

The Community of Democracies

The Community of Democracies (CoD) is a global intergovernmental coalition comprised of the Governing Council Member States that support adherence to common democratic values and standards outlined in the Warsaw Declaration.

Building on the Warsaw Declaration, the CoD is committed to taking concerted action to advance and protect democratic freedoms, strengthen democratic institutions, and expand political participation.

Commitment to shared democratic values



The Warsaw Declaration is the founding document of the CoD, adopted on June 27th, 2000 by representatives of 106 states. The Warsaw Declaration defines the essential norms and practices for the effective establishment and consolidation of democracy and emphasizes the interdependence between peace, development, human rights and democracy.

Strategic Objectives

The Community's Strategic Plan 2018-2023 reflects the commitment of the Member States of the Community's Governing Council (GC) to strengthen their cooperation to more effectively respond to complex challenges to democracy and embrace new opportunities to support democratic consolidation around the world.

In addition to the three strategic objectives, the cross-cutting themes of youth empowerment, gender equality, and de-mocracy and development are mainstreamed into all activities undertaken by the CoD.

- 1 GC Members encourage adherence to the Warsaw Declaration principles in countries within and outside the Community
- 2 GC Members provide sustained support for key democratic consolidation in transitioning countries outside the Community
- 3 GC Members increase and deepen their dialogue on the challenges they face as democracies

The CoD and the UN Sustainable Development Agenda



The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes that human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and peace and security are crucial for sustainable development, all of which are at the core of the Community's work. While **Goal 16** creates a visible frame to contribute to strengthening of democracy worldwide, and its elements of peace, just and inclusive societies are central to the mandate of the Community, other SDGs of particular importance to the work of the CoD also include **SDG5** (gender equality and empowerment of women and girls) and **SDG17** (global partnership for sustainable development).

