

4 February 2025

Uphold EU Global Leadership: Reject the Merger of External Financing Instruments

Dear President von der Leyen,

Your leadership has been instrumental in ensuring the EU remains a global force for stability, sustainability and shared prosperity. These areas are part of Europe's DNA, enshrined in our treaties. With the U.S. retreating from its global commitments, Europe must stay the course as a beacon of ambitious, principled leadership – building bridges, upholding multilateralism, and forging partnerships.

Ahead of the upcoming communication on the next Multiannual Financial Framework, we urge you to champion a well-resourced budget for development and climate action and to reject the proposed merger of external action instruments¹.

Each external instrument serves a distinct and crucial purpose. Humanitarian action must remain impartial, neutral, and independent to maintain trust and access in conflict zones. Development funding requires strategic, long-term planning to foster sustainable development, peace, and global partnerships, and pre-accession assistance is vital for democratic reforms.

A single, merged instrument risks forcing damaging trade-offs that would weaken the EU's credibility as a reliable partner. It would blur the instruments' important distinctions, jeopardizing the predictability and impact of EU engagement with strategic partners. This would be a lose-lose situation.

You have been a champion of multilateralism. Staying the course means protecting Europe's ability to effectively and proudly operate in the world, and securing robust funding for these essential tools for global engagement. Once again, we count on your leadership.

¹ Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, the Humanitarian Aid instrument and the Instrument for Pre-Accession

**GLOBAL
CITIZEN.**



 **aidsfonds**



 **Alliance
for Public Health**

 **KOOPERATION
GLOBAL**

World Vision 

 **IPPF** International
Planned Parenthood
Federation
European Network



Hivos
people unlimited

DSW 
Deutsche Stiftung
Weltbevölkerung



 **caritas europa**

 **solidarités
international**

 Friends of
the Global Fund
Europe

NRC
NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

**we
world**
Member of ChildFund Alliance

 **AIDS
FONDET**



 **eucord
network**

 **WOMEN4
GLOBALFUND**


 **Magyar
Természetvédők
Szövetsége**
Föld Barátai Magyarország

Cordaid 

actalliance eu

**handicap
international**  **humanity
& inclusion**



 **Save the Children**

 **COORDINATION SUD**
BASSEINFLER & ADR
POUR LA SOLIDARITÉ INTERNATIONALE

 **care**

EPLO
EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING
LIAISON OFFICE

 **eannaso**

PAX

 **OXFAM**

 **VOICE**
European humanitarian NGOs.
Standing together.

 **PLAN
INTERNATIONAL**

act:onaid



DRC DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL

