

NORWAY'S CANDIDATURE FOR THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL 2021-2022

Norway is calling for support for its candidature for a non-permanent seat on the Security Council in 2021-2022. Norway announced its candidature in 2007 and was last a member of the Council in 2001-2002.

WHY SUPPORT NORWAY?

For more than 70 years, Norway has been a consistent pillar of support for the United Nations and a rules-based international system. Guided by a long tradition of international solidarity, including with African nations fighting against apartheid and colonialization, Norway is committed to finding common solutions across regions, religions and cultures. We are always ready to listen to the views of member states and conduct dialogues based on respect and understanding in our efforts to promote peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights.

Norway has a small-country perspective and a history of speaking with an independent voice. Norway will bring to the Council experience from peace and reconciliation efforts from all over the world. Over decades of quiet diplomacy, we have demonstrated that we are a reliable and constructive problem solver. Norway will promote international law, including humanitarian law, at a time when multilateralism is under pressure.



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Norway can be trusted as a partner that delivers on its international commitments. Norway says what it does, and does what it says. Multilateralism is part of our DNA, which is why we are also a keen supporter of the African Union and sub-regional organisations like EAC, IGAD, SADC and ECOWAS. These organisations are not only important for the African member states in terms of economic and political cooperation. They are also important because they are part of the wider international order in which all states have a stake. That is one reason why Norway supports AU-led training of incoming African members of the UNSC and that is why we provide political and financial support to the office of the African Union in New York.

Norway will protect the UN's integrity and independence. Norway supports UN reform as a means to strengthen the UN and the principles in the Charter and enhance the capacity of the Secretariat to implement member states' decisions.

We need to make the Security Council more transparent, efficient, and representative. This includes providing permanent as well as non-permanent seats for Africa. We will work to increase the relevance and ability of the UN to take coherent action and find common solutions to global issues, from climate change and migration to the sustainable management of oceans and forests.

Norway has taken the initiative to strengthen the dialogue between African and Nordic countries on multilateral cooperation. We will explore ways to strengthen the multilateral system and make it better fit for our time. We have invited all African countries to take part in the process drafting a declaration in support of a UN-led international order that coincides with the UN's 75th anniversary next year.



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WHAT WOULD NORWAY BRING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL?

Norway will be a reliable and constructive problem-solver. Norway has a proven record of active involvement in peace diplomacy, for instance in Colombia, Venezuela, Palestine, Afghanistan, Philippines, Syria, Somalia and South Sudan. Norway will strive to build bridges and find compromises, fulfil the Council's mandate, and promote transparency. Norway has also worked with the UN, regional organisations and governments with a view to reducing conflict and building peace in the Middle East, the Horn of Africa, the Balkans, and elsewhere. This will guide our work in the Council.

Norway has regularly deployed military and police personnel to UN peacekeeping operations. More than 40 000 Norwegians have served in UN-led operations since 1949, including currently in Mali, South Sudan, the Middle East, Cyprus, Colombia and Haiti.

Norway supports much-needed reform of UN operations through innovative contributions to missions. Norway prioritizes smart contributions where we can pool our resources with other countries. One example is the rotational concept for transport aircraft in Mali - a joint endeavor with partner countries. Another example is the use of specialized police teams, which Norway pioneered in the mission in Haiti.

Norway allocates around 1 % of GNI to official development assistance (ODA). Norway is one of a handful of countries that have consistently met the UN target of 0.7 % since the 1970s, and allocated around 1% of GNI for the past ten years. Much of Norway's ODA is multilateral, making Norway the seventh largest net contributor to the UN system.

Norway will highlight the linkages between security and sustainable development, including security concerns related to climate change. It is hard to make peace if there is no development. Bilateral development assistance continues to be an important component of our cooperation with countries in Africa. Trade, private investments, business cooperation and multilateral issues have however now become an increasingly prominent part of our partnership. Norway wants to further develop and expand its already strong partnership with African states.



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