The European Union and the United Nations Organization — Working Together Towards Achieving Common Goals

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The Second World War left behind a destroyed continent, speaking human, material and economic point of view; that was the reason why states tried to find prevent future conflicts a way to collaborating through international intergovernmental organizations. Thus, after the Second World War, a series of intergovernmental organizations appeared, among which subjects of our analysis: the United Nations Organization¹ and, later, the European

Communities² which are usually now referred to as the European Union³.

In this paper we will try first to draw a parallel between the two IGOs and then we will present the participation of the European Union and its member states to the United Nations organs and the main domains of activity common to the two entities, using as an important source the data offered through a common EU@UN website launched on 23 January 2002 and aimed to increase understanding of the EU activities at the UN.

1. Establishment and Objectives of the United Nations Organization and of the European Union – Overview

According to the international law and doctrine, an international organization is a free will based association of at least three states, which has common objectives and goals enshrined in a multilateral treaty and, also, an institutional structure helping the organization function. The international organization, once obtains these elements present, legal personality, distinct from that of the states which created it, becoming a derived subject of international law. The tendency of the institutionalizing the international relations which appeared especially after the Second World War is explained by the necessity for the international society to be organized, as a natural reaction to the anarchy resulted from conflicts.⁴ The UN, including its 17 specialized institutions,⁵ and later the EC were created with the main goal of preventing the conflicts and maintaining peace in the world by teaching states how to collaborate and by offering them an organized framework to this purpose.

The doctrine summarizes the reasons of the international organizations' proliferation and diversification to three⁶:

- the need to prevent war and to regulate its rules, especially due to the discovery of new mass-destruction weapons;
- the interdependence existent in the process of nations' development (commerce, monetary and financial relations, technology transfer, regional development);
- the global dimension of the world problems which need to be dealt with in a global manner (increasing demography, poverty, food, environment, natural resources, cosmic space etc.).

So, the international organizations have the essential role of providing the means,

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mechanisms and instruments for the states' cooperation in more and more domains and forms and we may say that they have proved to be extremely useful to the international community, the most obvious role being the one related to the creation of a legal order for the international relations.

The two international organizations which are the subject of our analysis make no exception to the above-mentioned realities.

The UNO was established in 1945 as an universal cooperation organization both as to their state parties and the domains it is involved in, its main goal being that of maintaining international peace and security. The UN functions as "centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends". The Charter also provides for that one of the UN's purposes is to "develop friendly relations among nations ... and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace" and "to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion".7

The European Communities, on the other hand, are international integration organizations⁸, established as follows: first of them in 1951 – the European Community of Steel and Coal⁹ and, then, the European Economic Community¹⁰ and the European Community for Atomic Energy¹¹ in 1957.

The 1957 Treaty of Rome, which laid the foundations for the European Community, was a milestone in the process of Western European integration. It looked forward an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe and set out the basis for a common market and an economic and monetary union. The EC continues to exist today as a vehicle for these policies. The success of this project, which saw its membership increase and its economic importance in the world grow, is a unique example of integration between sovereign states and goes far beyond normal intergovernmental cooperation. Unlike the

UN, NATO or the OECD, the European venture was, from the outset, conceived as a supranational structure with institutions, including a Council, Commission, a Court of Justice, a Court of Auditors and a directly elected Parliament. The European Parliament has an important role in the decision-making process notably in the approval of legislation and adoption of the budget which gives the Community its own resources. European Community legislation has precedence over national legislations and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Justice. In 1992, building on the success of the EC, European leaders signed the Treaty of Maastricht which established the European Union. This Treaty significantly deepened the relationship between their countries in the areas of monetary policy and justice and home affairs. It also confirmed the Union's desire to assert its identity on the international scene, in particular through the implementation of a common foreign and security policy, including the progressive framing of a common defence policy. In December 2000, the EU Summit in Nice reaffirmed that the EU should quickly be made operational in the framework of the common European Security and Defence Policy. The European Council, bringing together the Heads of States or Governments of the EU member states, provides the Union the necessary impetus for development and defines the general political guidelines. The Union's principal decisionmaking body is the Council of the European Union. The Council is composed of one representative at ministerial level from each Member State, who is empowered to commit Government and who is therefore national politically aceountable to his parliament. Every six months one of the fifteen Member States takes over the Presidency of the Council and its preparatory bodies. The *Presidency* ensures follow-up of policy decisions taken by the Council. It also represents the Union in Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) matters and is responsible for the implementation of CFSP decisions. On this basis, it expresses the position of the Union in these matters in

