

RESOLUTION

**To accompany the Brussel Declaration on the
Establishment of the
Europe Pan African Coalition on Reparatory Justice**



Brussel, November 23rd, 2024

We, The Europe Pan African Forum for People of African Descent, (EPAF-PAD):

- **The independent Regional Forum composed of: autonomous Pan-African Civil Society, African Descendants in Diaspora representatives, from the different European countries**, established to support:

all UN Mechanisms including the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent¹; the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent² in the implementation of the Declarations and Programs of Action of the UN International Decade(s) for People of African Descent (2015-2024³; 2025-2034); the UN Durban World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (2001) as well all affiliated Policies, Programs, Projects and Activities⁴ with Focus on Reparatory Justice for Africa and People of African Descent and in Diaspora and the struggle against Afrophobia (also known as Afriphobia).
- **The organizers of the self-supported Pan African Roundtable on November 22-23, 2024, in Brussels, Belgium**, with the aim to launch the Establishment of the **Europe Pan African Forum on Reparatory Justice (EPAC-RJ)**. This includes 78 representatives from: Spain, Italy, Norway, United Kingdom, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, Finland and from Ivory Coast, Uganda, USA, Togo.
- **With Support of:**
 - **Pan-Afrikan Reparations Coalition in Europe (PARCOE)**, Mrs. Esther-Xosei;
 - **Europe-wide NGO Consultative Council for Afrikan Reparations (ENGOCCAR)**, Ms. Marissa Daruwalla;
 - **Global Afrikan Congress (GAC-UK)**, Mrs. Judy Richards;
 - **The Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance**, Dr DOUDOU Diene;
 - **The Responsible African Union Member State for the implementation of the Accra Proclamation**, Mr. Akwasi Awua Ababio, Director Diaspora office of the President;
 - **Caricom Reparation Commission**, Chief Eric Phillips;
 - **The UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent**, Dr Barbara Reynolds;
 - **The African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council Board of Directors**, Dr Angela Sayles;
 - **The African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council Coordinator Youth Affairs**, Nchima Enock Mwewa;

¹ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent>

² <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-african-descent>

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<https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F68%2F237&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False>

⁴ [Durban_text_en.pdf](#)

1. Having regards to

A) **The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (2001)** that produced the Durban Declaration and Program of Action (DDPA) as the leading Document that was adopted by the World Conference and which highlights the confrontation of the consequences of colonialism, reparations and the overcoming of historical inequalities and in this regard pinpoints the general questions about the causes, forms and contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation;

B) **Paragraph 13** which underlined and recognized slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade⁵, as great tragedies in human history, not only as an abominable barbarism, in terms of its magnitude and organized nature but especially, by its denial of the victims' human essence. It recognized such acts as a crime against humanity. The effects of these heinous and barbaric Crimes Against Humanity continue to have grave and negative impacts on the social, cultural and economic development of the victims. This as a result of the Maangamizie as we representatives of the EPAF-PAD recognized these horrors;

C) **Paragraph 100** in which UN Member States recognized and deplored the untold suffering and harm inflicted on millions of men, women and children as a result of slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade, apartheid, genocide and past tragedies, apartheid, genocide and tragedies that have occurred, further noting that some States have already taken the initiative to apologize and repair, when appropriate, the serious and massive violations committed:

D) **Paragraph 158** UN Members States recognized that these historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparities, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries. The Conference recognized the need to develop programs for the social and economic development of these societies and the Diaspora, within the framework of a new partnership;

E) **Paragraph 165** under Remedies, reparations, compensation, urges UN Member States to reinforce protection against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance by ensuring that all persons have access to effective and adequate remedies and enjoy the right to seek from competent national tribunals and other national institutions just and adequate reparation and satisfaction for any damage as a result of such discrimination. It further underlines the importance of access to the law and to the courts for complainants of racism and racial discrimination and draws attention to the need for judicial and other remedies to be made widely known, easily accessible, expeditious and not unduly complicated;

E) **Paragraph 166** urges Member States to adopt the necessary measures, as provided by national law, to ensure the right of victims to seek just and adequate reparation and satisfaction to redress acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and to design effective measures to prevent the repetition of such acts.

