



The 67th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations opens in New York on 18 September, with Ministerial week beginning the following Monday, 24 September. Commission President **José Manuel Barroso**, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission

**Catherine Ashton**  
and

**Ashton**

Commissioners

**Kristalina Georgieva**

(International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response),

**Connie Hedegaard**

(Climate Action) and

**Andris Piebalgs**

(Development), together with European Council President

**Herman Van Rompuy**

, will travel to New York to represent the EU in discussions on peace and security, sustainable development, human rights and strengthening the role of the United Nations.

### **The background:**

The EU will be represented in the General Debate on Wednesday, 26 September by President Van Rompuy. The [EU's priorities for the 67th UNGA session](#) were adopted by the Council in July.

**President Barroso** will address the High Level Meeting on the Rule of Law at the UN General Assembly on Monday 24 September, will participate in a number of high-level bilateral meetings and together with President Van Rompuy and High Representative/Vice-President Ashton, will

inaugurate the new offices of the EU Delegation in New York on Wednesday 26 September, in the presence of EU Ministers for Foreign Affairs. Furthermore, President Barroso will deliver a public lecture titled "European Union: An Indispensable Partner" at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, on Thursday 27 September.

**High Representative/Vice-President Ashton** will be in New York from 23 to 28 September. On her agenda will be priority issues relating to Syria, Iran, the Middle East peace process, Libya, European Neighbourhood Policy, the Belgrade/Pristina dialogue, Somalia and the Sahel. Notably, she will meet with a number of Foreign Affairs Ministers and will discuss the crisis in Syria with United Nations/League of Arab States Special Envoy Brahimi and League of Arab States Secretary-General Nabil El Araby.

**Commissioner Georgieva** will participate in the event "Ensuring Resilient Livelihoods", organised by USAID, on September 25. Together with other high-level figures from the world of humanitarian and development aid, she will discuss the Sahel and Horn of Africa crises at the "Resilience Champions" meeting on September 26, as well as the humanitarian situation in Syria, Yemen and Sudan/South Sudan.

**Commissioner for Climate Action Hedegaard** will meet with representatives of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) to advance negotiations in the run-up to the next round of international climate negotiations. Besides a series of bilateral meetings, Commissioner Hedegaard hosts an Informal High-level Climate change Roundtable for the Durban Platform on 28 September. She will also take part in the Major Economies Forum on 27 September.

**Commissioner for Development Piebalgs** will highlight the leading role of the EU in development. He will participate notably in the Sustainable Energy for All high-level meeting and will present his ideas on addressing food security challenges to the G8 Global Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. He will participate in a meeting on natural resources and transparency, and at the Scaling-Up Nutrition meeting he will reiterate the EU's commitment to reach at least seven million malnourished children with its development programmes by 2025.

The event will be available on [EbS](#). Press and audio-visual material will be available on the [Europa](#) and [EEAS](#)

websites as well as via EbS.

**Source:** [European Union @ United Nations](#) / Top News from the European Commission 22 September – 19 October 2012