EU Global Strategy on foreign and security policy: Annotated Outline

1. **Why an EU Global Strategy?**

   - Geographically global with a strong regional focus in our surrounding regions
   - Thematically global with a strong security focus

2. **An EU Global Strategy to Promote EU interests**

   The first three interests are predominantly internal with strong external implications. The fourth interest is predominantly external and is the precondition for fulfilment of the first three:
   - Security of EU citizens and territory and the ensuing interest in peaceful surrounding regions, as well as to prevent and tackle the root causes of conflict (climate change, development, resources, etc).
   - Prosperity of the EU and its citizens and the ensuing interest in an open international economic system and global governance fit to meet global challenges
   - Resilience of EU democracies, which conditions how the EU acts internally, in the internal/external nexus (e.g., migration), as well as externally (e.g., in the accession process, in the response to mass atrocities, more broadly in relations with all external actors)
   - A rules based global order, based on international law, to ward off power politics, provide global public goods, and contribute to a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

3. **The Principles of an EU Global Strategy**

   - Engagement in a More Connected World. There is no draw-bridge into Europe. The EU must reach out and engage.
   - Responsibility in a More Contested World: There is no magic wand to solve conflicts. The EU must prevent conflict, do no harm, facilitate local and regional agreements, commit long-term, and tackle the root causes of conflict.
   - Working together in a More Complex World: both internally between institutions and MS (unity of purpose and unity in action) and externally with partners of first resort (US, NATO, UN, etc) and through functional/transactional partnering in line with EU interests.

   These principles stem as much from a realistic assessment of the current strategic environment as from an idealistic aspiration for a peaceful transition towards a new rules-based global order. In charting the way between the Scylla of isolationism and the Charybdis of interventionism, the EU must engage the world manifesting responsibility towards others and sensitivity to contingency. Pragmatic idealism will guide the EU Global Strategy in the years ahead.

4. **The Priorities of the EU Global Strategy**

- **The resilience of the European Union and its Member States**. The Global strategy starts at home: the resilience of the EU and its MS. Internally work is being done (energy union, digital agenda, agenda on migration), but more needed in security/defence terms: defence/deterrence, counter-terrorism/CVE, information sharing and intelligence cooperation, external energy security, cyber security, external border management and external migration policy.

- **The resilience of states and societies in surrounding regions**. Within the remit of enlargement – countries in the strategic front-yard of the EU – the EU has a special advantage that must be used to ensure reforms regain momentum. A strict and fair accession process featuring greater scrutiny of reforms, clearer reform requirements, and credible feedback from EU peers is essential. Beyond enlargement and in countries to east (Afghanistan westwards) and south (DRC northwards) resilience is also key and fragility manifests in different ways (refugees, corruption, terrorism, border security, development, marginalization, radicalization, terrorism) and must be tackled through tailor made mixes.

- **Integrated approach to conflict and crisis**: At times – Libya, Syria, Somalia – the state has already imploded. In such cases the EU must complement work undertaken at international-national level to recreate the central state, with greater efforts at the local level (local ceasefires and security zones, fostering legitimate livelihoods at the local level, fostering inclusive local governance). It must also reinvest in conflict prevention and post-conflict peacebuilding.

- **Investing in regional security**. Local conflicts increasingly have a broader regional overlay and the absence of functioning and inclusive regional processes is both a cause and a consequence of conflict. In areas where such regional mechanisms exist (Africa, Americas) they have proven able to deliver public goods. The EU will invest in regional security in all four cardinal directions:

  - East:
    - Eastern partnership countries
    - EU-Russia relations
    - EU-Asia relations including Central Asia, China, and East/South-East Asia (notably ASEAN).
  - South:
    - Old and new conflicts in the MENA region: Iran-Gulf engagement strategy; Syria/Libya multilateral processes; Quartet and Arab partners. Aim: supporting and fostering the space for diplomacy
    - Supporting regional dialogue/cooperation in the broader MENA region on functional issues (climate, CT/CVE, etc)
    - Turkey's regional role: blending the accession process with strategic cooperation

- African regional security: AU, sub-regional organisations, and wider connections with MENA dynamics
  - West:
    - Reinvigorating the transatlantic relationship (TTIP, NATO, other)
    - Cooperation in the wider Atlantic space
  - North: Arctic cooperation
- **Strengthening Global Governance in the 21st century**. The EU remains deeply committed to the multilateral system, of which the UN is the lynchpin. Yet this commitment can no longer translate in an aim to preserve the existing system. In some areas, governance mechanisms exist but must be reformed in order to deliver global public goods and better reflect the changing realities of the international system. In other areas, notably those on the frontiers of 21st century world affairs, new governance mechanisms must be fostered and created. The recipes for their establishment will vary. They may imply the creation of new global institutions, the broadening remits of existing ones, the establishment of informal and inclusive multilateral mechanisms, or issue-specific initiatives undertaken at mini-lateral, regional or inter-regional levels. The EU will strive for effective global governance, actively and patiently seeking to reform, broaden or pioneer multilateral mechanisms across different policy areas with a view to strengthening a rules-based order fit to deliver global public goods.

4. Implications

Pulling the threads together and drawing implications regarding

- Resources and capacities (e.g., defence, cyber, counter-terrorism)
- Institutions (coherence between policy instruments and institutions, coordination between the EU and MS)
- Ways of working (greater flexibility and responsiveness in a world of predictable unpredictability)