### From Neighboring Frameworks to Transatlantic Cooperation: Innovative **Approaches to Global Challenges**

In an increasingly interconnected world, global challenges demand innovative approaches to cooperation and collaboration. The European Union (EU) and the United States (US) share a long history of collaboration, and their relationship has evolved over time to meet the changing needs of the 21st century. This article explores how the EU and US are working together to address global challenges and how their frameworks of cooperation have influenced their collaborative efforts.



The External Dimension of the European Union's **Critical Infrastructure Protection Programme: From Neighbouring Frameworks to Transatlantic Cooperation** 

by Kristen Stein

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**Historical Context** 

The EU and US have a long history of cooperation, dating back to the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951. However, the formalization of their relationship began in 1995 with the establishment of the Transatlantic Declaration. This declaration established a framework for cooperation in a wide range of areas, including trade, security, and energy. Over the years, the EU and US have expanded their cooperation to include new areas such as climate change and counterterrorism.

#### **Neighboring Frameworks**

The EU and US have developed distinct frameworks of cooperation that have shaped their collaborative efforts. The EU's framework is based on the Treaty on European Union, which emphasizes the principles of supranationalism and solidarity. The US framework, on the other hand, is based on the principles of intergovernmentalism and national sovereignty. These differences in frameworks have led to different approaches to cooperation.

The EU's supranational framework allows for the creation of common institutions and policies that are binding on all member states. This has enabled the EU to develop a strong internal market and to speak with a single voice on the international stage. The US's intergovernmental framework, on the other hand, emphasizes the sovereignty of each individual state. This has led to a more decentralized approach to cooperation, with each state retaining the ability to pursue its own interests.

#### **Transatlantic Cooperation**

Despite their differences in frameworks, the EU and US have a long history of successful cooperation. This cooperation has been particularly important

in addressing global challenges. For example, the EU and US have worked together to promote democracy and human rights, combat climate change, and counterterrorism. In recent years, they have also strengthened their cooperation on trade and energy security.

The EU and US have a number of fora for cooperation, including the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), the Transatlantic Energy Council, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). These fora provide a platform for dialogue, negotiation, and decision-making. They have also helped to institutionalize EU-US cooperation and to create a solid foundation for future collaboration.

#### **Challenges and Opportunities**

The EU and US face a number of challenges in their transatlantic cooperation. These challenges include:

- Different economic interests
- Diverging approaches to security
- Growing populism and nationalism
- The rise of China

However, the EU and US also have a number of opportunities to strengthen their cooperation. These opportunities include:

- Shared values and interests
- Common challenges
- A deep and enduring relationship

A strong institutional foundation for cooperation

The EU and US have a long history of cooperation, dating back to the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951. Despite their differences in frameworks of cooperation, they have worked together to address global challenges and have achieved significant successes. As the world continues to face complex and interconnected challenges, the EU and US will need to continue to strengthen their transatlantic cooperation. By ng so, they can help to build a more prosperous, secure, and sustainable future for both Europe and the United States.



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