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Civil 7 Final Report 2024

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1. Introduction

The C7, or Civil 7, is one of the official Engagement Groups (EGs) of the G7. While the G20 started recognizing formally several EGs more than ten years ago, the G7 officially acknowledged the G7 EGs only in 2021, formalizing a long tradition of political dialogue promoted by civil society with the G7 more than 25 years ago, when the Jubilee Debt Campaign called the G7 governments, the group of the main creditors, for debt relief.

Receiving the baton from the Japanese colleagues, the Italian civil society took over the Presidency on the 1st of December 2023, coordinated by GCAP Italy, the network that gathers Italian CSOs in the advocacy and the dialogue with the government and international bodies on the G7, G20 and the 2030 Agendas.

With this report, the Italian presidency intends to share with the international constituency of CSOs and stakeholders, the results of the Civil 7 activity during 2024.

2. The C7 structure

The C7 is led by a **Presidency** formed by the C7 Chair and the C7 Sherpa. While the **Chair** ensures the coherence of the comprehensive process, the rigorous link of the policy proposals of the C7 with the Human Rights framework, and the participation of civil society from all over the world, the **Sherpa** facilitates the activity of the Working Groups, ensures the coherence of the interconnections among the policy asks of the various WGs and maintains relations with the Presidency of the G7 and the G7 Sherpa in order to convey the political messages from the C7.

The Presidency worked with the **Steering Committee**, formed this year by the Coordinators of the **Working Groups**, some representatives of the **national C7 platforms**, a representative of **African civil society** and the Presidency itself.

The C7 developed its activity in 2024 with 7 Working Groups (WGs). Each of these WGs was facilitated by a national Coordinator from Italy and an international Coordinator.



The C7 Working Groups in 2024

More than 700 organizations from around 100 countries actively attended the WGs in 2024.

<u>C7 WORKING GROUPS</u>	Coordinators
1. CLIMATE, ENERGY TRANSFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	Mariagrazia Midulla , GCAP Italy/WWF Italy Caroline Brouillet , CAN Canada
2. ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND TRANSFORMATION	Monica Di Sisto , GCAP Italy/Fairwatch Patricia Miranda , Latindadd
3. GLOBAL HEALTH	Stefania Burbo , GCAP Italy/Global Health Italian Network Robin Montgomery Canadian HIV Legal Network
4. PRINCIPLED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE	Miro Modrusan , Gcap Italy/INTERSOS Jeremy Wellard , ICVA
5. PEACE, COMMON SECURITY AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT	Francesco Vignarca , GCAP Italy/Italian Network for Peace and Disarmament Emily Molinari , International Peace Bureau
6. HUMAN MOBILITY AND MIGRATION	Francesco Aureli , Co-Spokesperson GCAP Italy Rose Worden , InterAction
7. FOOD JUSTICE AND FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION	Italo Rizzi , GCAP Italy/LVIA Musa Sowe , ROPPA

The C7 Steering Committee in 2024

The SC is formed by the Coordinators of the WGs, the representatives of the national platforms of civil society following the C7/G7 process in Canada, Germany, Japan, the UK and the USA, a representative of African civil society and the Presidency

<u>C7 Steering Committee</u>	
<p>WG Coordinators</p> <p>Maria Grazie Midulla Caroline Brouillet Monica Di Sisto Patricia Miranda Stefania Burbo Robin Montgomery Miro Modrusan Jeremy Wellard Francesco Vignarca Emily Molinari Francesco Aureli Rose Worden Italo Rizzi Musa Sowe</p>	<p>National Platforms</p> <p>Darron Seller-Peritz, Cooperation Canada - Canada Anke Kurat, VENRO - Germany Aoi Horiuchi, JANIC - Japan Sandra Martinsone, BOND - UK Ben Bestor, Interaction – USA</p> <p>Africa</p> <p>Oumar Sow, GCAP Africa - Senegal</p> <p>Presidency</p> <p>Valeria Emmi, C7 Sherpa Riccardo Moro, C7 Chair</p>



The C7 Presidency and Secretariat

The organization of the C7 in 2024 has been provided by the Presidency and the Secretariat.

