



## **Summit for Democracy Commitments for 2022: Estonia**

Estonia is committed to contributing to the success of Summit for Democracy through the several activities and initiatives that Prime Minister Kaja Kallas outlined in her speech at the Summit on 10 December 2021. During the Summit's Year of Action, Estonia will focus on the following:

### **Media Freedom**

An open and free media is the lifeline of democracy. Estonia will host the next **Global Conference on Media Freedom** in Tallinn on 9–10 February 2022. The conference will focus on freedom of expression online and offline, the fight against disinformation and the protection of journalists. The conference will provide a forum for a joint defense of media freedom and human rights worldwide.

### **Open and Secure Digital Governance**

In 2022–2024, Estonia will co-chair the **Open Government Partnership**, an international initiative where Estonia will focus on the co-creation of policies with member states and civil society.

### **Tallinn Digital Summit 2022 and Trusted Connectivity**

**Tallinn Digital Summit** is the premier venue for promoting democratic values, fundamental freedoms, trust, and security in the digital realm, with a particular

focus on driving market- and values-based investments into connectivity. Introduced at the Tallinn Digital Summit in 2021, **Trusted Connectivity** provides a shared framework for democracies to consolidate and amplify their several but disparate connectivity initiatives, including the G7's Build Back Better World and the European Union's Global Gateway. The next Tallinn Digital Summit will take place in the fall of 2022 and will focus on translating the Tallinn Consensus on Trusted Connectivity into practice—from utilizing mechanisms such as the Blue Dot Network to assess the quality of individual infrastructure projects to enabling various financial institutions to co-finance infrastructure projects, and beyond.

## **Digital Public Goods and Cybersecurity**

Estonia is an advocate of the use of digital public goods and will continue working with its partners in developing the **GovStack** initiative. Estonia encourages governments to take ownership of their digital futures by building effective and cost-efficient public services. Estonia is committed to developing digital public infrastructure as a basis for a digital society that is secure by design while also respecting the rights and freedoms of citizens. Therefore, Estonia will continue contributing to the **UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation**, including its work on the the Digital Public Goods Alliance.

Estonia is actively engaged in the UN's digital and cyber processes—including the Open-Ended Working Group and the proposed Program of Action initiative—and initiatives such as the Freedom Online Coalition to help guarantee responsible state behaviour in cyberspace and to foster the development of free, open, and secure digital societies.

## **International Advancement of Democracy**

Estonia will continue supporting democracy through its ongoing **development cooperation** activities in countries in the Eastern Partnership, Africa, and the Western Balkans. In 2022, Estonia will launch the following co-financed activities in cooperation with the United States:

- Democracy-promoting projects under the 9<sup>th</sup> Development Cooperation Program (DCP) in **Ukraine**.
- A five-year cooperation program under the USAID's Future Technology Activity (FTA) initiative developing good governance and digital solutions in **Moldova**.
- Enhanced strategic cooperation to promote democracy and good governance at the local and municipality level in **Georgia**.

## **Supporting Democracy-Promoting Organizations**

In 2022, Estonia will continue supporting organizations that promote democracy by way of:

- making a first-time contribution to the Secretariat of the Freedom Online Coalition.
- making a first-time contribution to the Fund for Public Interest Media.
- increasing financial support to the Lifeline Embattled Civil Society Organization Assistance Fund.
- continuing financial support to UNESCO's Global Media Defense Fund.
- continuing financial support to the Digital Defenders Partnership.