



## EU-CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RELATIONS

### POLITICAL RELATIONS

The European Union is one of the Central African Republic's most important international partners.

The EU supports stabilisation and the process towards a lasting exit from the crisis in the context of implementation of the [Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic](#).

It contributes to the consolidation of democracy by reinforcing the democratic process, to the stability of legitimate institutions by supporting the leadership and national ownership, to interinstitutional dialogue and to the strengthening of the role of civil society.

The European Union supports the [African Union-European Union-United Nations](#) trilateral partnership, and contributes to sustainable and inclusive development by supporting the strategy for recovery, economic renewal and the strengthening of the social contract between the government and the population as part of the effective implementation of the [National Plan for Recovery and Peacebuilding \(NPRP\)](#).



The European Union promotes respect for human rights, justice and the fight against impunity, and more inclusive participation of women, young people and minorities. It defends European interests and values by means of enhanced action for public diplomacy and raising awareness among target groups (young people and women) to disseminate more information on the multidimensional partnership between the European Union and the Central African Republic.

It promotes good governance by supporting the reform agenda and strengthening the state's institutional capacity so as to bring about an improvement in public policies and the effective deployment of state authority and administration throughout the country.

The European Union is a historic partner of the Central African Republic, and maintained an active presence even at the height of the crisis which began in 2013.

In accordance with the Cotonou Agreements, the political relationship between the European Union and the Central African Republic is marked by regular dialogue, dealing with agreed priorities such as security, governance, human rights and regional cooperation.

## PEACE AND SECURITY



The European Union is committed to contributing to the renewal of the Central African Republic's army by means of the [EUTM RCA mission](#) and strategic advice, training and operational training. Since July 2016, the EUTM RCA mission has trained over 4 000 members of the Central African armed forces. The mission has been extended to September 2020.

The European Union is closely involved in the peace process which led to the signing of a peace agreement in Bangui on 6 February 2019 between the government and 14 armed groups. The European Union stands by the government to achieve an effective and lasting implementation of the agreement, for the well-being of the people of the Central African Republic.

## DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



In a harsh environment, poverty is widespread and the radicalisation of the conflict has left no segment of the population untouched. The European Union, which has been present in the country for several decades, remains one of the most important development partners. It continues to support critical sectors such as justice, security, rural development, basic social services and the redeployment of the administration. In accordance with its comprehensive approach, the European Union is mobilising all the instruments at its disposal to meet the governance, economic, social, humanitarian and security challenges, thus contributing to the process of democratic transition in the Central African Republic.

The 11th European Development Fund (EDF), signed in June 2017, provides for three sectors to a total amount of **EUR 382 million**: (1) economic governance and social services (including education); (2) reform of the security sector and democratic governance and (3) rural resilience and job creation. A rider to increase the EDF budget by **EUR 60 million** has been submitted for approval.

The European Union's response is also based on the [Békou Trust Fund](#), created in order to finance a nexus approach (linking relief, rehabilitation and development). Contributions to the Fund have already exceeded **EUR 250 million**. There have also been actions to cover other key sectors, such as security sector reform, financed through the [Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace](#) (IcSP) and the [EUTM RCA](#) mission.

## HUMANITARIAN AID



The EU is one of the biggest donors of humanitarian aid, with a (2019) budget of **EUR 8.8 million**. Food assistance, support for agriculture and livelihoods, nutrition, health, education, water, hygiene and sanitation, shelter and protection are just some of the areas for which the European Commission provides funding.