<u>C7 Presidency and Secretariat</u>
<i>Secretariat and organization</i> – Andrea Bosio
<i>Communication</i> – Dario Lo Scalzo
<i>Sherpa</i> – Valeria Emmi
<i>Chair</i> – Riccardo Moro

3. The C7 activities

The 2024 C7 process started on November 21 2023 in Rome with the Handover Meeting under the Presidency of the Japanese civil society. Then the Kick-off Meeting in January launched the action of the C7 Working Groups that met online during the year to monitor the debate evolving in the G7, prepare the thematic sections of the C7 Communiqué and raise proposals for the G7 Ministerial Meetings.

The C7 Summit in May was the peak of the activity of the C7, with several panels of discussion between civil society, experts and officials, and the release of the C7 Communiqué. In June the G7 Summit in Apulia was monitored by the C7 with a presence in the Media Center and the issue of a C7 reaction to the G7 Communiqué.

During the year the C7 followed the G7 process leading to the Ministerial Meetings, publishing statements and press releases comparing the results with the political requests.

The C7 had also the opportunity to meet several officials and the representative of the G7 Sherpa Offices of the G7 countries in the main phases of the process.

Kick-off Meeting

On January 18th, the Italian Presidency of the C7 launched the 2024 process, in a hybrid meeting hosted in Rome with a dialogue between the representative of the Italian G7 Sherpa Office, who presented the Italian priorities, and the C7 WG coordinators explained the main concerns of the international civil society.



ROME, 18 JANUARY 2024 **C7 2024 KICK OFF** 

AGENDA
KICK OFF MEETING

- 14:00 Opening remarks by Italian C7 Chair, Riccardo Moro
- 14:10 Presentation of the G7 priorities by Italian G7 Sherpa Office
- 14:30 Remarks and Agenda for C7 by Italian C7 Sherpa, Valeria Emmi
- 14:45 Open dialogue
- 15:10 Brief presentation of the C7 Working Groups by Coordinators
- 15:50 Q&A
- 16:00 Closing Remarks/End of the session

 Scan here to register    

The meeting was attended by 224 people and was preceded by a public dialogue of GCAP Italy with key officials on the Italian proposals in the G7 process, on the basis of a ‘preliminary document’ of the Italian civil society.

Press report

<https://civil7.org/news/2057/>

Video

[Video recording of the Kick-off Meeting](#)

[Video message of the C7 Sherpa](#)

[Video message of the C7 Chair](#)

Documents

[Gcap Italy-C7 Policy Brief- Preliminary recommendations to the Italian Presidency](#)





The Working Groups

After the Kick-off Meeting, the C7 opened the process to register online to the thematic Working Groups and the WGs met online during the year to monitor the debate evolving in the G7, prepare the thematic sections of the C7 Communiqué and raise proposals for the G7 Ministerial Meetings.

The main output of the Working Groups was the drafting of the thematic parts of the C7 Communiqué.

1. Climate, energy transformation and environmental justice

Number of members 242

Number of plenary meetings 3

2. Economic justice and transformation

Number of members 187

Number of plenary meetings 3

3. Global Health

Number of members 272

Number of plenary meetings: 10

4. Principled humanitarian assistance

Number of members 146

Number of plenary meetings: 6

5. Peace, common security and nuclear disarmament

Number of members 137

Number of plenary meetings: 4

6. Human mobility and migration

Number of members 123

Number of plenary meetings: 4

7. Food justice and food systems transformation

Number of members 159

Number of plenary meetings: 3

The Steering Committee

The SC, with the participation and contribution of the WG Coordinators, allowed the dialogue among the Working Groups and the sharing of the topics and the policy asks. It endorsed also the main decisions during the C7 process and approved the documents issued by the C7 during the year.

Number of SC meetings: 9



The Presidency

The Presidency provided the general facilitation and coordination of the process and the coherence of the proposals raised by the C7. The Presidency ensured also the dialogue with the G7 Presidency and officials and the presence, when possible, of the C7 in the formal process of the G7.