international organisations and at international conferences. The Presidency is assisted in its tasks by the High Representative for the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy, and by the General Secretariat of the Council under his responsibility. The European Commission, comprising 20 Commissioners, including at least one from each Member State, is the EU policy executive and takes collectively. It has exclusive powers for initiating policy proposals across the whole spectrum of Community matters negotiates bilateral treaties and international commitments on behalf of the Community. The European Commission is fully associated in the Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy. In the UN the Commission represents the European Community. The European Parliament has wide powers in the decisionmaking process with regard to Community legislation, agreements and the budget. The presidency consults it on the main aspects and basic choices of the CFSP. And the European Parliament follows EU external policies closely, in particular through its Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights and the CFSP. expresses itself through non-binding resolutions on important international issues, many with UN aspects. During 2002-2003, the 'Convention on the Future of Europe' completed its work to draft a new EU constitution, which is being debated in a EU Intergovernmental Conference. agreement has been reached and all EU Member States ratify the new Treaty, new provisions relating to institutions and external policies are expected to take effect as from $2006.^{12}$

2. The European Union's Participation in the United Nations Organization's Organs and Activities – General Aspects¹³

As we will notice, The European Union and the United Nations Organization are very much alike when it comes to analyzing their efforts aimed at achieving peace on international level.

Thus, the European Union is committed to insuring a stable and peaceful Europe while building its presence on the world stage to contribute more effectively to peace and development across the globe. Having started in the 1950s as a project to bind Europe together through economic integration, aiming to prevent future war, the EU has grown into a significant world actor, the biggest trading entity in the world with a single market as well as a single currency for 12 member countries. The EU is also the world's largest provider of overseas development assistance, totaling some USD 35.6 billion in 2002.

In the 1990s, the EU developed a common foreign and security policy (CFSP) to match its already formidable economic clout. This led to the decision at the European Council meeting in Nice in December 2000 to include in its CFSP the progressive framing of a common defence policy, including a rapid reaction force, civilian crisis management capabilities and the creation of permanent

political and military crisis management organs.

On 16 April 2003, 10 more countries, most of them from the former Communist bloc, signed Accession Treaties and join ad the EU on 1 May 2004 — Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. In addition, Bulgaria and Romania are expected to join in 2007, and Turkey could start membership talks soon after 2004. The countries of the western Balkans may not be far behind, either. Together, the EU-25 comprises more than one eighth of all votes in United Nations General Assembly the (UNGA). Along with other European countries, almost one sixth of UN Member now align themselves with statements at the UNGA. And EU member and candidate countries account at present for a third of the UN Security Council's (UNSC) membership. These future member countries made a remarkable transition politically, economically and administratively — guided by the EU enlargement process, with the Union serving as a goal, a model and a monitor of progress. Hence, the EU is an expanding zone of peace, stability and prosperity in today's highly volatile world. The main objectives of the UN are to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, to cooperate in solving international economic social, cultural, human rights, trade and humanitarian problems and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common aims. As a consequence of the EU's own political development and very similar objectives, it is not surprising that the EU and the UN should be deepening their relationship at this time. The UN promotes the values of democracy, solidarity, sustainability, market based economy, cultural diversity and the rule of law, which are central to the EU.

Moreover, the EU makes a major contribution to the UN's activities. It works with all UN bodies, agencies and programs across virtually the whole range of UN activities, from development policy and peacemaking to humanitarian assistance, environment, human rights and culture, throughout the world. Not least, EU Member States together are the largest financial contributor to the UN system. At present, the EU-25 pay 38 % of the UN's regular budget, more than two fifths of UN peacekeeping operations and around half of all UN Member States' contributions to UN funds programs. Despite the fact that EU Member States already contribute far more to the UN than their share of the world economy, the EU as a whole decided to keep its overall financial contribution at the same level as before in the last round of UN budget negotiations in 2000. It is proud to have maintained its generous share of UN funding as a sign of its support of the UN system. Working through the UN is an EU priority. The ΕU recognizes responsibility to support and strengthen the UN in order to protect the organization's role in seeking multilateral solutions to global problems on the basis of its charter.

