

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

The Kingdom of Norway ('Norway') and the French Republic ('France'), hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Signatories", are close allies and trusted partners. They share a long-standing friendship and a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Norway and France are committed to the principles of the **UN Charter**, and recall that respect for the territorial integrity of all States is a precondition for international peace. The Signatories are determined to preserve the security of the North-Atlantic area through **NATO** and stress the importance of **European integration** to maintain a safe, peaceful and prosperous European continent. They reaffirm their commitment to implement the **Paris Agreement** and achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

Norway and France emphasise that Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has led to a severe deterioration in the security situation in Europe; that the international rules-based order is under pressure; that global systemic rivalry is on the rise; and that climate change is accelerating rapidly. Against this background, the Signatories agree to enhance their cooperation by establishing a **Strategic Partnership**. Through the Strategic Partnership, Norway and France declare their intention to promote a **secure, resilient and competitive Europe**, and a **sustainable planet** for future generations.

I. SECURITY AND DEFENCE

Norway and France note that current threats to European security are serious and complex, ranging from military aggression and territorial expansionism to cyber-attacks, hybrid warfare and foreign interference.

The Signatories are convinced that defending **Ukraine** against Russian aggression is fundamental to the security of Europe as a whole. They will intensify joint efforts to help Ukraine ensure a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, preserving its territorial integrity. They will continue to support the Ukrainian people's right to determine their own destiny.

As founding members of **NATO**, Norway and France are committed to the provisions on collective security enshrined in the North Atlantic Treaty. The Signatories declare that the transatlantic relationship remains central to Euro-Atlantic security and that it will be nurtured by the development of the European pillar of NATO. They underline the importance of promoting a mutually reinforcing partnership between NATO and the EU.

Recalling the Letter of Intent signed by the Norwegian and French Ministers of Defence on Bilateral Defence Cooperation (2025), the Signatories are determined to forge a closer military and defence relationship within the Alliance, by reinforcing their **interoperability** and developing a **common strategic culture**.

Given the deep convergence of Norwegian and French strategic interests, the Signatories will enhance operational cooperation in the maritime domain and strengthen interoperability in the land and air domains. To maintain stability and enhance deterrence and collective defence in Northern Europe and beyond, they stress the importance of Norwegian and French armed forces planning and conducting **operations in the High North** together.

Norway and France agree that Europe must strengthen its capacity to act autonomously when and where necessary, and with partners wherever possible. To enhance Europe's ability to defend itself the Signatories will strengthen the **European Defence and Technology Industrial Base**. They will encourage joint projects between French and Norwegian defence industries to enhance European defence capabilities, including through EU programmes and initiatives.

Recalling that Norway is the EU's most closely associated partner, the Signatories welcome the signing of the **Security and Defence Partnership** between the EU and Norway (2024). Building on this partnership as well as Norway's integration in the European Defence Market and participation in EU programmes through the European Economic Area Agreement, France and Norway will strive to make full use of the possibilities to cooperate within the framework of EU policies and instruments.

II. RESILIENCE AND PREPAREDNESS

Faced with systemic and strategic competition at the global level, Norway and France are determined to strengthen Europe's ability to counter threats to their citizens, values and democratic governance, and to protect their common economic interests.

The Signatories recognise the urgency of reinforcing democratic resilience against **Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference**. They will intensify common efforts to counter these threats and deepen cooperation in the field of strategic communication.

As partners in the European Economic Area, Norway and France seek to enhance their common **economic security** by developing and protecting the Single Market. The Signatories will work bilaterally and at the European level to increase the resilience of supply chains and counter threats to their economic security, including through cooperation on investment screening and export control.

Norway and France will step up bilateral and European cooperation on space activities and technology, recognising **global satellite communication** as a strategic asset for resilience and security. The Signatories declare that EU initiatives on secure connectivity will be essential to provide European access to communication in an unrestricted manner without third-party dependencies. Acknowledging the importance of Norwegian ground infrastructure in the Arctic

and the Antarctic, they underline that Norway's participation in EU connectivity programmes will be key to developing a full governmental satellite connectivity service in Europe.

They note that resilience and preparedness of the populations require observation, monitoring, analysis and understanding of climate change and its effects. Norway and France underline the strategic aspect of Earth observation and Earth sciences and seek to deepen their cooperation in these domains.

Building on the long-standing cooperation between the EU and Norway on **civil protection and preparedness**, the Signatories will work together to make Europe ready to tackle natural disasters, man-made disasters, hybrid threats and geopolitical crises.

Recognising the importance of natural gas from the Norwegian continental shelf for **energy security** in Europe, the Signatories will strengthen their cooperation to protect critical subsea infrastructure from hybrid threats, notably through enhanced maritime surveillance and joint exercises to improve their readiness and response capabilities.

Norway and France have a shared interest in ensuring a coordinated European response to future health crises. The Signatories will promote closer collaboration on **health preparedness and response**, notably through a Declaration of Intent for a bilateral Health Partnership , as well as through Norway's integration in the European Health Union.

III. COMPETITIVENESS AND KNOWLEDGE

As partners in the Single Market and sharing the ambition of making Europe more competitive and climate-neutral, Norway and France will facilitate the development of low-carbon energy solutions and emerging technologies.

Building on their Strategic Partnership on Green Industrial Transformation (2024), Norway and France remain determined to support industrial decarbonisation and the security of supply chains. The annual **Green Industry Forum** will continue to serve as a high-level platform for engagement between Norwegian and French ministers, academia, and industry.

