



MINISTERS' MEETING ON AGRICULTURE

26-28 SEPTEMBER 2024
Siracusa

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ABOUT THE G7

The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The European Union also participates in the Group and is represented at the summits by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.

The Group was established as a platform for economic and financial cooperation in response to the 1973 energy crisis. The first Summit of Heads of State and Government was held in 1975 in Rambouillet, France.

Over the years G7 has progressively expanded its focus. From an *ad-hoc* gathering to discuss financial challenges, it has become a more formal, prominent venue to address major global issues. This evolution became even more evident at the beginning of the new millennium, as the G7 recognized the need for more technical and detailed discussions on these complex issues. Consequently, it initiated the first thematic Ministerial Meetings, to delve deeper into specific topics and bring more nuanced insights into the G7's deliberations.

Compared to an international organization, the G7 does not have a permanent administrative structure. Each year, starting from the 1st of January, one of the Member States takes over the leadership of the Group on a rotating basis. The Nation holding the Presidency serves as a temporary secretariat and hosts the Group work and the Leaders' Summit. Most importantly, the Presidency plays a key role in setting the agenda and identifying key priorities.

The Summit, the G7 Presidency's centerpiece, is attended by the Heads of State and Government of the seven Member States, representatives of the European Union, as well as States and International Organizations invited by the Presidency.

ITALIAN G7 PRESIDENCY 2024

On the 1st of January 2024, Italy assumed, for the seventh time, the Presidency of the G7: the group that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The G7, in which the European Union also participates, is united by common values and principles and plays an invaluable role in defending freedom and democracy and addressing global challenges.

The Italian Presidency will last until 31 December 2024 and will feature a dense programme of technical meetings and institutional events throughout the country.

A key focus of the Italian Presidency will be the defence of the rules-based international system. Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine has undermined its principles and triggered growing instability, with multiple crises unfolding worldwide. The G7 will give equal importance to the conflict in the Middle East, with its consequences for the global agenda.

The relationship with developing Nations and emerging economies will be central. The engagement with Africa will be a key priority. We will work to build a cooperation model based on mutually beneficial partnerships, away from paternalistic or predatory logics. Particular attention will also be paid to the Indo-Pacific region.

Italy will ensure great attention to migration, together with some of the greatest challenges of our time, including the climate-energy nexus and food security. The G7 has the responsibility and duty to identify, together with its global partners, innovative solutions.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) will also feature in the Italian programme. This technology can generate great opportunities but also enormous risks, affecting geopolitical balances. It is necessary to develop governance mechanisms and ensure that AI remains human-centered and human-controlled, giving concrete applications to the concept of algoethics

The G7 Summit

The Summit of G7 Heads of State and Government under the Italian Presidency was held in Borgo Egnazia, in Apulia, on 13-15 June 2024.

With its natural and artistic beauties and an innate vocation for hospitality, Apulia is a highly representative place of Italian culture and attractiveness. Moreover, it historically plays a bridging role between the East and the West of the world and over the centuries has welcomed different peoples, cultures and religions, which have left a profound legacy, still visible today on its territory and in the habits of its people.

MINISTERS' MEETINGS

In addition to the Apulia Summit, during 2024 Italy will host 23 Ministerial Meetings. The meetings will take place in various Italian cities, as part of a logistical effort that includes a leading role of the local institutions.

Dates and details of the events may be subject to possible changes.

THEME	DATE	CITY
INDUSTRY, TECH AND DIGITAL	13-14-15 March	Verona e Trento
TRANSPORT	11-12-13 April	Milano
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	17-18-19 April	Capri
CLIMATE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT	28-29-30 April	Torino
JUSTICE	9-10 May	Venezia
FINANCE	23-24-25 May	Stresa
EDUCATION	27-28-29 June	Trieste
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	9-10-11 July	Bologna e Forlì
TRADE	16-17 July	Villa S. Giovanni e Reggio Calabria
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT	11-12-13 September	Cagliari
CULTURE	19-20-21 September	Napoli
AGRICULTURE	26-27-28 September	Siracusa
INTERIOR	2-3-4 October	Mirabella Eclano (AV)
GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT	4-5-6 October	Matera
HEALTH	9-10-11 October	Ancona
INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION	10 October	Roma
INCLUSION AND DISABILITY	14-15-16 October	Assisi e Solfignano
TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL	15 October	Cernobbio (Como)
DEFENCE	18-19-20 October	Napoli
DEVELOPMENT	23-24 October	Pescara
URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3-4-5 November	Roma
TOURISM	13-14-15 November	Firenze
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	25-26 November	Fiuggi

MINISTERS' MEETING ON AGRICULTURE

The G7 Ministers' Meeting on Agriculture will be held at the Castello Maniace in Syracuse, on the island of Ortigia, from September 26 to 28, 2024.

