to include African countries. Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa were invited to join the discussions. The environment was also high on the agenda, and action plans were drawn up on water, health and famine in Africa. The shrinking of the ozone layer was also a key concern.

2011

### **Commitment for democracy**

The Deauville Summit, held under the Presidency of Nicolas Sarkozy in 2011, took place a few months after the Arab Springs began. They became the central subject of the talks, giving rise to the Deauville Partnership: enhanced economic support and funding of \$70 billion were adopted in order to support economic transitions in Arab countries.



