



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط



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

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)

and

the Secretariat of the Union of the Mediterranean (UfMS)

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (hereinafter PAM) and the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (hereinafter UfMS), hereinafter the 'Parties' to this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter MoU):

Taking into account the strategic importance of the Mediterranean region as a geopolitical area for stability, security, democracy, harmonious economic, cultural and social development, as well as the peaceful cohabitation of its peoples, given its centrality to the African, Asian and European continents forming the circumference of its shores;

Considering as priority objectives the importance of guaranteeing the security of its peoples, the economic growth and labour market of the Mediterranean region, and furthering cultural, economic, political, religious and social integration, based on the principles of rule of law and at the same time promoting respect for human rights;

Confirming the need to develop synergies for the region to further the process of deepen knowledge of each other, mutual exchange information as well as learn from each others' best practices;

Recalling the strategic importance of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, created by the sovereign decision of the national parliaments of its Member States as an independent and equitable international organization operating both within and beyond the catchment area of Mediterranean basin, and granted Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly by GA Resolution A/RES/64/12;

Acknowledging that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, as a member and/or partner of numerous other international and regional organizations active throughout the Mediterranean region, plays a well-established and widely-recognized role of as a Centre of Excellence and key actor for parliamentary diplomacy and democracy building, peace and confidence-building initiatives, promoting synergies to support economic exchange and development, sustainable use of natural resources and protection of environment, and more generally intercultural and interreligious integration;

Recalling that the Union for the Mediterranean is a multilateral partnership which brings together European and Mediterranean States, as founded by the Euro-Mediterranean Heads of State and Government in Paris in 2008, with a view to increasing co-ownership of new Mediterranean relations .

Acknowledging the specific mission entrusted to the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean by its Member States to: identify, promote and ensure the coordination of regional, sub-regional and transnational projects in order to improve the socio-economic development, regional integration, sustainable development and the exchange of knowledge among and within the countries of the region.

Agree to sign this Memorandum of Understanding.

I. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this MoU is to lay down the basis for cooperation between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean aiming at further developing, initiatives and projects with regards to the interests of all States and peoples in the Mediterranean region;

II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

The Parties agree that it is the mutual interest of PAM and the UfMS in cooperating on activities relating to Mediterranean issues. Accordingly they agree to the following:

a) Exchange of information and consultation

The parties hereby agree to keep each other informed of activities that may be of common interest to the extent permitted by the bye-laws of each Party. Such exchange may include making available reports and recommendations adopted within the respective organisations, and more generally, any publications on subject of common interest.

The Parties will at all times endeavour to deepen their cooperation by means of formal and informal consultations on issues of common interest.

At any time, either of the Parties may make proposal to the other Party about particular projects or events undertaking by the other Party, which the recipient Party will take into consideration in good faith.

Moreover, the Parties will organise joint events on areas of common interest on questions relating to Mediterranean issues falling under their respective mandates. These may include, by way of example, conferences, seminars, working groups and field study trips to specific areas of the region.

With a view to exchanging information and furthering cooperation, each Party will designate a focal point that will be responsible for liaising and facilitating information flows.

The Parties may use appropriate media means to make public and disseminate the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding as they think fit.

b) Offering advice on strategic issues

The UfM Secretariat agrees to provide PAM with inputs for its debates and reports on, *inter alia*, the six strategic priority areas as identified by the UfM Heads of States and Governments, in particular: De-pollution of the Mediterranean; Maritime and land highways; Civil Protection; Alternative Energies: Mediterranean Solar Plan; Higher Education and Research, the Euro-Mediterranean University; and the Mediterranean Business Initiative.

PAM agrees to mobilize its parliamentary network to support and advise the UfM on strategic issues relating to the region, as stated in the Marseille Declaration, such as; parliamentary diplomacy and democracy building; economic development and public private partnerships (PPP); energy policy, promotion of investments, regulatory frameworks, SMEs, employment and vocational training; demography and migration.

Such cooperation will serve the aim of supporting and mobilising resources for the implementation of UfM projects and the quality of PAM parliamentary hearings and activities, for the benefit of the Mediterranean region.

III. ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT AND SIGNING

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force when signed by both Parties and remain valid until such time as either Party informs the other Party of its intention to cancel the Memorandum by giving at least one month's written notice to the other Party.

Any amendments to this Memorandum shall be subject to written approval of both Parties.

Signed on 9 April 2013, in Barcelona

Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean



Amb. Sergio Piazzi

Secretary General

**Parliamentary Assembly of the
Mediterranean**

Union for the Mediterranean



Mr. Fathallah Sijilmassi

Secretary General

Union for the Mediterranean