



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 09 September 2025**

**WK 11237/2025 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**GLOBAL GATEWAY  
COASI  
COEST  
COAFR  
MED**

**MAMA  
COLAC  
COWEB  
COMPET  
ECOFIN  
FIN**

**CCG  
TRANS  
ENER  
ENV  
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DIGIT**

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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) – Horizontal Questions

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Subject: Presidency Note: Updated proposal for revising the Global Gateway Flagship Projects list

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Delegations will find attached the Presidency's updated proposal for revising the Global Gateway Flagship Projects list (in track changes).

## Working Party of Foreign Relation Counsellors - Horizontal Questions (RELEX-HQ)

### Presidency Note

#### **Updated proposal for revising the Global Gateway Flagship Projects list**

The Presidency proposes the following procedure for revising the Global Gateway Flagship Projects list during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2025.

#### *State of play*

The Global Gateway Flagship Projects list serves to showcase the priorities of the Union, its Member States, and our partners, contribute to strengthening our strategic partnerships and the promotion of our joint interests, as well as providing political guidance on thematic and geographical priorities of the Global Gateway. GG Flagship projects are intended to be prominent examples of the progress and deliverables of the Global Gateway strategy.

So far, Member States and the Commission have added projects at regular intervals (usually annually), as the implementation of the strategy has progressed. The total number of projects on the list is now 264. Meanwhile, there has been comparatively little structured effort in monitoring the progress of the projects added to the list. Several Member States and relevant stakeholders, including in the latest RELEX-HQ Capitals meeting, expressed that the list did not sufficiently serve as an effective communication or monitoring tool.

#### *Objectives - Working towards a more efficient flagship list*

The Presidency will aim for a GG Flagship Projects list for 2026 which consolidates the progress on the implementation of the identified projects and serves as an effective communication tool, with a particular focus on the most geo-strategically important and emblematic initiatives. To that end, the Presidency proposes that:

- No new projects be added to the list this year. This does not preclude adding projects in the future.
- Revisions of the list focus on updating existing projects, so they clearly show the value of the initiatives to the Union and partner countries.

#### *Proposed process*

The actor who proposed the GG Flagship Project will be tasked with updating the available information about the project. For each project, the following possible actions are proposed:

- A. Retain the project on the list as is.
- B. Retain the project on the list and update its description and milestones.
- C. Combine the project with other projects where appropriate.
- D. Remove the project from the list.

In order to guide the decision on which action to take for each project, actors are encouraged to review the projects based on whether the milestones have been reached, whether there is need for (additional) political steer, as set out in the Global Gateway Governance (ST 13888 2022 REV 1), as well as the criteria identified in the Presidency Note from 2022 (ST 10532 2022 INIT), which are:

- Alignment with the Global Gateway scope
- Response to the strategic interests of the EU
- Response to a jointly defined need with a partner country or group of countries
- Promotion of EU and/or international principles, standards and norms
- Consistency with EU policies
- Opening up economic opportunities for private and public companies
- Preference for initiatives with a certain level of maturity
- Sufficient financial volume to ensure a transformational effect

The actors are invited to update their projects in the Global Gateway Platform. Projects from the lists of 2023 and 2024 that are not updated will be removed from the list. Actors are nonetheless encouraged to update all projects they have submitted. Likewise, projects that have been fully completed, or where the identified milestones have been achieved, should be removed from the list.

#### *Timetable*

The Presidency proposes the following process. All dates, except 11 July, are tentative.

- 11 July 2025: RELEX-HQ meeting.  
Member States ~~will discuss~~ the proposals of this paper.
- 12 September 2025: RELEX-HQ meeting.  
~~Depending on the comments made by Member States at the previous meeting, the Presidency may propose revisions to the approach in this document.~~ The Presidency aims for the revision process to start at this meeting.
- 3 October 2025: RELEX-HQ meeting.  
Member States will have updated their projects in the Global Gateway platform. Other actors may comment on the revisions.
- The updated Flagship Project List will be sent to COREPER II for adoption as an I-item.