Drawing on well-equipped European troops from national armed forces, the EU has undertaken to create a rapid reaction force of 60 000 soldiers as part of its European security and defence policy (ESDP). Depending on circumstances, this force can be made

available to provide prompt assistance for UN peacekeeping operations, like the 'Artemis' EU military operation launched in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in June 2003 in response to the UN Secretary General Annan's request (and as authorised by UNSC Resolution 1484). This EU operation reflects the contribution the ESDP can make to crisis management in cooperation with the UN.

The EU and the UN have also cooperated intensively throughout the Balkans in recent times and will continue to do so into the future, including, *inter alia*, in the UN Mission in Kosovo, where the EU is in charge of the reconstruction 'pillar', the current EU police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (based on UNSC Resolution 1396); and the ongoing EU military operation 'Concordia' in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (based on UNSC Resolution 1371) to help build peace and stabilise the political situation there.

The EU is also very grateful concerning the UN Secretary's efforts in trying to find a comprehensive solution to the issue of the divided island of Cyprus, which is due to join the EU in 2004. The EU seeks to promote an integrated follow-up to all major UN conferences, aiming to make the review and appraisal processes more rational and manageable, and to maximize the political impact of any follow-up event.¹⁴

The EU also raises UN issues of concern during its summits with major countries in the world, as and when necessary.

The presence — and the representation — of the EU at the United Nations has many faces. As only States can be Members of the UN, the Union is represented by the State holding the presidency of the EU Council, which at present rotates every six months. At the Security Council, EU positions are also represented and defended by EU Member States who are elected or permanent members. In order to ensure continuity, the EU Council has set up a Liaison Office with the UN, as part of its Secretariat. For the same purposes, the EU Council has also set up an office in Geneva.

The European Community was granted observer status at the 29th General Assembly in

1974 by Resolution 3208. It is represented by the European Commission, which has delegations that are accredited to UN bodies. The European Commission's original information office in New York officially became a Delegation to the United Nations in 1974.

As an observer within the UN General Assembly and most UN specialised agencies, the European Community has no vote as such, but is a party to more than 50 UN multilateral agreements and conventions as the only non-State participant. It has obtained a special 'full participant' status in a number of important UN conferences, as well as for example in the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and in the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF).

In 1991, the European Community was accepted as full member of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation, the first time it had been recognised as full voting member by a UN agency. The European Community speaks and votes on behalf of all EU Member States in areas where powers have been transferred to it.

far as the cooperation of EU institutions with the UN is concerned, we may add that the EU meets the UN Secretary General at ministerial level annually in New York as part of an agreed format for regular EU-UN meetings. The UN Deputy Secretary General and other senior UN officials also visit EU institutions in Brussels (where 16 UN specialised agencies, funds and programmes now have offices), Luxembourg Strasbourg regularly for policy discussions. Regular meetings of senior UN officials with the EU Council's Political Committee are foreseen. EU and UN officials liaise together more and more frequently as daily working contacts develop.

Furthermore, the visibility of the EU at the UN has been enhanced by the participation of EU Heads of State or Government in major UN conferences, and by ongoing visits of Commissioners and high-ranking EU officials to cities hosting UN bodies.

The UN Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General are also developing contacts with the European Parliament. The European Parliament, in turn, has increased the number of high-level members¹⁶ visits to the UN to attend major events.

In autumn 2003, the European Commission issued a Communication for discussion and agreement by the Council and the European Parliament entitled 'The European Union and the United Nations: the choice of multilateralism', which proposes the future course of the EU–UN relationship.

The European Council reaffirms deeply rooted commitment of the European Union to make effective multilateralism a central element of its external action. The European Council therefore welcomes the comprehensive Commission communication on 'The European Union and the United Nations: the Choice of Multilateralism' which comes at a dynamic junction in the EU-UN In this context, the European relations. Council also recalls the **EU-UN** Declaration of 24 September 2003 cooperation in crisis management, which constitutes the basis for enhanced cooperation in this area.