Francesco Lollobrigida, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, will welcome the G7 Ministers, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, the African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, as well as the heads of the three UN agencies in Rome (FAO, IFAD, WFP), the OECD and CGIAR.

In line with the work carried out in previous G7 Agriculture Ministerial meetings, the discussions will focus on the resilience and sustainability of agricultural and food systems, articulated through the following priority thematic areas identified by the Italian Presidency: (1) science and innovation in agriculture for climate change adaptation; (2) empowering young generations as agents of change in agriculture; (3) the contribution of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture to food security; (4) the G7's role in the development of agriculture on the African continent.

Africa will be at the forefront of the first working session on September 26, titled "G7 Forum for African Agriculture", which will also be open to a representation of African Agriculture Ministers from various regions of the continent, invited in agreement with the African Union.

The three working sessions of the Forum will address: (a) the Post-Malabo Agenda process and its implementation beyond 2025; (b) investments in the agricultural sector in Africa; and (c) strengthening cooperation between the G7 and Africa in agriculture.

The G7 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting will be preceded by the "Young Hackathon" (25-26 September), which will gather students from agricultural schools, teachers, and young farmers representing the G7 countries. They will engage in discussions on themes that will be deliberated by the Ministers shortly thereafter. During the working session on 27 September, these youth delegates will have the opportunity to directly present their conclusions and proposals to the Ministers.

In conjunction with the G7 Agriculture Meeting, from 21 to 29 September 2024, the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Forestry will host "DiviNazione," a public exhibit in Syracuse, on the island of Ortigia. This will serve as an important international showcase, featuring institutions, agricultural associations, and private enterprises to highlight Italy's national excellence in agriculture, fishing, aquaculture, and the nursery/forestry sector, as well as innovative technologies related to fishing and agriculture, in which Italy is a global leader.

HOST CITY: SIRACUSA



Siracusa, a city of timeless allure, will host the G7 Meeting on Agriculture, set against the backdrop of its monumental past and the vibrancy of its present.

Located on the southeastern coast of Sicily, Siracusa was founded in 733 B.C. by the Corinthians and emerged as one of the largest cities of the classical era. With its rich tapestry of historical and architectural treasures from various periods, it embodies a journey through Mediterranean history and has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site alongside the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica.

The island of Ortigia, the historical centre of the city, will host the G7 Meeting on Agriculture at the Maniace Castle. Connected to the mainland by three pedestrian bridges, Ortigia is a unique and captivating place, highlighted by the Aretusa Fountain, the only spontaneous papyrus grove in Europe.

Fourth most populous city in Sicily, Siracusa plays a significant role in Italy's agri-food industry. It is home to the largest lemon-growing district in Italy and in the European Union, with the production of the Siracusa IGP lemon recording increasingly impressive sales figures. The territory also boasts a variety of notable local products, including artisanal cheeses, the Siracusa early potato exported internationally, extra virgin olive oil from the Iblei mountains, and the Siracusa watermelon. In the wine industry, both Nero d'Avola and Moscato di Siracusa are produced.

MEDIA AGENDA

26 SEPTEMBER 2024

DAY 1 - SPECIAL EVENT

3:00 pm

Forum for Africa Ministers' meeting on Agriculture

With the participation of the Ministers of Agriculture from G7 countries and a representation of the African Union (AU) member states, the Commissioners for Agriculture from EU and AU, representatives of FAO, IFAD, WFP, OECD, CGIAR.

Teatro Comunale of Siracusa

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers + accredited press (Tour de Table)

Opening remarks and introduction of 3 sessions:

Session I

"Process of development of the post-Malabo Agenda and implementation of the Agenda beyond 2025".

Session II

"Agricultural investment in Africa"

Session III

"Strengthening cooperation between the G7 and Africa in the agricultural sector".

Teatro comunale of Siracusa

5:35 pm

Concluding Remarks by Minister Lollobrigida and African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, Josepha Sacko

Teatro Comunale of Siracusa

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers + accredited press

MEDIA AGENDA

27 SEPTEMBER 2024

DAY 2

9:00 am

Arrival of the Heads of Delegation and Welcome by Minister Lollobrigida

Castello Maniace – Handshake – Family Photo

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomaker + Photographers/Cameramen

9:30 am

Opening remarks by the Italian G7 Presidency Speech by Minister Francesco Lollobrigida

Session I

"Dialogue between G7 Ministers and Students: presentation of the conclusions of the Agri Young Hackathon".

Castello Maniace – Tour de Table

10:15 am

Session II

"Cooperation between the G7 and African countries in the agricultural sector. Discussion on projects proposed by the G7 Presidency".

Castello Maniace

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

2:30 pm

Session III

Debate on the profitability, resilience, equity and sustainability of food systems. Discussion on the concept of food sovereignty in the light of the recent period of crisis".

