French-Swedish declaration on bilateral and EU cooperation

France and Sweden:

➢ Reaffirm our commitment to the French-Swedish strategic partnership on innovation and green solutions. We will build on the progress made since 2017, aiming at the welfare of our citizens and competitiveness of our companies, through a rebalancing of economic, social and environmental goals. We will further enhance our cooperation in the areas of inclusive climate neutral cities 2030, green solutions for the future of mobility and energy, green finance, artificial intelligence and digital transformation in life science and strategic research infrastructure. We will also promote innovative and inclusive governance at national and international level.

➢ Will work to uphold the respect of the EU’s founding values according to the treaties and protect our democratic freedoms and electoral processes. Consider that respect for the rule of law should be a condition for EU funding, and support an effective periodic EU review mechanism on the rule of law. Promote a collective response mechanism for the protection of election processes from cyberattacks and manipulation.

➢ Will promote the objective of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions at EU level by 2050 at the latest, and make sure that the EU submits an ambitious long-term strategy to the UNFCCC in early 2020 including this target and develops new measures to promote sustainable finance, such as transforming the EIB in order to make green financing its priority and promote investment in energy and climate transition.

➢ Invite the European Commission to present a new EU Strategy for fair jobs and inclusive growth, building on the principles of the European pillar of social rights and implementation of the Paris agreement.

➢ Consider that the fight against labour market abuse and dumping practices in the European Union should be reinforced, in particular with the support of the forthcoming European Labour Authority.

➢ Promote the full participation of women and girls in all spheres of society, working together to strengthen the global normative framework for gender equality, and demand gender equality mainstreaming in all relevant EU policies.

➢ Believe that the EU should adopt a forward-looking approach towards a digital, sustainable and inclusive European economy, building on efforts to strengthen the single market with the best regulatory environment to ensure a level playing field, and an ambitious and robust trade policy that supports the transition to a low carbon economy.

➢ Will strive for the swift adoption of a common European asylum system building on shared responsibility and solidarity, as well as strengthened control of the EU’s external borders, and consider that to this end all appropriate decisions regarding the Schengen system, as well as funding in the future MFF, must be taken.

➢ Promote the access and exchange of information to law enforcement agencies to strengthen effective cooperation and the legal framework to combat threats including terrorism, and support a common EU approach on the cybersecurity of 5G networks.
Consider that Europe must take increased responsibility for its own security and enhance its ability to act across the whole range of crisis management activities; call for a deepening of the EU’s defence cooperation, which will go hand in hand with enhanced partnerships. Being a security community, EU cohesion must be preserved, solidarity enhanced and mutual assistance ensured.

Consider that security in the Baltic Sea region is a shared concern that is important for the security of Europe, and are committed to addressing challenges and reaffirm their regional commitment and involvement.

Consider that the prosperity and stability of the Sahel and the Horn of Africa is essential to Europe and will continue supporting efforts by Sahel states to take over responsibility for security and cooperate to promote positive developments in both regions.

Call on Europeans to work collectively to identify the key feature of the new security environment and its impact on the current arms control regimes.