2. Taken into consideration

⁵ More known as the trafficking of Africans, the kidnapping, transport and trafficking of people and then under barbaric conditions bring them under the regime of forced labor with the use of the reprehensible instruments of slavery.

A) The following acts **of the Vatican:**

The petition of the Catholic Church for the papal authority to launch a 'Christian' crusade into Africa (1400's the Portuguese Crown, under King John 1st); In 1418 Pope Martin V issued the Sane Charissimus papal bull to initiate military conquest; In 1419 Pope Martin V issued the Cum Charissimus papal bull to reaffirm his support for King John's request; In 1442 Pope Eugene IV issued the Illuis Qui papal bull which granted the remission of sins to those Knights participating in these wars under the leadership of Prince Henry the Navigator – appointed head of the order of Christ by Pope Martin; In 1420 – Henry was the son of King John 1st; In 1452 Pope Nicholas V issued the DUM DIVERSAS papal bull⁶ authorizing Prince Henry to wage war in Africa and to subject Africans to perpetual enslavement (1452 Pope Nicholas V);

B) **The General Act of the Berlin Conference on West Africa, 26 February 1885**⁷;

C) **The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights** (1981)⁸, which establishes principles for Human and African people's Rights;

D) **The Abuja Proclamation** as a result of the Conference that was held in Abuja, Nigeria, in 1993 and attended by representatives from throughout the Diaspora. That Conference issued a Declaration, called the Abuja Proclamation⁹, which called for a national reparations committee to be set up throughout Africa and the Diaspora;

E) That some countries most responsible for this dark period in human history of Africa and Global African people, have taken the initiative of regretting, expressed remorse or presented apologies for their past deeds;

F) That such recognition including reparation will constitute the beginning of a process that will foster the institution of an indispensable dialogue between peoples whom history has put in conflict, for the achievement of a world of understanding, tolerance and peace;

G) That some largely continue to resist official recognition of these acts as a crime against humanity and refuse to officially apologize and proceed at to repairs;

H) That it is not possible to combat racism, racial discrimination, the struggle against Afrophobia impunity or denounce the human rights violations against Africa and the Global African People which persist in the world without first taking account of the deep wounds of the past that includes the economic, social and cultural consequences which have contributed significantly to the underdevelopment of developing countries and of Africa, the Caribbean, Central and South America;

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dum_Diversas

⁷ <https://loveman.sdsu.edu/docs/1885GeneralActBerlinConference.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.african-court.org/wpafc/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AFRICAN-BANJUL-CHARTER-ON-HUMAN-AND-PEOPLES-RIGHTS.pdf>

⁹ <https://africanlii.org/akn/aa-au/doc/declaration/1993-04-29/the-abuja-proclamation-a-declaration-of-the-first-abuja-pan-african-conference-on-reparations-for-african-enslavement-colonization-and-neo-colonization-sponsored-by-the-organization-of-african-unity-and-its-reparations-commission-april-27-29-1993-abuja-nigeria/eng@1993-04-29>

I) The **Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power** Adopted by General Assembly resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985¹⁰;

J) The **UN General Assembly Resolution 60/147, 16 December 2005 Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law**¹¹;

K) The **establishing of a European day in recognition of the victims of European colonization and colonial slavery** (2013)¹²;

L) The Caricom Ten Point Plan (2013)¹³;

