

# Enhancing political dialogue across the Euro-Mediterranean region



UfM Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM)

The Euro-Mediterranean region has faced unprecedented challenges to its stability and security over the last few decades. One of the primary goals of the UfM is to strengthen political dialogue amongst its 43 member states with a view to building peace, security and stability in the region.

## Renewing political commitments: the 3<sup>rd</sup> UfM Regional Forum

Since 2015, UfM Ministers of Foreign Affairs have convened for the UfM Regional Forum: a yearly informal meeting that assesses achievements and opportunities to give political guidance on a common Euro-Mediterranean agenda.

Commemorating the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean which gave birth to the organisation, the third UfM Regional Forum was held under the title **10 Years: Building Together the Future of Regional Cooperation**. It was chaired by the UfM Co-Presidency, assumed by the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, Federica Mogherini, and the

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Ayman Safadi. It was hosted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Spain, Josep Borrell, and the Secretary General of the UfM, Nasser Kamel.

The forum provided ministers with the opportunity to assess the state of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation ten years after the UfM's launch, as well as to highlight where the organisation needs to redouble its efforts to meet current and future challenges. Ministers took stock of the state of implementation of the UfM roadmap and committed to building impetus behind the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.



To learn more about the activities of the UfM since the adoption of the Roadmap, visit [ufmsecretariat.org/info-center/publications/](http://ufmsecretariat.org/info-center/publications/)

Extract from the conclusions of the UfM Co-Presidency at the III UfM Regional Forum  
 "A renewed commitment to regional cooperation and prosperity"



"[...] We appreciated the UfM's active engagement in developing meaningful solutions in a large number of crucial areas, [...] which have concretely supported our joint efforts towards the overarching goal of creating an area of peace, security, stability and prosperity."

Read it here: [ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Conclusions-of-the-Co-Presidency.pdf](http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Conclusions-of-the-Co-Presidency.pdf)

## Partnerships for sustainable development

The UfM amplifies regional dialogue not only on a governmental level, but also by **strengthening cooperation between all institutions within the Euro-Mediterranean ecosystem**. These synergies are essential to consolidate and expand UfM activities in the region, as well as to work towards the shared goals of regional stability, integration and development.

On top of increasing interactions with its Euro-Mediterranean partners, the UfM Secretariat has also engaged with key actors on an international level to increase the visibility of the Euro-Mediterranean agenda and better connect regional actions with global goals.

In 2018, the UfM Secretariat **partnered with the World Bank's Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI)**, the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**, the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**, and the **Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**. Through these partnerships, the UfM aims to gather and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, as well as to develop joint actions in favour of sustainable development throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region.

## 10 YEARS, 10 STORIES

Commemorating the UfM's first decade

Ten years after the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, the UfM launched a campaign to commemorate the milestones of the organisation's history and to highlight its major successes throughout the last decade.

From combatting plastic pollution in the Mediterranean to bridging the skills gap to drive employment, UfM initiatives and labelled projects address key challenges in the region through tangible and innovative solutions.

→ Discover the 10 stories on p. 24



Tackling the 731 tonnes of plastic thrown into the Mediterranean every day



A 320-hour programme to address the gender gap



Towards the biggest infrastructure project in Gaza



A 6,000-hectare eco-city for a more sustainable urban life



A second chance for 26,000 young people



14 schools working together for citizenship education



A 1,000-km journey to promote sustainable mobility



Internship mobility across 9 Mediterranean countries



From 62 to 12,000 empowered women: the multiplying effect of training programmes



Addressing the 62% increase in energy demand