But how the EU coordinates its work at the UN? All EU countries are members of the UN in their own right, and many have been since the UN's foundation in 1945. The establishment of the EU's common foreign and security policy brought forward the need for EU Member States, the Council and the Commission to enhance the coordination of their actions in international organisations. The EU Treaty requires them to uphold common positions so that their collective weight can have more impact in the world. Coordination now covers the six main committees of the General Assembly and its subordinate bodies, including ECOSOC and the subordinate functional commissions. More than 1 000 internal EU coordination meetings are conducted each year in both New York and Geneva to prepare and finalise EU positions. The EU has also spoken with one voice in the follow-up of all the major conferences and summits held since the beginning of the 1990s.

As the EU's CFSP becomes a daily reality, the activities of its members on the UN Security Council increasingly take account of the EU dimension on those global security issues where the EU has a political position. Article 19 of the European Union Treaty foresees that EU 'Member States which are also members of the UN Security Council will concert and keep other Member States fully Member States which informed. permanent members of the Security Council will, in execution of their functions, ensure the defence of the positions and interests of the Union, without prejudice to their responsibilities under provisions of the UN Charter'. The Union's common viewpoint on such issues is made known publicly by joint statements delivered by the EU presidency in open meetings of the UNSC.

The role of the EU presidency is particularly important in this respect. It is responsible for day-to-day EU coordination and represents the Union in most areas of UN activity. It also represents the EU in discussions with other UN Member States, regional groups or organisations, and delivers démarches and statements on behalf of the Union.

The European Commission is actively involved at the UN, where it works with the EU presidency to represent EU views in various areas, especially development, environment and humanitarian aid. Furthermore, the European Commission has specific responsibilities to speak for the European Community in areas such as trade, fisheries and agriculture.

When the EU meets with non-EU countries or regional groupings or undertakes démarches, it often does so in the Troika format, a representative group composed of the presidency, the Council Secretariat, the

European Commission and the incoming presidency.

Through its CFSP, the EU speaks almost always with one voice at the UN General Assembly (UNGA). From globalisation and human rights, to development and disarmament, the EU aims for unanimity. And the results are clearly evidenced in EU cohesion, which has stood at around 95 % of all resolutions passed by the UNGA since the mid-1990s.

Of the 15 to 25 % of resolutions that are actually voted on at the UNGA each year, the EU votes unanimously on average four times out of five. Even on contentious issues like the Middle East, the EU has managed to achieve unanimity on virtually every occasion over the past decade.

The EU's enlargement is spurring greater cohesion between current and future members as well. In the UNGA, most EU candidate countries had already achieved 100 % alignment with the EU even before signing their Accession Treaties on 16 April 2003.

Now, both present and acceding States consistently uphold EU common positions. As a candidate country, Turkey is also making good progress in this regard. Furthermore, over the past few years, all candidate countries have associated themselves increasingly with EU statements made at the UN, along with Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (which are not expected to join the EU for now). This larger European convergence is set to increase further among the 25 current and future Member States that are now sitting together around the same table in all EU coordination meetings at the UN.

3. Perspectives of the EU-UN Cooperation

In September 2003, Commission¹⁷ called for the EU to renew its commitment to the UN system and multilateralism. The paper puts forward practical ways in which, by working through the UN system, the EU can strengthen its position as a central pillar of the multilateral system. Commissioner for External Relations Chris Patten commented: "The EU's commitment to a multilateral

foreign policy needs to be better reflected in our approach to international institutions, starting with the UN. As the largest financial contributor to the UN, the EU needs to find concrete ways of strengthening our political influence in the UN system."

The Communication puts forward a series of concrete ways of improving the way the EU engages with the UN system:

- improving the EU co-ordinating mechanisms in Brussels, New York, Geneva and Vienna
- establishing early contacts/co-operation between EU services and those of UN agencies, including hands-on co-operation in the field.

The EC budget provides some 300 million UN agencies, year for e.g. humanitarian development and (UNDP) (WFP) assistance. When combined with national contributions from Member States, the EU is the largest contributor to UN operations. The European Union's significant weight, which is bound to increase with enlargement, gives the EU the opportunity, as well as the responsibility, to make proactive suggestions in the UN reform debate. The Communication builds on the extensive EU-UN co-operation that has developed in recent years across a wide range of policy areas. High-level political dialogue now involves regular meetings between the UN Secretariat and the Council. Commission and High Representative for CFSP. In addition, the EU and the UN already work together on development and humanitarian aid. cooperation should expand to other areas.

