

# Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU July 1 to December 31, 2023



Spain holds the Presidency of the Council of the EU for the fifth time.

With its motto, *"Europe, closer"*, it wishes to underline the spirit of human, political and institutional proximity.

Spain has identified four priorities for the work carried out under its Presidency of the Council:

- Reindustrialising the EU and ensuring its **open** strategic autonomy
- Advancing ecological **transition** and **environmental adaptation**
- Promoting greater **social and economic justice**
- Strengthening **European unity**

*"In recent decades, Europe has shown all it can do for Spain. The time has come for Spain to show the world what it can do for Europe. Our country assumes the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union with humility and gratitude, but we will also exercise this presidency with ambition, determined to make it a useful instrument to improve the lives of citizens."*

Pedro Sánchez, Prime Minister of Spain,  
at the presentation of the political priorities of the Spanish Presidency, 15 June 2023