G7/G8

The Group of Seven is an international intergovernmental economic organization consisting of the seven largest IMF- advanced economies in the world: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

**Established**

1975- originally called the G6

**History**

* Originally started with 4 nations (United States, United Kingdom, France, West Germany) called the library group in mid-1973.
* Eventually expanded 6 nations with the additions of Italy and Japan, had the first official meeting in France.
* European Union was expanded to create the G7 in 1977.
* Russian Federation was invited to the 1994 summit in Naples as an observer (G7+1), and formally joined in 1997 (G8).
* Russia was then formally ejected in 2014 following the Russian annexation of Crimea.

**Recent News**

* 45th G7 summit
* Held on 24-26 August 2019 in Biarritz, France.
* The meeting had the core 7 representatives alongside guest invitees from Australia, Burkina Faso, Egypt, India, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Spain.

**Concluding communiques**

* "G7 commits to reaching an agreement in 2020 to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the [OECD](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OECD)"
* G7 shares objectives on [Iran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran) "to ensure that Iran never acquires nuclear weapons and to foster peace and stability in the region."
* On Libya "We support a truce in Libya that will lead to a long-term ceasefire. We believe that only a political solution can ensure Libya’s stability. We call for a well-prepared international conference to bring together all the stakeholders and regional actors relevant to this conflict. We support in this regard the work of the [United Nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations) and the [African Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_Union) to set up an inter-Libyan conference."
* In an opaque reference to the [Russian military intervention in Ukraine (2014–present)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_military_intervention_in_Ukraine_(2014%E2%80%93present)), "France and Germany will organize a Normandy format summit in the coming weeks to achieve tangible results."[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/45th_G7_summit#cite_note-xinhua-5)
* In light of the [2019 Hong Kong anti-extradition bill protests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019_Hong_Kong_anti-extradition_bill_protests), "The G7 reaffirms the existence and the importance of the 1984 [Sino-British agreement on Hong Kong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sino-British_Joint_Declaration) and calls for avoiding violence."

**Criticisms of the G7**

* [**https://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/jun/07/scrap-g7-summit-hopeless-divided-outdated**](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/jun/07/scrap-g7-summit-hopeless-divided-outdated)
* It is a useless organization that fails to solve many of the worlds problems
* The G7 has for a long time lacked the unanimity and leadership to tackle its many problems, particularly cutting carbon emissions and Greece’s unpayable debts
* <http://theconversation.com/g7-throws-up-plenty-of-controversy-and-debate-but-little-compromise-122042>
* Throws up plenty of controversy and debate, but there is little compromise between the world leaders
* Since Donald Trump has become president, he has argued with other powers and stirred up controversy
* Trump stirred up controversy for 2020 summit by suggesting that it would be hosted at one of his hotels.