M) **The UK contingent of the International Social Movement for Afrikan Reparations (ISMAR)** has led on several victories included below which has Europe-wide and global implications and resonance:

a) **The Stop the Maangamizi Petition initiated by the Stop The Maangamizi: We Charge Genocide/Ecocide Campaign (SMWeCGEC)** calling for the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry for Truth & Reparatory Justice (APPCITARJ) at the levels of the UK and European Parliaments and the SMWeCGEC's lobbying for the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Afrikan Reparations in the UK Houses of Parliament;

b) **The UK Afrikan Reparations Statement (2023)**¹⁴ of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Afrikan Reparations calling for the establishment of an All-Party Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry for Truth, Justice and Reparations;

c) **The Principles of Participation of the International Network of Scholars & Activists for Afrikan Reparations (INOSAAR)**¹⁵ which institute a working framework of ethical scholarship and Afrikan heritage community-centred collaboration that will seek to address some of the failings and oversights of Euro-centric (academic);

d) **The Reparations and Atonement Motions for the UK's role in the Transatlantic Trafficking of Enslaved Afrikans** passed in London in 2020 and Bristol in 2021 which represent the first and only reparations motions passed by local and city councils in Europe calling for the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Commissions of Inquiry for Truth & Reparatory Justice;

e) **The Pempamsiempango** (Glocal Reparations Action Plans for Planet Repairs Alternative Progression) championed by PARCOE and the Stop the Maangamizi Campaign¹⁶.

¹⁰ https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.29_declaration%20victims%20crime%20and%20abuse%20of%20power.pdf

¹¹ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/basic-principles-and-guidelines-right-remedy-and-reparation>

¹² <https://app.box.com/file/334610167632?s=heeakeh5a9crbfbtf87dyzhpe1o3alvh>

¹³ <https://caricom.org/caricom-ten-point-plan-for-reparatory-justice/>

[UK Reparations Conference 2023 Statement — APPG for Afrikan Reparations](#)

¹⁴ <https://www.appg-ar.org/uk-reparations-conference-2023-statement>

¹⁵ <https://www.inosaar.llc.ed.ac.uk/en/principles-participation>

¹⁶ <https://stopthemaangamizi.com/2022/02/18/pempamsiempango-glocal-reparations-action-plan-for-planet-repairs-alternative-progression/>

N) The **Report on Reparations for Transatlantic Slavery in the Americas and the Caribbean of June 8, 2023**¹⁷, prepared by scholars from various areas such as history, law, and economics, deals with reparations for groups and people affected by the effect of transatlantic trafficking of African people, points out social and economic inequalities in the American Continent and the Caribbean, and suggests compensatory reparation measures, of historical recognition and social justice;

O) The **2023 Brattle Group Report**¹⁸ and the Accra Proclamation of the same year as references for discussing compensatory and reparation measures;

P) The **EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance (2018)**¹⁹;

R) The calls from ENAR for **national strategies to combat Afrophobia and promote the inclusion of people of African descent and Black Europeans**, based on the model of the European Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies adopted by EU Member States (2011)²⁰;

S) **The African Union's Agenda 2063**²¹, which consists of a strategic plan for the economic and social development of Africa with the objective of promoting social and historical justice due to the consequences of colonialism and slavery;

T) **The Accra Declaration on the Decade of Return (2019)**²²;

U) **European Union Parliament Resolution on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe (March 26, 2019)**²³;

V) **European Union Parliament Resolution (June 19, 2020) on the anti-racism protests following the death of George Floyd**²⁴;

W) **The Accra Reparations Conference held in Accra**, Ghana from 14 to 17 November 2023, under the theme "Building a United Front to Advance the Cause of Justice and Reparations to Africans" (hereafter referred to as "Accra Reparations Conference" or "Conference"); and hailing from all the regions of the Continent of Africa and the African Diaspora, including the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe and the U.K. and the **Commitments and Recommendations for Member States of the African Union constituted in the Accra Proclamation on Reparations**²⁵ taken in consideration the special position of the African Diasporas in Europe;

¹⁷ <https://www.brattle.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Report-on-Reparations-for-Transatlantic-Chattel-Slavery-in-the-Americas-and-the-Caribbean.pdf>

¹⁸ <https://www.brattle.com/insights-events/publications/brattle-consultants-quantify-reparations-for-transatlantic-chattel-slavery-in-pro-bono-paper/>

