27 NOV 2025—BARCELONA

ADVANCING COLLECTIVE RESPONSES
TO CRISIS: BUILDING A RESILIENT
MEDITERRANEAN THROUGH
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

REGIONAL RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY

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BUILDING A RESILIENT MEDITERRANEAN THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

27 November 2025, Palau Pedralbes, Barcelona

Output of the side-event - Key takeaways

- The Mediterranean faces overlapping crises: climate shocks, conflict spill-overs, and water and energy insecurity all requiring coordinated, anticipatory regional action.
- Resilience is understood as the mean to be prepared before the crises, responding together when they do and rebuilding in a way that strengthens communities, institutions and economies so they are better able to face future shocks.
- Preparedness and risk-based planning were identified as crucial for resilience, with a strong call to strengthen early warning, data-sharing and interoperability.
- Local authorities, civil society and the private sector where identified as central actors in crisis response and post-crisis recovery, ensuring that reconstruction rebuilds not only infrastructures but also societies.
- Economic interdependence and more connected regional markets were highlighted as foundations for shared prosperity and long-term stability.
- Participants noted the strong potential for Mediterranean–Gulf cooperation, especially on energy, security, climate resilience and potentially crisis response.
- Trust building through inclusive approaches and education were underlined as key to reinforcing social cohesion and long lasting peace and recovery.

Role of the UfM

- The UfM was reaffirmed as a neutral convener able to connect regional actors and facilitate practical cooperation when direct dialogue is difficult.
- The UfM reform was welcomed as a streamlined structure to strengthen coordination across sectors, improve information flow and enhance its the ability of the Secretariat to support regional action.



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- Adopting a resilience-centred approach as a new way of working for the UfM will help the institution move beyond purely technical coordination and allow it to respond in a more efficient way, working more horizontally and delivering more meaningful impact on the ground.
- The UfM's value as a platform for cross-border collaboration, structured dialogue and shared learning was strongly emphasised.
- The organisation is seen as well placed to support risk-based recovery planning, stakeholder mapping and multi-actor cooperation in the region.

Next steps for the UfM

- Advancing a shared resilience agenda through follow-up consultations with key partners, including Gulf counterparts and regional institutions.
- Translating the UfM reform into concrete improvements in coordination, information flow and facilitation on response mechanisms
- Preparing a focused set of regional actions to be discussed with Member States, building on the proposals brought forward during the side-event.

