

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002548/24
to the Commission
Francisco José Millán Mon (PPE)
(14 November 2024)

Subject: Summit of the Future — drug trafficking

The Millennium Declaration, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 2000, set out a commitment to ‘redouble our efforts to implement our commitment to counter the world drug problem’.

However, the resolution on the Pact for the Future, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 22 September 2024, does not explicitly mention international drug trafficking. Action 24 affirms merely that ‘we will prevent and combat transnational organised crime and related illicit financial flows’.

The absence of a direct reference to drug trafficking in this resolution is somewhat surprising at a time when this threat is on the rise, especially in Europe, which has become the world’s largest cocaine market.

In light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware why a specific reference to international drug trafficking has been omitted?
2. Which body negotiated this document on behalf of the EU?

Submitted: 14.11.2024

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(24 March 2025)

The EU attaches high importance to the fight against drug trafficking, which priorities are set out in the EU Drug Strategy 2021-2025 ⁽¹⁾ and related Action Plan ⁽²⁾, and the EU Roadmap to fight against drug trafficking and organised crime, adopted in October 2023 ⁽³⁾.

The EU written input approved by the Council ⁽⁴⁾ and shared with the co-facilitators ahead of the negotiations on the Pact for the Future ⁽⁵⁾ included a reference to this important topic.

It pointed out that the Pact for the Future should step up international efforts to fight organised crime worldwide, including trafficking in drugs, firearms and human beings, migrant smuggling, environmental crimes, cybercrime, as well as corruption and money laundering.

The negotiations of the Pact for the Future took place in New York with the EU Delegation to the United Nations (UN) and the Member States Missions coordinating efforts to ensure that EU priorities were well reflected in the Pact for the Future.

The Pact for the Future is an extremely broad document that includes a broad set of actions, including sustainable development, international financial architecture reform, digital cooperation, youth and future generations and concrete commitments towards global governance reform, as well as on cross-cutting issues such as human rights, gender, climate and environment.

During the negotiations and in order to avoid having lengthy contentious discussions on definitions, the use of lists is usually avoided.

This is a typical aspect of negotiations at the UN and explains why, Action 24, through which UN members commit to prevent and combat transnational organised crime, does not include a list of specific transnational organised crimes, even though they are a priority for the EU and for most UN members.

⁽¹⁾ EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, OJ C 102I, 24.3.2021, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/fd218c19-c5d6-11ec-b6f4-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-RDF>

⁽³⁾ COM(2023) 641 final.

⁽⁴⁾ ST 16693/23 INIT.

⁽⁵⁾ United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/79/1.