The point of departure of this Communication is the European Union's attachment to multilateral solutions on issues as varied as international security and climate change as a fundamental principle of its external relations.

At the same time, it notes that the EU's ability to influence multilateral debates has at times lagged behind its economic and combined political clout.

The Communication sets out three ways in which the EU could contribute more effectively to the work of the UN:

• By taking the lead in the negotiation and implementation of key UN targets and instruments. The Communication argues that the EU can and should act as a 'front-runner' in developing and in implementing UN targets. In this context, the EU should apply the proactive approach it has shown on issues such as the Kyoto Protocol, the International

Criminal Court or Financing for Development, much more widely in areas such as counter-terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, or human rights. It also commits the Commission to looking at how the implementation of multilateral targets can be integrated more systematically into the EU's external assistance programmes.

- By moving towards a more systematic policy of partnership with the UN in the field. The Communication takes stock of recent moves by the Commission to develop more stable, long-term funding relationships and strengthen policy dialogue with selected UN development and humanitarian aid agencies. It calls for a strengthened partnership with the UN in areas like human rights and conflict prevention, where concrete co-operation between the EU and the UN has yet to be developed more extensively, as well as in the of crisis management. Communication calls in particular for regular upstream concertation on the EC's and UN's respective country-level assessments programming, for action to make training standards compatible, and for regular joint training activities and exchanges of personnel.
- By giving itself the means to become a dynamic, flexible and coherent force in policy debates in the UN. The Communication notes that the EU has emerged in a short period of time as a visible presence at the UN, capable of arriving at common, coordinated positions in most UN policy forums (such as the General Assembly or many specialised agencies). However, it points to the factors which still prevent the EU from 'punching at its weight' in the UN, such as the persistence of occasional split votes by EU Member States in key UN bodies or the lack of effective EU coordination in certain multilateral forums which are crucial to the EU's sustainable development agenda. The Communication sets out concrete proposals for addressing these issues, such as giving relevant Council groups in Brussels a strong role in determining EU policy in the main UN bodies, moving towards a flexible, mandate-based approach for the

EU's participation in UN negotiations, or extending EU coordination to all parts of the UN system.

In this context, the Communication also covers some sensitive issues surrounding CFSP and the Security Council on which the Commission role is limited. However, the Communication suggests more can be done to improve the coherence of the EU foreign policy within the limits or Article 19 of the Treaty, which contains significant obligations for Member States to consult each other and to defend agreed EU positions on issues that are discussed in the Security Council.

Finally, from the EU coordination to the UN point of view, we should add that, in July 2002, a EU Paper was adopted, regarding the following issue: "How to represent the EU at model UN Conferences" This Paper contains an annex, which explains the phases of the EU coordination at the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council:

UN General Assembly Committees

- I. A debate takes place on a particular subject.
- UN Secretariat or another UN representative introduces the subject
- UN Groups make statements, e.g., EU, G77, etc., on a first come, first served basis.
- The EU makes its statement pronounced by the country holding the Presidency.
- Individual UN delegations may make (shorter) statements; EU Member States will rarely speak.
- Observers may make statements, e.g. Arab League etc.

II. Procedure:

- An individual delegation of a group of delegations such as the G77 or EU provides a draft text.
- Delegations and groups prepare amendments (in informal consultations/ bilateral contacts/in writing). EU Presidency calls an EU coordination meeting and EU partners consult their capitals. EU must reach a consensus as no EU position can be put forward without it.
- Discuss draft text in GA committee until a consensus is met or a vote by roll call.

- Delegations which wish to mark their particular support to a resolution become "co-sponsors", that is, they associate themselves to the first proponents of the resolution (this may happen at any stage before adoption).
- Adoption in the General Assembly Committees by either consensus or vote.
- Brought to Plenary.
- Adopted by the Plenary where there might be a public vote.
 - EU partners (including the Commission) may sit in on these (formal or informal) meetings in order to follow the procedures, however the discussion is carried out by the EU Presidency except on issues of its competences when the European Commission takes the floor.
 - The EU Presidency may designate another EU delegation to represent the EU if it is not available.

In the Second Committee (Economic and Financial), the EU is represented by the European Commission Delegation in areas of its exclusive responsibilities (trade, agriculture, fisheries). The EU Presidency represents the EU on all other issues.