¹⁹ file:///C:/Users/biekm/Downloads/hlg_conclusions_paper_afrophobia_final_8F1D1014-9DAF-7BBD-4242A77917103F72_55651.pdf

²⁰ <https://www.enar-eu.org/about/afrophobia/>

²¹ https://au.int/Agenda2063/popular_version

²² <https://app.box.com/s/o42o6wvfj52og1ey46m8gc3lltopejz2>

²³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0239_EN.html?redirect

²⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020IP0173>

²⁵ <https://au.int/en/decisions/accra-proclamation-reparations>

X) **Resolution on Africa’s Reparations Agenda and The Human Rights of Africans In the Diaspora and People of African Descent Worldwide** - ACHPR/Res.543 (LXXIII) 2022ACHPR/Res.616 (LXXXI) 2024 to declare 2025 as the Year of African descendant with the theme: "justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations"²⁶ ;

Y) **The Article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act (2003)²⁷, the African Union African Diaspora Declaration (2012)²⁸ and the establishment of the African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region Europe Facilitators²⁹;**

Z) **Participation of the People**

In context of the participation of the ‘People’ as underlined in the ‘**Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Violations of International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**’³⁰ Reparations can only be achieved if they meet the needs of victims and that a participatory process:

- a) Fosters a sense of local, national, and regional ownership over Reparations policies and programs. By involving victims, beneficiaries, and other relevant stakeholders in shaping reparations agendas and designing processes and programs from the outset, we can help manage expectations about what such initiatives can and cannot accomplish and;
- b) Has the potential to be healing for victims, beneficiaries, and communities. Being consulted and recognized as rights-holders allows victims to move forward, reduces the stigma associated with victimhood, and restores their agency and dignity as Africans and people of African descent. This process also reinforces political status as citizens, which has been impaired by the lasting impact of violations on current generations. The civil society involvement is crucial.

3. Decide

1) To establish the Europe Pan African Coalition on Reparatory Justice with the aims:

- a) To bring together, voices from across the African Diaspora in Europe, to advocate for Reparatory Justice for Africa and its descendants, focusing on the State of the Vatican Rome and all other perpetrators that committed the crimes against Africa, African people and in Diaspora. Taking into account the International, Regional and National Instruments on Human and Peoples Rights including the special Resolutions regarding the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of African People. This includes the Durban Declaration and Program of Action (2001), the UN Decades for People of African descent and all other affiliated human rights-related resolutions, declarations and agreements;
- b) To Strengthen the European Coalition for Reparatory Justice by building solid partnerships and enhancing advocacy capabilities across the continent Africa and the rest of the world;

²⁶ <https://achpr.au.int/index.php/en/adopted-resolutions/543-resolution-africas-reparations-agenda-and-human-rights-africans>