The participation in the G7 WGs and Ministerial Meetings

The G7 process in 2024 was rather closed. The delegation of the C7 could only attend two WG meetings of the G7 Labour and Employment process and the C7 Sherpa was invited to the Labour Ministerial Meeting, which she attended together with representatives of other Engagement Groups. This has been the more open process in all the G7 activities in 2024 and allowed a positive contribution of the EGs, reflected in the Ministerial Communiqué with general satisfaction.

The Labour and Employment topics, thanks to this openness, were the only ones around which a joint statement was issued by the G7 Engagement Groups, otherwise left out or at the sidelines of the processes.

In all other relevant G7 Ministerial Meetings, the C7 was not invited, nor in the WGs' Meetings. So, the C7 issued Statements ahead of the Ministerial Meetings and reactions after the release of the Ministers' Communiqués.

The dialogue with the G7 Italian Presidency

The Italian government changed twice the G7 Sherpa from the beginning of the Italian Presidency. That made the relationship with the Sherpa and the Sherpa Office rather difficult. After the appointment of Emb. Elisabetta Belloni, the Presidency of the C7 managed to open a channel that led to the Sherpa's participation in the C7 Summit.

The C7 also could meet some officials involved in the facilitation of the G7 WGs. However, these meetings were mainly due to the personal and professional courtesy of each official, without an institutionalized process of consultation and dialogue.

C7 Meetings with the Italian G7 Sherpa

- April the 10th the Presidency, in presence.
- April 23rd the Italian members of the C7 SC, online.
- May 15th presence of the G7 Sherpa at the C7 Summit

The C7 Summit

On May 14th and 15th the international constituency of civil society held the C7 Summit at the FAO Headquarters in Rome, releasing the [C7 Communiqué](#) and formally giving it to the Presidency of the G7, in the hands of the Italian G7 Sherpa.



The Summit was divided into 4 plenary meetings and several thematic parallel sessions. The plenaries were focused as follows

- I. Release of the C7 Communiqué
- II. Interconnection and policy coherence for development
- III. Moving forward to reform the international tax and financial architecture
- IV. Fostering peace building - Conclusions

The Summit was attended by more than 300 participants in Rome and gathered several high level speakers from Civil Society, academia, International Institutions and governments. The Summit was also followed in streaming.

The Documents and the videos of the Summit can be found at the following links:

[C7 Summit Agenda](#)

[C7 Communiqué](#)

[C7 promotional Video](#)

[C7 Summit synthesis - Video](#)



The full recording of the Summit can be found here:

PLENARY SESSIONS RECORDINGS

14 MAY 24

[C7 Summit 2024 – First Plenary session – Release of the Communiqué](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – 2nd Plenary session – Interconnections and policy coherence for development](#)

15 MAY 24

[C7 Summit 2024 – 3rd Plenary session – Moving forward to reform the international tax and financial architecture](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – 4th Plenary session – Fostering Peace building and Closing Remarks](#)

PARALLEL SESSIONS RECORDINGS

14 MAY 24

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Food Justice](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Gender Equality](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Human Mobility and Climate nexus](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Middle East conflicts](#)

15 MAY 24

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Climate Justice](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Global Health](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Nuclear Disarmament](#)

[C7 Summit 2024 – Parallel session – Principled Humanitarian Assistance](#)

The G7 Summit

An active representative of the CSOs gathered in presence in the Media Centre. 34 participants contacted the journalists and organized press conferences and a flash mob.



The Handover Meeting

The Meeting was held online on 27th November with the handover from the Italian to the Canadian Presidency of the Civil 7.

[C7 Handover Meeting Agenda](#)

[C7 Handover Meeting recording](#)

4. The voice of the C7

The C7 issued several political documents during the year.

C7 Communiqué

The principal document produced by the C7 is the C7 Communiqué released during the C7 Summit in May and delivered to the G7 Sherpa Emb. Elisabetta Belloni, before the G7 Summit and the main Ministerial Meetings.

The document comprises a political introduction providing the vision and the approach to the current polycrisis, followed by the sectoral policy briefs drawn up by the Working Groups with the specific political demands. The document has been carefully edited showing the interconnections among the different sectors and the political coherence of the policy asks.