Castello Maniace

MEDIA AGENDA

28 SEPTEMBER 2024

DAY 3

9:30 am

Ministers' Meeting on Agriculture

Castello Maniace – Tour de table

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

9:30 am

Session IV

"Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture and food security".

Castello Maniace

10:40 am

Session V

"Scientific research and climate change".

Castello Maniace

12:00 pm

Press Conference

Castello Maniace

Accredited press

MEDIA PROGRAMME: INFORMATION

Journalists, photographers and TV crews interested in attending the media programme, the Italian final Press Conference, and accessing the Media Centre, may request **accreditation** by **20 September 2024** through the accreditation section of [G7-24 \(g7-2024.it\)](https://g7-2024.it)

For first-time registration applicants must fill in the form providing the required details and upload a copy of the following documents (PDF or JPEG format, max 2MB):

- Valid passport or ID card (mandatory)
- Photo (exclusively JPEG format, max. 2MB)
- Letter of assignment on official letterhead (mandatory also for freelance journalist)
- Press card

Early accreditation of journalists, photographers and interested media operators is mandatory. Media already accredited to previous meetings of G7 Ministers, need specific accreditation for this Ministers' Meeting.

Please note that press representatives from some countries must obtain a visa to enter Italy. Information on visa procedures must be checked in advance by accessing the [II visto per l'Italia \(esteri.it\)](https://visto.per.l'Italia(esteri.it)). The visa requirements must be met before arrival in Italy.

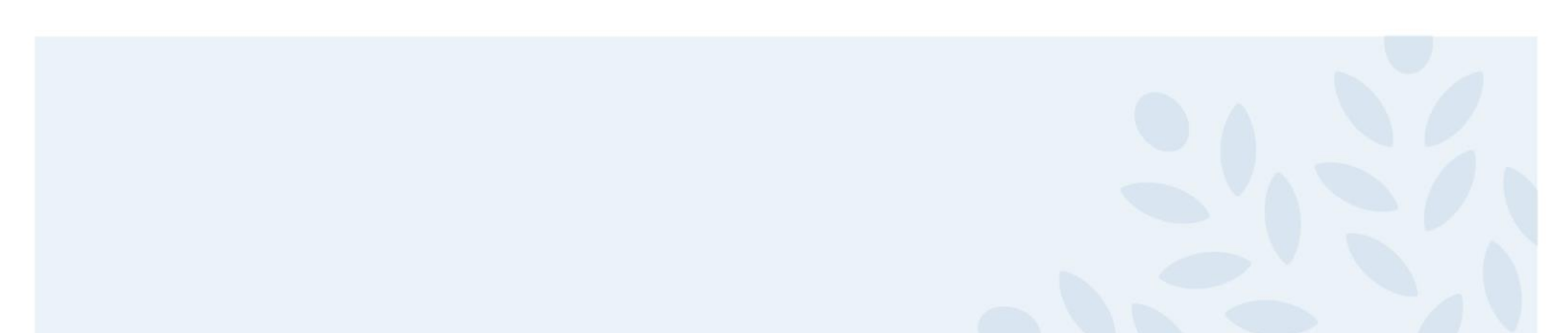
Following approval of the registration, accreditation badges will be provided to media representatives at the **Accreditation Centre** located at Palazzo Artemide in via Roma, 66, 96100 Ortigia SR.

The Accreditation Centre will open:

- on 26 September 2024 from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
- on 27 September 2024 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- on 28 September 2024 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

The **Media Centre** is located at Area Marina Protetta del Plemmirio in Via Gaetano Abela 6, Comprensorio del Castello Maniace a Siracusa and it will open:

- on 26 September 2024 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
- on 27 September 2024 from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm
- on 28 September 2024 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm



The **Press Conference** for the Ministers' Meeting on Agriculture will take place at Castello Maniace on **28 September 2024 at 12:00 pm**.

The conference will be attended by Minister of Agriculture, Francesco Lollobrigida.

The press conference will be held in Italian, with simultaneous translation provided in English, and it will be broadcasted live in English on the [YouTube channel](#) of the Italian G7 Presidency and in Italian on the YouTube channel of the Ministry of Agriculture.

A selection of the photos and videos produced by the official operators, including the family photo, will be available on the Ministry website and on the Italian G7 Presidency website.

In reference to the **Africa Forum**, to be held at the Teatro Comunale on 26 September, journalists and photographers/cameramen already accredited on the G7 Agriculture portal and interested in attending the working sessions should register by sending an email to accredistampa@masaf.gov.it. Accreditations will be available until capacity is reached.

Please note that media representatives will need to arrange their own travel and accommodation.

CONTACTS

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G7 SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

 **X**
<https://twitter.com/G7>

 **Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/G7>

 **Instagram**
<https://www.instagram.com/g7>

 **Youtube**
<https://www.youtube.com/@G7Italy2024>

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