



The Union for the Mediterranean at 10 event series

PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AREA

CONCEPT NOTES

BACKGROUND

European Union Association

The European Union Association promotes a better understanding of the European Union's priorities and its policies among international partner countries and the world community at the United Nations.

The European Union Association was granted Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 2012. Since then it has worked to raise awareness about a variety of global economic, social, and civil-rights issues through events held at the United Nations headquarters. These events have been held in cooperation with various partners, including: European Union representatives, European Union countries, NGOs, academic experts, civil-rights activists, and the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) under the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

Union for the Mediterranean

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organization that brings together all 28 countries of the European Union and 15 countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. The 10th anniversary of its founding offers a unique opportunity for us to celebrate it with an open and informative platform and events that present its workings, challenges and achievements.



CONCEPT

International cooperation for peaceful development is better served via institutions that bring together representatives from different countries who try to find common ground and approaches to social, economic and development problems.

The Mediterranean Sea Area is a strategically important part of the world that is at a crossroad between East and West, North and South.

Representatives from civil society organizations, diplomats, students will have an opportunity to discuss common problems and opportunities counter divisive tendencies based on resurgent nationalism informing future leaders of tomorrow and the international community at the UN of the positive aspects of globalization and regional cooperation.

One of the institutions that better serve the purpose of searching regional common ground and solutions is the Union for the Mediterranean which among its institutions includes a shared parliamentary assembly and that in 2018 celebrates its 10th Anniversary.

We look forward to hearing from its representatives on common regional achievements and challenges.

STRUCTURE OF THE MEETING

When: Tuesday February 27
Where: UN General Secretariat, Conference Room 8
Hour: 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Panelists:

- **Ms. Lachezara Stoianova Stoeva**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations, Presidency of the Council of the European Union. (Confirmed)
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Honorable Member of the European Parliament **Ms. Tiziana Beghin**, Chairwoman of the Rules and Financing Working Group of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM) (Confirmed)
- Planned web connection and power point presentation with the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, Barcelona, Spain, EU on its activities and workings. (T.B.C.)



- Mr. Renato Accorinti , pacifist and socially active mayor of the Mediterranean City of Messina, (Italy-EU).
 - Welcome statement from a representative of the NGO and Outreach Coordination Civil Society and Outreach Unit | Division for Social Policy and Development Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ESCOS)
 - **Tentatively:** France (UNSC), Sweden (UNSC), among EU and UfM member states
 - **Tentatively:** Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, among the Arab countries comprising the UfM
 - **Participant Audience** = Permanent Representatives and/or Missions from UfM member states.
Senior-level policy representatives, NGOs, representatives from academia, and journalists.
- Mr. Elmahdi Elmajerbi, Charge d Affaires a.i. of Libya (Confirmed)

Format:

- Opening: A brief introduction by a representative from UN NGO Outreach and the President of the EU Association, Mr. Giuseppe Sergi
- Intro and power point presentation on current state of the UfM by the UfM Secretariat, 15 minutes
- Ms. Lachezara Stoianova Stoeva, 15 minutes
- Other UN PR or DPR, 15 minutes
- Ms. Beghin of the EU Parliament, 15 minutes
- Panel Q&A moderated by the EU Association

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The meeting is expected to have the following main outcomes:

1. Present the achievements and advantages of international cooperation organizations like the Union for the Mediterranean on its 10th anniversary
2. Provide an important opportunity for key policy makers to develop new partnerships.
3. Provide a contribution to a subsequent event to be held at the United Nations in New York, USA, on October 2018 (see below).



The objective of the initiative has the full support of the United Nations General Secretary, António Guterres, as seen in this video: <https://youtu.be/a3DJ9pLz8Lc>

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