[C7 Communiqué](#)

C7 Statements and reactions

As explained in the previous chapter, the G7 opened the doors for the participation of the C7 in a very limited way, inviting the C7 delegation only in the G7 Labour and Employment process. Consequently, the C7 contributed to the debate by issuing the C7 Statements ahead of the more relevant Ministerial Meetings and reacting after each Ministerial Communiqué.

For the G7 Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting, the C7 promoted and signed a statement together with two other Engagement Groups: Labour 7 and Women 7.

Labour and Employment

[C7 contribution to the 1st G7 Employment Working Group meeting 8-9.02.2024](#)

[C7 contribution to the G7 Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting 12-13.09.2024](#)

[L7 – W7 – C7 Joint Statement to the G7 Labour Ministerial Meeting](#)

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Labour and Employment 13.09.2024](#)

Foreign Affairs

[C7 Statement ahead of the G7 Foreign Ministers Ministerial Meeting 14.04.2024](#)

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Foreign Affairs 19.04.2024](#)

Climate Crisis, Energy Transformation, Environmental Justice

[C7 Statement ahead of the Ministerial Meeting on Climate, Energy, Environment 22.04.2024](#)

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Climate, Energy and Environment 30.04.2024](#)

Finance

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Economy and Finance 25.05.2024](#)

Global Health

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Global Health 11.10.2024](#)

Development

[C7 Statement ahead of the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Development 16.10.2024](#)

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Development 24.10.2024](#)

Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué

[C7 Reaction to the G7 Leaders' Communiqué 14.06.2024](#)

5. Communication and press review

The activity of the Civil 7 was echoed in the media and was also promoted in the C7 channels of the social networks.

The list of articles and publications related to the activity of the C7 can be found at the following links:

[C7 Summit Press review](#)

[G7 Summit Press review](#)

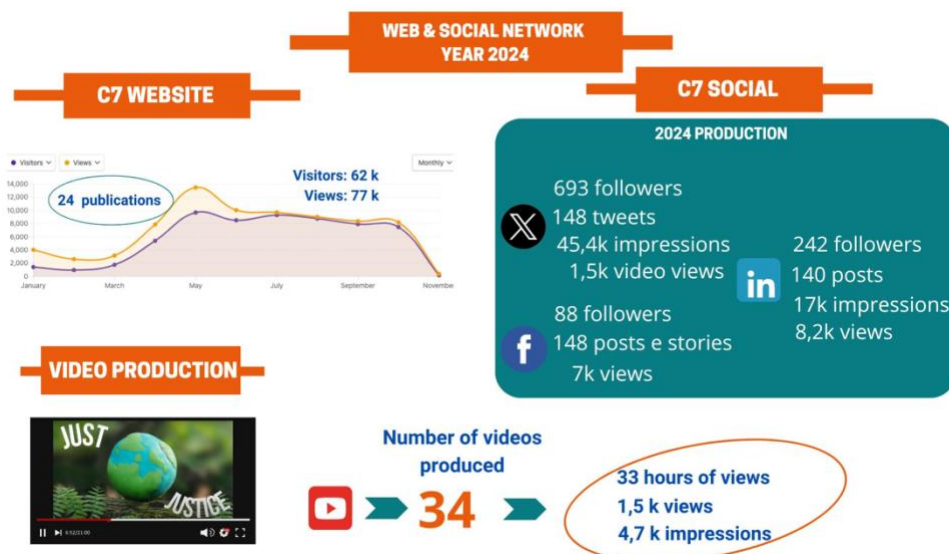
[G7 Ministerial Meetings Press Review](#)

[Other Press Review and Publication](#)

The C7 has been active in various social networks, in particular on Facebook, X, LinkedIn and Youtube.

On Youtube all the videos recorded during the C7 events, the meetings, the interviews to the participants and the promotional videos can be found in the C7 Channel ([C7 Youtube Channel](#)).

