



EurAc

**Europe-Central
Africa Network**

STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2029

**Towards an increased engagement in
and inclusive development of
the Great Lakes Region**

What we do

The Europe Central-Africa Network (EurAc), created in 2003, serves as the umbrella organisation of over 30 non-governmental organisations and networks, working closely on the ground with civil society from the Great Lakes Region in Central Africa, and supporting their efforts in building a better future.

Our actions are guided by the **“human rights-based approach”**, following the principle of **policy coherence for sustainable development**. They are also interlinked with the global Agenda 2030 and the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, in particular SDG 16 on “Peace, justice and strong institutions” as well as SDG 17 “Partnerships for the goals”.

We work through **a tailor-made country approach with a global vision for the region and an understanding of the interconnectedness of countries in the Great Lakes**.



Vision

THE CHANGE WE WANT TO SEE

EurAc's vision is connected to the establishment of lasting peace and security, inclusive political participation and protection of human rights as well as the sustainable and equitable management of natural resources in the Great Lakes Region and Central Africa.

We believe that in order to build inclusive societies, based on the rule of law and justice, we need to **ensure that the voice of civil society is heard and reflected in policymaking at all levels.**

Mission


HOW WE WILL ACCOMPLISH IT


EurAc's mission is to **lead advocacy towards the EU** that contributes to the development and the implementation, by the EU and its Member States, of strong and coherent policies, promoting peace, inclusive political participation, the sustainable and equitable management of natural resources and the full respect of human rights in the Great Lakes region in Central Africa through an **integrated regional approach.**


EurAc serves as a **hub for its members**, encouraging **joint advocacy actions** and **experience-sharing**. Through **dialogue-building**, the network connects its CSO members and their partners in Central Africa with the institutions of the European Union, offering them a safe space to discuss the challenges of the region and the coherence within EU policies.



Advocacy Objectives

 The EU and its Member States increase their commitment (both policy-wise and financially) to the Great Lakes Region with a specific focus on human rights, peace and security, and sustainable management of natural resources.

 The EU institutions consult EurAc and its members on a regular basis in preparing their policy agenda with regards to the Great Lakes Region, expanding the space for civil society engagement in consultation processes.

 European and Central African civil society actors gain direct and structured access to the institutions of the EU and at MS level, where they can articulate their concerns as well as share their expertise on issues linked to human rights, security and management of natural resources.

Thematic Objectives



PEACE & SECURITY

The EU steps up its political, diplomatic, technical and financial engagement to promote peace and stability in the Great Lakes region.



HUMAN RIGHTS

The EU strengthens its partnership with civil society actors in the Great Lakes region through EurAc to work together in identifying, addressing and tackling issues related to the rule of law, justice, good governance, shrinking civic and democratic space and human rights protection.



NATURAL RESOURCES

The EU actively promotes and engages in the protection and sustainable management of natural resources, minerals, forestry, biodiversity, agriculture, soil and land in the Great Lakes region, guaranteeing greater coherence within its policies.



Guiding Principles and Core Values



CONFLICT SENSITIVITY

We work through conflict sensitivity lenses and focus on the long-term impact of actions on the region.



TRANSPARENCY

We act with transparency and caution to protect our members and their local partners, applying the “do-no-harm” principle.



INCLUSIVENESS

We are inclusive and we bring together a diverse geographic and thematic expertise. We trust in eye-level cooperation and abide by the norms of non-discrimination and gender balance.



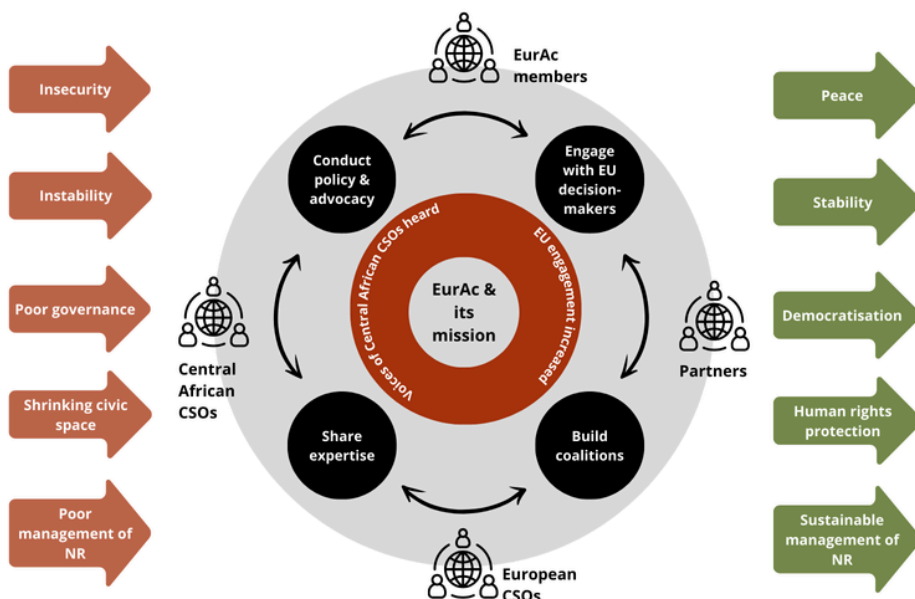
COOPERATION & SYNERGY- BUILDING

We seek synergies with like-minded partners for a more impactful contribution to the efforts to bring peace, security, human rights protection and sustainable management of natural resources in the region.

Theory of Change

EurAc will further strengthen its role as a **bridge-builder between civil society organisations and decision-makers** at the European and Member State levels.

It will continue serving as a platform for **experience sharing** for its members and as an **advocacy hub** that helps build coalitions and gain more impactful advocacy traction.





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Rue Stevin 115, 1000 Brussels

Mobile: +32 490 43 76 70

BCE: 0886 543 871

info@eurac-network.org

www.eurac-network.org