The Signatories stress the importance of **Carbon Capture and Storage** to mitigate climate change, concurring that the administrative arrangement between Norway and France on cross-border transport of CO₂ paves the way for a significant reduction of emissions from French industry.

Determined to develop their cooperation on **critical raw materials**, the Signatories welcome the bilateral agreement concluded between the Norwegian and French Geological Surveys (2025). Together, they will provide the data, knowledge and innovation necessary to design sustainable and profitable projects.

Norway and France underline the significance of **emerging technologies** in maintaining national and European competitiveness and strategic autonomy. The Signatories will facilitate

joint research initiatives, foster advanced digital skills and strengthen Europe's technological infrastructure.

Norway and France recognise **artificial intelligence** as a driver of innovation and productivity. Recalling the Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet at the Paris AI Action Summit (2025), the Signatories will promote a European model of digital development based on values, ethics and rights. Norway and France will work to strengthen Europe's AI and cloud infrastructure, support cross-border data sharing, and remove barriers to the use of AI in public administration and private enterprise.

The Signatories will intensify collaboration between their research institutions and innovation hubs to achieve large-scale, fault-tolerant **quantum computing** capabilities. They will use European frameworks to support a quantum ecosystem that includes coordinated investment, strategic production facilities, and equitable access to quantum processing infrastructure. Norway and France will also cooperate to establish common standards to ensure that European quantum technologies are interoperable and competitive on the global stage.

The Signatories will reinforce support for **Norwegian and French companies** in their market prospecting strategy in both countries, notably in the sectors of emerging technologies and decarbonised energy. Norway and France will improve information to potential investors and mobilise technology and venture capital ecosystems in the two countries to meet the challenges of cross-investment in startups.

Norway and France are determined to strengthen collaboration between **higher education and research** institutions, notably on emerging technologies, climate change, environmental issues, oceans and the Arctic, building on the Framework Agreement between Norway and France on cooperation in the fields of education, higher education, scientific research, innovation, industry and culture (2018).

The Signatories will work together towards a more integrated European Research Area. They seek to increase the number of scientific projects submitted jointly under Horizon Europe, and enhance mobility opportunities for Norwegian and French students, staff and researchers, including within the framework of the Erasmus + programme.

Norway and France intend to strengthen cooperation in **education**, including through mobility programmes for pupils, teachers and education leaders; exchanges of expertise, teaching resources and good practices; and school partnerships.

Particular attention will be paid to introducing the French International Baccalaureate, both in Norway (Lycée Français d'Oslo) and France (Lycée International de Saint-Germain-en-Laye). The Signatories reaffirm their shared commitment to **protect minors** online. They will work jointly towards the introduction of a European ban on social media access for children.

Recalling the crucial role of **cultural cooperation** in advancing knowledge, creativity and mutual understanding, Norway and France will further develop the institutional collaboration between museums, film institutes and other partners.

IV. A SUSTAINABLE PLANET

Norway and France will mitigate and adapt to **climate change** and promote a **sustainable environment** for future generations through ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Signatories recall the **Green Alliance** between Norway and the EU (2023) to deepen cooperation on climate action, environmental protection and clean energy transition. Through their strategic partnership, Norway and France will strengthen the EU Single Market as a resource-efficient, circular and competitive economy working towards climate neutrality.

Following the Third UN Ocean Conference in Nice (June 2025), Norway and France remain determined to cooperate closely to sustainably manage 100 per cent of the **ocean** under national jurisdiction, guided by Sustainable Ocean Plans. They will work with other members of the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy to implement this approach. The Signatories will remain committed to protecting 30 per cent of the ocean by 2030 and will work together to promote the depositing of States' instruments of ratification of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement by September 2025, so that the Agreement may enter into force.

The Signatories stress the importance of the **blue economy**. Through an integrated approach they intend promote the health and long-term sustainability of marine ecosystems. They will continue working together to establish the Mercator International Centre for the Ocean, which will make trustworthy digital ocean knowledge accessible to all.

Faced with the accelerating impact of climate change and growing security concerns in the High North, the Signatories will deepen their political dialogue and cooperation on the **Arctic region** and share scientific research. France is committed to playing a responsible and supportive role to preserve stability and sustainability, including through contributions to the work of the Arctic Council.

Norway and France agree that a shared understanding of climate change requires science and research, including from Space. To further scientific cooperation, Norway will study the opportunity to participate in the oceanographic space mission announced by France at the UN Ocean Conference in Nice.

V. POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

Norway and France will engage in regular bilateral dialogue at all levels. The Signatories will aim to hold annual political consultations at ministerial level and at senior civil servant level, covering, but not limited to, the key areas identified in this Strategic Partnership. This will include consultations between the Directors for European Affairs and Political Directors in our respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs. These consultations will be underpinned by expert-level meetings.

The Signatories will coordinate the implementation of this Strategic Partnership, with the support of their respective bilateral embassies. They will review the progress of the partnership, annually or as otherwise required. As part of this monitoring process, the Signatories may put forward any proposals for improvements or adaptations that will facilitate the implementation of the partnership.

This Strategic Partnership is not legally binding and does not give rise to any rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

Signed in Oslo on 23 June 2025, in two originals, one in the French language and one in the English language. Both versions shall be equally valid.

For the Kingdom of Norway

For the French Republic

Jonas Gahr STØRE

Emmanuel MACRON

Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway

President of the French Republic