



RAPID

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- **EU at UN General Assembly: strong partnerships to rise together to global challenges**

A number of high-level political events marked the European Union's agenda on Thursday at the 72nd UN General Assembly in New York. High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini** announced at a side-event on [Protecting cultural heritage from terrorism and mass atrocities](#), co-hosted by Italy and the EU, that Cultural Property Protection Experts will be appointed and deployed in the Common Security and Defence Policy Missions around the world, the first one at the new civilian mission to Iraq. On the occasion of the provisional entry into force of CETA, the HRVP met with [Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland](#), expressing support for the historic agreement. Among others she also addressed a ministerial meeting on reaffirming commitment to the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, participated in a high-level event on Somalia and held a number of bilateral meetings. Concluding the day, she participated in a dinner convened by US Secretary of State Tillerson. Commissioner Neven **Mimica** opened the EU side-event on Protecting the Rights of indigenous peoples in a high-level panel to mark the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples and launching the Indigenous Navigator Initiative. He further had a number of bilateral meetings, including with Chief executive Officer of the World Bank Kristalina Georgieva; the UN High Representative for the least developed countries, Fekitamoeloa Katoa Utoikamanu; and with UN Special Envoy for Global Education Gordon Brown. Commissioner Christos **Stylianides** represented the EU at with a ministerial roundtable on Nigeria and the Lake Chad region, calling for improved humanitarian access to reach those in need and to step up protection to women and girls.

- **The EU to host the second Brussels Conference on Syria in spring of 2018**

The European Union will organise a second Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region in spring of 2018. This was announced on Thursday by High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini** during a high-level event on the Syria crisis, hosted by the EU in the margins of the 72nd UN General Assembly in New York and attended by close to 50 countries and partners. The 2018 Conference will come as a follow up to the 2017 Brussels Conference and will aim at keeping the international community's attention and response to the Syrian crisis on top of the international agenda and encouraging the full implementation of commitments taken in Brussels in April 2017. This includes continued support to the UN-led process for a negotiated political solution in line with UNSCR 2254 and ensuring respective needs for Syrians inside Syria and in neighbouring countries are met. *"In this way, we will launch a Brussels process that will put our convening power at the service of the Syrian people - all of them. Those that are still inside the country and those that are in the region,"* said Federica **Mogherini**. *"The international community needs to continue to address the most pressing humanitarian and resilience needs of civilians,"* said Commissioner Christos **Stylianides**. For more information there is a [press release](#) available

- **Commissioners Oettinger, Crețu and Gabriel to discuss the future of EU finances at 25 September conference in Brussels**

On 25 September 2017, Commissioners Günther H. **Oettinger**, in charge of Budget and Human Resources, Corina Crețu, in charge of Regional Policy, and Mariya Gabriel, dealing with the Digital Economy and Society, will take part in the conference "The future of EU finances". The event will gather a great variety of stakeholders – including Member States, think tanks, EU institutions – to discuss the challenges ahead for the EU budget and the ways to address them. The discussions during the conference will feed into the debate on the future multiannual financial framework (MFF), launched with the publication of the [Reflection Paper on the Future of EU finances](#). The full agenda is available [here](#). The event will be web streamed with interpretation into most EU languages [here](#). [EbS](#) will also cover the event.

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