



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Memorandums of Understanding on bilateral consultations with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras – NBI step 2

[...]

**EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE**

AMERICAS 2

**Working document of the European External Action Service****of 19/06/2023**

<b>EEAS Reference</b>	<b>EEAS(2023)761</b>
<b>To</b>	<b>COLAC</b>
<b>Title / Subject</b>	<b>Memorandums of Understanding on bilateral consultations with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras – NBI step 2</b>
<b>Ref. prev. doc.</b>	<b>EEAS(2023) 108</b>

**SUBJECT: Memorandums of Understanding on bilateral consultations with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras – NBI step 2**

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**REMARKS:**

- On 15 June 2023 the Commission adopted the Decision on the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Republic of Guatemala on Bilateral Consultations, the Decision on the EU-Republic of El Salvador Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Consultations, and the Decision on the EU-Republic of Honduras Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Consultations.
- After endorsement by the Council, the three respective Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in annex would be ready to be adopted/signed on the margin of or following the EU-CELAC Summit in Brussels on 17-18 July. The MoUs would be signed by the High Representative or the person designated by him on behalf of the European Union.
- The Council has been kept informed about the High Representative / EEAS intention to negotiate Non-binding instruments (NBI) for bilateral consultations with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras (ref. EEAS(2023)108), which has been the subject of discussion in COLAC on 7 February 2023 and subsequently approved by the Council on 20 February 2023.
- As previously transmitted and discussed with COLAC, the three respective MoUs are to serve as a useful complement to the existing legal framework for political dialogue between the EU and Central America at regional level.
- The MoUs, by way of establishing bilateral dialogues, would provide enhanced channels for promoting EU views and interests, provide the space for closer bilateral engagement, and consolidate the EU's position as a long-standing, constructive and reliable partner in the region and individual countries.
- The Council is invited to endorse the MoU texts.

# **EU – REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

## **ON BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS**

The European Union and the Republic of El Salvador, building on a long-standing partnership between the European Union and Central America, wish to emphasize a mutual commitment to strengthen their bilateral relations and dialogue.

The sides value the foundation for the relations between the European Union and the Republic of El Salvador, which includes the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part, signed in 2003 and in force since 1 May 2014; and the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America, on the other, from 2012, provisionally applied, in one of its parts, since 1 October 2013.

With a view to strengthening their relations, the European Union and the Republic of El Salvador have decided:

1. To consult bilaterally to promote cooperation on, and a common understanding of, all issues on the El Salvador-European Union agenda, and any other issues of mutual interest without duplication of, or prejudice to, committees, mechanisms of consultation or decision-making processes that exist or that might be established in the future.
- To hold meetings of the bilateral consultation mechanism, in principle biennially, at Managing Director/Vice Minister/Minister level. It may also meet whenever the Sides deem appropriate to discuss specific or urgent matters. Meetings will alternate between El Salvador and Brussels, or any other place decided by the Sides. The date and the agenda will be agreed in advance through diplomatic channels.

This instrument is not intended to create rights or obligations under international or domestic law and does not have any financial implications on either side. It will be applied when the sides deem it appropriate.

Signed in [...] on [...] in four copies, two in Spanish and two in English.

**For the European Union**

**For the Republic of El Salvador**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA**  
**ON BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS**

The European Union and the Republic of Guatemala, building on a long-standing partnership between the European Union and Central America, wish to emphasize a mutual commitment to strengthen their bilateral relations and dialogue.

Frameworks for relations between the European Union and the Republic of Guatemala include the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part, signed in 2003 and in force since 1 May 2014 and the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America on the other, of 2012, which is provisionally applied in part since 1 December 2013.

With a view to strengthening their relations, the European Union and the Republic of Guatemala have decided:

1. To consult bilaterally to promote cooperation on, and a common understanding of, all issues on the agenda of the Republic of Guatemala and the European Union, and any other issues of mutual interest without duplication of, or prejudice to, committees, mechanisms of consultation or decision making processes that exist or that might be established in the future.
2. To periodically hold meetings of the bilateral consultation mechanism at Managing Director/Vice Minister level. It may also meet whenever the Sides deem appropriate to discuss specific or urgent matters. Meetings will alternate between Guatemala and Brussels or any other place decided by the Sides. The date and the agenda will be agreed in advance through diplomatic channels.

This instrument is not intended to create rights or obligations under international or domestic law and does not have any financial implications on either side.

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**For the European Union**

**For the Republic of Guatemala**

## **EU – REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS**

The European Union and the Republic of Honduras, building on a long-standing partnership between the European Union and Central America, wish to emphasize a mutual commitment to strengthen their bilateral relations and dialogue.

Frameworks for relations between the European Union and the Republic of Honduras include the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part, signed in 2003 and in force since 1 May 2014 and the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America on the other, of 2012, which is provisionally applied in part since 1 August 2013.

With a view to strengthening their relations, the European Union and the Republic of Honduras have decided:

1. To consult bilaterally to promote cooperation on, and a common understanding of, all issues on the Honduras-European Union agenda, and any other issues of mutual interest without duplication of, or prejudice to, committees, mechanisms of consultation or decision making processes that exist or that might be established in the future.
2. To periodically hold meetings of the bilateral consultation mechanism at Managing Director/Vice Minister level. It may also meet whenever the Sides deem appropriate to discuss specific or urgent matters. Meetings will alternate between Honduras and Brussels or any other place decided by the Sides. The date and the agenda will be agreed in advance through diplomatic channels.

This instrument is not intended to create rights or obligations under international or domestic law and does not have any financial implications on either side.

Signed in [...] on [...] in four copies, two in Spanish and two in English.

**For the European Union**

**For the Republic of Honduras**