

AGENDA

Open consultation
on the **UfM**

**FUTURE VISION
and MANDATE**

14 February 2025—Barcelona

BEYOND
30 BARCELONA
YEARS PROCESS

*Together for a Stronger
Euro-Mediterranean Partnership*

#EuroMedBeyond30



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

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#EuroMedBeyond30

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Background

In 2023, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) celebrated its 15th anniversary, a key moment that coincided with the launch of a reform process aimed at strengthening the organization's role, efficiency, and impact.

Amidst shifting geopolitical and socio-economic dynamics in the Euro-Mediterranean region and considering that the UfM's 2017 Roadmap has been to a great extent implemented, Member States agreed to launch a reflection on the organization's future direction. While various sectoral mandates—such as those related to urban development, women's empowerment, environment and climate action... - have been updated in recent years, the UfM's overall mandate has not been reviewed in the last seven years.

This event presents therefore an occasion to explore which areas of cooperation should be prioritized in the next years, and how the UfM can play a unique role in future regional challenges, including post-crisis reconciliation and rehabilitation.

It will enable to engage partner institutions, stakeholders, researchers and experts, as well as the civil society from the Euro-Mediterranean region to the reflection, fostering a more inclusive and transparent approach to cooperation.

Furthermore, it will serve as a platform to advance discussions on the broader reform of the UfM, focusing on its role, mandate, and capacity for regional impact, and addressing critical questions raised by the UfM Co-Presidency and member states, while reinforcing the UfM's role as a central hub for regional collaboration.

Through this initiative, the UfM seeks to engage a wider range of actors in its reform process, increasing their involvement and strengthening the organization's central role in shaping the future of Euro-Mediterranean regional cooperation.

Master of ceremony: **Fanny GAURET**, Multimedia expert and producer

9:30-10:00 Opening session:

Birgit LOESER, Head of Division MENA.1.-Regional Affairs, EU-UfM SOM Co-Chair.
Yousef BATAINEH, Ambassador, Head of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's mission to the European Union, Jordanian UfM SOM Co-Chair.
Nasser KAMEL, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean.
Senen FLORENSA, Executive President of the European Institute of the Mediterranean.

10:00-10:45 Setting the scene

Panel discussion on the reform of the UfM

Moderator: **Fanny GAURET**, Multimedia expert and producer

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 ROUNDTABLE 1



Towards a renewed mandate: the UfM future priorities

Moderator: **Khalid EMARA**, Former Assistant Foreign Affairs Minister, Egypt.

..... **11:00-12:00**
1st segment

Striking a balance: the UfM's role and mandate in the region

Speakers:
Intissar FAKIR, Director of Program on North Africa and the Sahel, Middle East Institute (MEI).
Katarzyna SIDŁO, Senior Policy Analyst for the Middle East and North Africa, European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS).
Youssef CHERIF, Director, Columbia Global Center Tunis.

First comments: **Aldo LIGA**, Research Fellow MENA Centre, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI).

..... **12:00-13:00**
2nd segment

Enhancing impact: the UfM's priorities and strategic approach

Speakers:
Nadim HOURY, Executive Director, Arab Reform Initiative (ARI).
Luisa María GARCÍA, Head of the Department for Cooperation with the Arab World and Asia, Directorate for Cooperation with Africa and Asia, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).
Jeremie FOSSE, Co-founder and President - eco-union.

First comments: **Jusaima MOIAD-AZM PEREGRINA**, Professor, University of Granada.

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-16:00 ROUNDTABLE 2

What role, if any, might the UfM usefully play in a rehabilitation and reconciliation process in a 'Day after' scenario in the Region?

Moderator: **Fanny GAURET**, Multimedia expert and producer.

Opening remarks: **Nasser KAMEL**, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean.

..... **14:05 -14:30**
1st segment

Convening Power

Speakers:
Nimrod GOREN, President and Founder, Mitvim. Co-Founder, Diplomeds.
Usama SADAWI, Former Minister of State for Entrepreneurship and Empowerment.

..... **14:30-15:15**
2nd segment

Rehabilitation

Speakers:
Ayed ABURAMADAN, Gaza Head Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions. (Remotely)
Shireen SHELLEH, Executive Director Palestine Emerging.
Mary KAWAR, Director UNDP Regional Hub in Amman.

..... **15:15-15:55**
3rd segment

Mobilisation for Reconstruction

Speakers:
Lamis QDEMAT, Water Management and Governance Professional - Expert Consultant. World Youth Parliament for Water and MedYWat (Mediterranean Youth for Water Network)
Elise MACHLINE, Director, Center for Climate Change Policy and Research, Arava Institute for Environmental Studies.
Esteban LEON, Head of the City Resilience Global Programme of UN-Habitat, UN-Habitat Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation Branch.
Harrey TARPEY, Strategic Partnerships Officer, ALIPH.

16:00-16:30 Closing session

Moderator: **Fanny GAURET**, Multimedia expert and producer.

Nasser KAMEL, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean.