

**EU Update: August 2023**

**Council of the EU**

On 3 August, the Council [adopted a new round of sanctions](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/08/03/belarus-eu-adopts-new-round-of-individual-sanctions-over-continued-human-rights-abuses-and-imposes-further-targeted-measures-in-response-to-involvement-in-russia-s-military-aggression-against-ukraine/?utm_source=dsms-auto&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Belarus%3a+EU+adopts+new+round+of+individual+sanctions+over+continued+human+rights+abuses+and+imposes+further+targeted+measures+in+response+to+involvement+in+Russia%27s+military+aggression+against+Ukraine) on 38 individuals and 3 entities from **Belarus** over continued human rights abuses and their involvement in **Russia’s aggression against Ukraine**.

On 30 and 31 August, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met informally in Toledo. EU Foreign Affairs ministers [discussed](https://spanish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/events/informal-ministerial-meeting-on-foreign-affairs-gymnich-30-318/) **Ukraine** and the **Western Balkans’ EU membership bid**, and the coup d’état in **Niger**. EU Defence ministers [discussed](https://spanish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/news/informal-ministerial-meeting-defence-toledo-august-30th/) **military support to Ukraine**, and the situation in the **Sahel**.

**European External Action Service (EEAS)**

On 11 August, the EU [decided to deploy](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/liberia-european-union-deploys-election-observation-mission_en?channel=eeas_press_alerts&date=2023-08-11&newsid=0&langid=en&source=mail) an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to **Liberia** to observe the general elections scheduled for 10 October 2023.

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