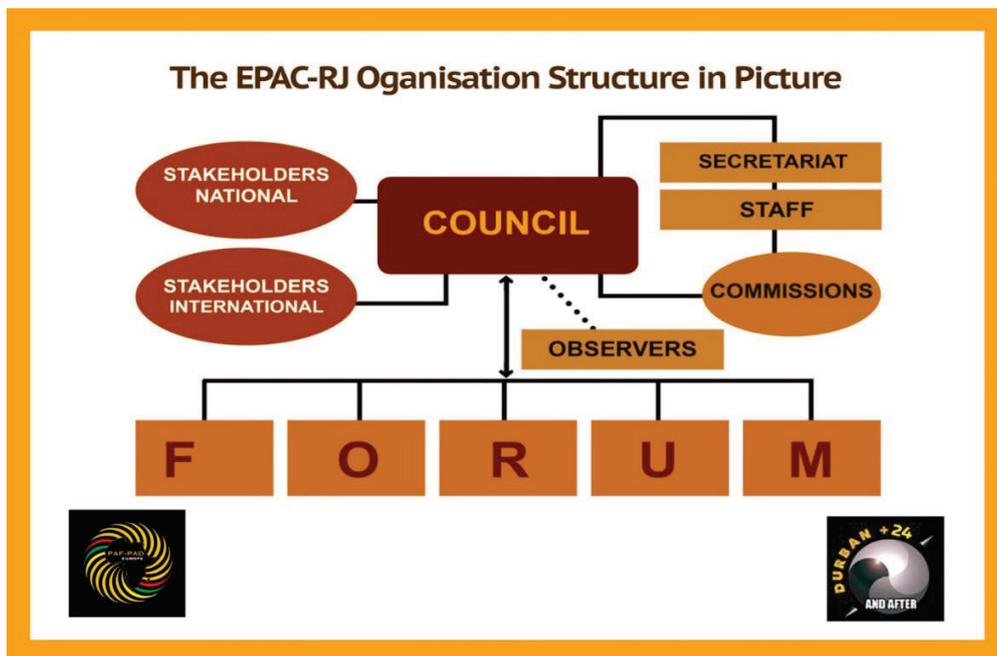
²⁷ <https://au.int/en/treaties/protocol-amendments-constitutive-act-african-union>

²⁸ https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/30970-doc-global_diaspora_summit_declaration-e.pdf

²⁹ https://auadshighcouncil.org/?cmp_bypass=402c623146geh6rh6u57u46egggytugy6eh6ru564e

³⁰ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/basic-principles-and-guidelines-right-remedy-and-reparation>

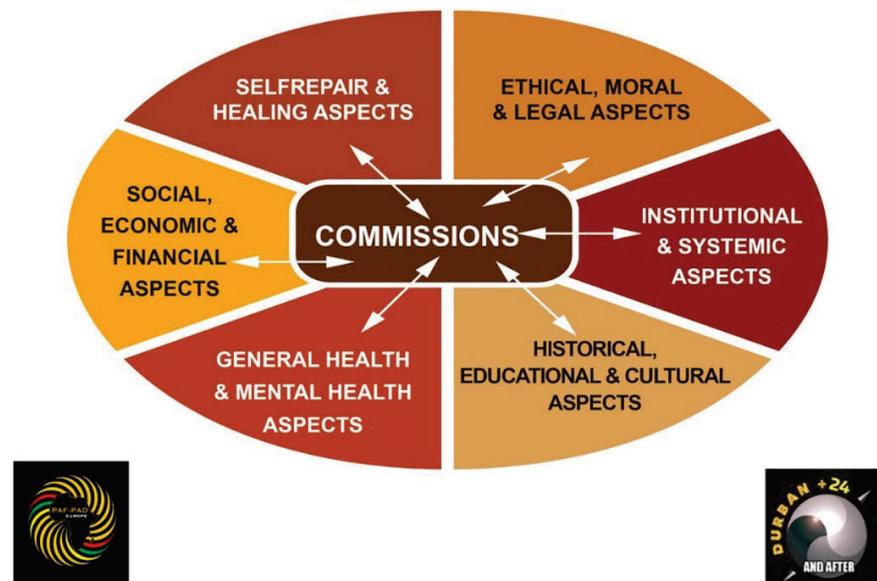
- c) To Harmonize frameworks for Reparatory Justice to ensure clarity and unity with the aim to educate the Civil Society on all levels of the Society including the grassroots;
- d) To Provide an overview of European positions on Reparations for a Comprehensive, Collective perspective;
- 2) To Use for the operationalization of work the adopted Organization structure as a Model for the organizing and mobilizing on Regional (Europe) and National (Country) Level.



The EPAC-RJ Structure of the Stakeholders in Picture



The EPAC-RJ Expert Commissions in Picture



3) To Mobilize the African Diaspora in preparation for the Year of Reparations declared by the African Union, Commission on Human and Peoples Rights.

This Resolution entered into force per December 1, 2024.

On behalf of the Pan African Roundtable on November 22-23, 2024 EPAF-PAD Delegates

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