For further information see the table below



6. Lessons learnt and perspective towards the future

The C7 process in 2024 was enriched by the contribution of many CSOs, producing high quality analysis and proposals, in a time when the political dialogue is often reduced if not denied. Some lessons can be taken and some considerations can be useful to orient the next processes.

1. The openness of the G7 process in 2024

The process this year, as already mentioned in this document, was rather closed. The Civil 7 raised its voice but the spaces, unlike what happened in other editions (or in the G20 hosted by Italy in 2021 - a possible comparison with the 2024 G7 process), the C7 could participate formally only in the G7 Labour and Employment process. In the other processes, as already mentioned, the C7 could only have a dialogue with some officials, thanks to their personal and professional courtesy. The C7 met the G7 Sherpa, who attended the first session of the C7 Summit, but had no opportunity to meet the Prime Minister, President of the G7 before the Leaders' Summit, as it happened in previous editions of the G7. The meaning and the effectiveness of real and formal participation have been proven in the Labour and Employment process, where the proposals of all the EGs have been considered and valued by the Ministers with general satisfaction, also from the G7 Presidency. A closed-door process can only limit its results and, ultimately, raise concerns about the quality of the democratic process.

2. The polycrisis, the holistic approach and the political coherence

The world context is characterized by the polycrisis that is becoming a permacrisis, a permanent condition of crisis that involves all the sectors with a systemic condition of interinfluence and interactions. This needs to avoid separate sectoral approaches and to have a holistic vision, able to consider the numerous interactions. Policy coherence among the proposals is strictly needed and for this reason the work of the C7 - as well as the one of the government - must be organised fostering the internal dialogue and the convergence among the different processes, in particular the WGs and the proposals coming from the CSOs.

3. The focus on peace and principled humanitarian assistance

The threads to peace are increasingly growing. The violence, in speeches and in actions, is widening, with severe and dangerous consequences for the people. The C7 attention to peace, formally visible in the creation of a specific WG, must be continued in the next years, together with a specific focus on principled humanitarian assistance, a field in which the G7 can play a relevant role and influence.

4. A real participatory process

The Civil 7 is an independent process of international civil society from around the world. To nurture its quality and effectiveness, it must be carefully open to input from all CSOs, with a specific focus on facilitating information flows. This requires an early start to the process (the G7 Summit normally takes place in the first part of the year) and requires building on previous C7 processes. The call for participation to the CSOs from all over the world, with specific care to include the ones from the Global South, is crucial, as is the role of the national platforms of civil society in the G7 countries.



5. The National Platforms

National Platforms of civil society in the G7 countries dealing with the process are differently formalised. Their role is essential to multiply and share the policy asks of the C7 to each government. The dialogue with the national G7 Sherpas is particularly relevant to influence the process. The suggestion for the future is to strengthen this kind of process in every member country, by joining forces and coordinating within the Steering Committee space.

6. The coordination between C7 and C20

This year the Italian C7 Presidency took specific care to nourish the link between the two processes, with the active participation of the C20 Chair and Sherpa in the C7 Summit, and the inclusion of the C7 Chair in the C20 International Advisory Committee. In particular, we also decided to share the International Coordinator of the C20 and C7 WGs dealing with financial issues, to ensure the consistency of the proposals and to strengthen them. This could happen also for other areas, like Global Health or Climate Justice. The agendas of the two processes - C7 and C20 - are in several cases very close, and civil society has to strengthen its voice, through connection, coherence and volume. In the next years, growing coordination among the two processes will be useful, also linking with other spaces for international civil society (UN, BRICS, etc.).

7. The Steering Committee

In the light of the above, the choice to include in the SC the coordinators of the WGs together with the representatives of the national platforms has proved effective and should be continued in the following years, easing this way the coordination among the political production of the Working Groups and the ability to spread the policy asks of the Civil 7 to the G7 governments.

7. A final message

Concluding its mandate, Italian civil society is proud to have contributed to this international process. What was achieved was possible thanks to the participation of many people from all over the world, united in the common cause of humbly building a better, welcoming and just world for all.

We have chosen the motto 'just justice': we reaffirm it, looking to the future, convinced that building justice is the most effective tool to disarm war and serve peace.