Heads of State and Government as well as Ministers often attend UN General Assembly Special Sessions and conferences. In these cases, the EU Presidency speaks on behalf of the EU, but both EU Member States and the Commission can also make statements in line with agreed EU policy.

UN Security Council

The EU has no status at the Security Council. Member States act separately and individually. Two EU Member States have permanent seats on the Security Council: France and the United Kingdom. There are usually one or two additional EU Member States present as non-permanent Members.

At EU weekly briefings chaired by the Presidency, EU Member States who are sitting on the Security Council take it in turn to brief EU partners on the previous week's Security Council activities.

On occasion, the EU High Representative Mr. Javier Solana may be invited to speak to the UN Security Council on behalf of the EU. EU Member States on the UN Security Council incorporate EU views and positions when they can in their statements. In addition, EU positions and statements are issued as Security Council documents. Increasingly therefore, the EU's foreign policy is being reflected at the Security Council.

As far as the phases from draft to final text are concerned, the same Paper provides for the following steps:

- Depending on the subject of the draft,
 either the EU Member State holding the
 Presidency or the European Commission (for trade, agriculture and fisheries) will draft a text;
- The draft text will be presented at a EU
 Coordination Meeting for discussion amongst
 the Member States and Commission;
- Based on these discussions, the Presidency, Member States and/or the Commission may propose amendments to the text;

- Eventual consensus on the text amongst
 the Presidency, Member States and
 Commission is achieved;
- The agreement becomes an EU
 Statement at the UN and, finally, it is recorded by the Council Secretariat.

The European Union and the United Nations Organization are both international organizations which, although are different in many ways, they are still very much alike if we consider the main reason for their creation, i.e. attaining peace in Europe, and their fields of activity which have many similarities. We also should bear in mind their constant will to coordinate their activities in order to reach common objectives, such as peace, prosperity, respecting human rights and collaboration throughout the nations. These organizations should be looked at as models by other international entities and by states in general, in terms of coordination of their efforts towards achieving a better world for all.

NOTES:

¹ UNO/UN

² ECs

³ EU

⁴ Organizații internaționale interguvernamentale, Raluca Miga-Beșteliu, Ed. All Beck, 2000, pp. 1-2.

⁵ (plus the International Atomic Energy Organization - IAEO), all of them form the "UN System/Family" (plus the International Atomic Energy Organization - IAEO)

⁶ Organizații internaționale interguvernamentale, Raluca Miga-Beșteliu, Ed. All Beck, 2000, pp. .3-7.

⁷ See art.1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* signed on 26 June 1945, in San Francisco, at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organization, and came into force on 24 October 1945.

⁸ With regional character and not universal like the UN.

⁹ ECSC; it was concluded only for a period of 50 years, so that it expired on 23 July 2002.

¹⁰ EEC – after the entering into force of the *Maastricht Treaty regarding the EU* (1993), the new name was set to be the "EC" ("the European Community").

¹¹ ECAE or EURATOM

¹² Summary: What is the European Union? ("The EU, and how it works at the UN") – www.europa-eu-un.org; "The enlarging EU at the UN: making multilateralism matter", published by the EU, January 2004.

¹³ "The enlarging EU at the UN: making multilateralism matter", published by the EU, January 2004 (www.europa-eu-un.org).

This approach applies to the follow-up to all major conferences and summits held since the beginning of the 1990s — Rio (environment and development), Vienna (human rights), Cairo (population), Beijing (women), Copenhagen (social development), Rome (World Food Summit), Istanbul (habitat), New York (children), Kyoto (climate change), Monterrey (financing for development) and Johannesburg (sustainable development) — as well as the Millennium Summit itself.

¹⁵ In Geneva (including, *inter alia*, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Health Organisation (WHO),

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the World International Property Organisation (WIPO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE)), Paris (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)), Nairobi (the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Habitat), New York (the UN Secretariat, the General Assembly and its main committees, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), etc.), Rome (the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)) and Vienna (including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)).

¹⁶ MEP (member of European Parliament)

¹⁸ EU Paper on Model UN Conferences – July 1, 2002.

¹⁷ Communication – September 10, 2003: EU-UN: Commission calls for the EU to renew its commitment to the UN system and multilateralism (Brussels).