ATLANTIC
— CENTRE —

Joint Statement on the Atlantic Centre

The Atlantic Ocean connects multiple continents and serves as a crossroads for international commerce, communication, and exploration for all Atlantic nations. The Atlantic Ocean holds numerous known and unknown natural resources in its depths. Atlantic nations face a myriad of maritime challenges such as transnational organized crime, piracy, terrorism, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and migration, in addition to climate change, which can exacerbate some of these challenges.

In this fast-evolving context, the Atlantic Centre focuses on improving the security context of the whole of the Atlantic, as a part of a comprehensive approach that aims to identify and provide responses to existing and future challenges. It also comprises a key asset in bridging North-South interests, establishing an important platform for pan-Atlantic dialogue and cooperation.

Therefore, the signatories to this Joint Statement, namely: Angola, Argentina, Brazil, Belgium, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Equatorial-Guinea, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Spain, Togo, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uruguay.

- Recognize the opportunities and challenges posed by access to, and use of, the Atlantic Ocean;
- Recognize the strategic importance of multinational dialogue supported by strong maritime, land, air, space, and cyberspace capabilities across the Atlantic community;
- Seek to advance a common vision for improving Atlantic security;
- Consider that instituting the Atlantic Centre on Terceira Island, Azores, would make a valuable contribution to Atlantic security;
- Encourage the Atlantic Centre to foster the production and dissemination of knowledge and to support the development of public policies that improve security broadly understood across the Atlantic;
- Encourage the Atlantic Centre to launch a dialogue at a pan-Atlantic level that emphasises sharing best practices, identifying challenges and key-shared priorities for cooperative action;
- Encourage the Atlantic Centre to organize seminars, events, and training opportunities that improve security capabilities of Atlantic nations, consistent with available human and financial resources and in full complementarity with existing fora and initiatives;
- Encourage ongoing efforts to establish the Atlantic Centre in order to pursue the abovementioned objectives.

Lisbon, 30 September 2026