

# **The EU, SDGs and Global Governance**

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# Internal factors that influence the EU's global governance?

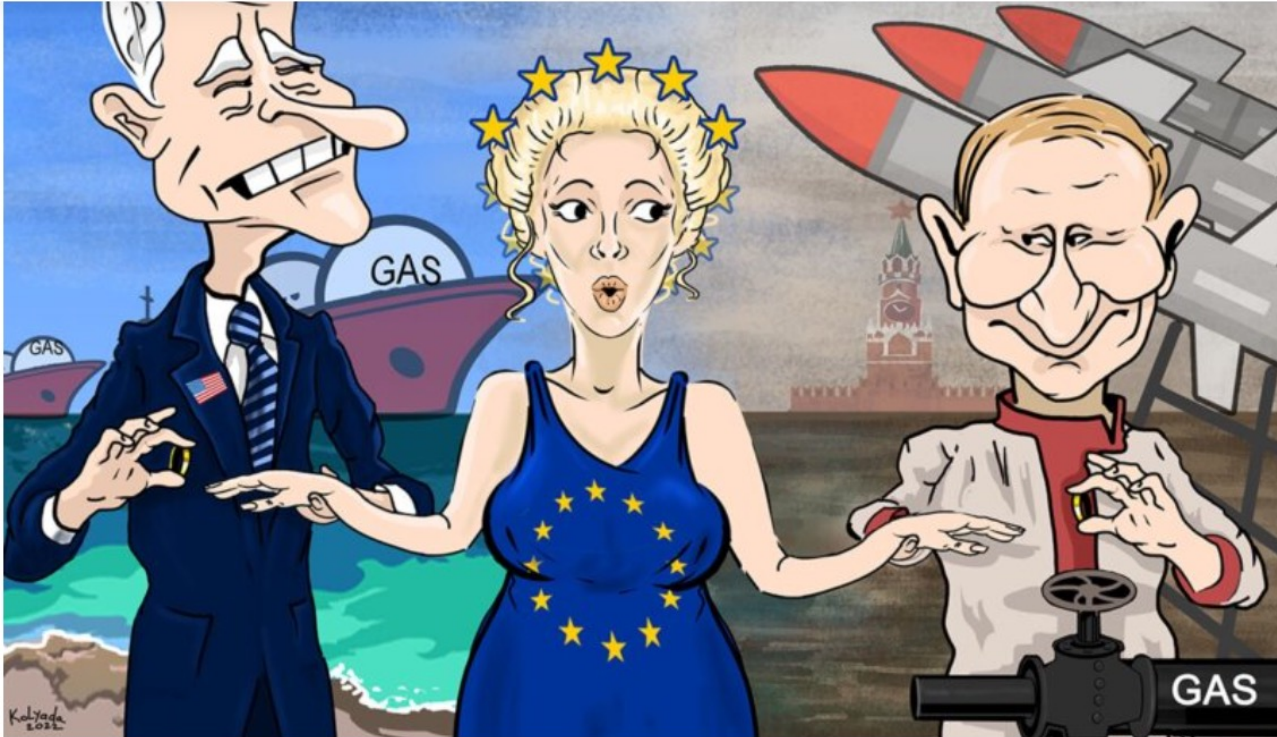
- Single market and four freedoms
- Development policy
- Institutional structure (one voice)
- Changing leadership
- Crises (financial, immigration, rise of populism/anti-EU sentiments; pandemic response)



# External factors that influence the EU's global governance?

- Trade
- Challenge of increasing multipolarity
- Crises (transnational)
- External (and internal) recognition of the EU as a legitimate actor
- “[N]o matter how hard the EU struggles to establish itself as an international actor, the result inevitably depends on whether third countries regard the EU as such” (Tsuruoka: 2008)





Source: [Kyiv Post](#), Cartoon: Love in a Cold Climate: The seduction of Europe by Serhiy Kolyada, Feb 1 2022  
[Cartoon: Love in a Cold Climate - KyivPost - Ukraine's Global Voice](#)

# EU Leadership and the Implementation of the SDGs

- EU multilateral engagement key to concept of Normative Power Europe
- Key driver in the United Nations work towards SDGs
- Informs key EU policy areas
- Strong emphasis on SDGs in international negotiations
- EU's weight as a global development actor gives it significance in these global conversation
- New European Consensus on Development (2017): centralises SDGs in the EU's development framework – linked to the EU Global Strategy



# The Indo-Pacific Strategy, 2021

- “This engagement will be based on promoting democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and universally agreed commitments such as the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change”.
- “The EU’s engagement with the Indo-Pacific region will be **principled and long-term**” including “Contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to addressing climate change and environmental degradation on land and in the ocean, and to supporting sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development”

## Seven priority areas:

- Sustainable and inclusive prosperity;
- Green transition;
- Ocean governance;
- Digital governance and partnerships;
- Connectivity;
- Human security
- Security and defence;



# Indo-Pacific Strategy and Australia

- Focus on trade
- ‘Horizon Europe’ and education cooperation
- High-level dialogues on ocean affairs and fisheries with Australia, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand as well as “Ocean Partnership” with China
- Indo-Pacific Forum in Feb 2022



## Conclusions

- EU Global Governance influenced by internal and external factors
- EU action not always recognised, impacts its credibility as a global governance actor
- SDG progress has stalled
- Redirection of resources:
  - Covid-19
  - Ukraine