



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

THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN – PAM
PARLIAMENTARY FORUM OF THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGION

ORIGIN & OBJECTIVES

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) is an international organization established in 2005 by the national parliaments of the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region. It is the legal successor of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CSCM), launched in the early '90s.

The main objective of PAM is to forge political, economic and social cooperation among the member States in order to find common solutions to the challenges facing the Euro-Mediterranean region, and to create a space for peace and prosperity for its peoples. It has 34 founding and associate member States.

PAM is the centre of excellence for regional parliamentary diplomacy, and a unique forum whose membership is open exclusively to Euro-Mediterranean countries, which are represented on equal footing. This is reflected in the composition of the Bureau and the alternating Presidency. The current President of PAM is Hon. Karim Darwish (Egypt). Each national delegation has five members with equal voting rights and decision-making powers. Associate members and Observers do not have voting rights.

PAM conducts the bulk of its work within three Standing Committees¹. It may also set up Working Groups, ad-hoc Committees or Special Task Forces to tackle a particular topic (i.e. Counter-Terrorism, Confidence Building, Peace Support, Conflict Resolution, Middle East Peace Process, Mass Migration, Free Trade and Investments, Economic Integration, Climate Change, Energy, Human Rights, Dialogue of Civilizations, Gender issues, etc...). Main operational and coordination instruments of PAM in these fields are: Field Missions, Electoral Observation Teams, the Economic Panel and the Academic Platform.

Although the reports and resolutions adopted by PAM are not legally binding per se, they are a powerful “soft diplomacy” tool when dealing with parliaments, governments and civil society in the region.

PAM Secretariat is also entrusted with the parliamentary dimension of the 5+5 Western Mediterranean Forum and the MEDCOP.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE PAM SECRETARIAT

The international Secretariat, an autonomous and independent body of the Assembly, assists and advises the PAM President, the PAM Bureau and all members in the execution of their mandate and is responsible for the follow-up on the decisions taken by the Assembly providing coordination, assistance and support to the work of the Committees and all other bodies established under PAM.

The Secretariat interacts with national delegations, as well as with regional and international bodies sharing an interest in the Euro-Mediterranean region. It has the mandate to stimulate the activities of the Assembly and also coordinates the awarding of the PAM Prize dedicated to individuals or institutions whose work is considered important for the Euro-Mediterranean region.

The Secretary General, assisted by international and local staff, directs the Secretariat and coordinates the activities of the Assembly. Amb. Sergio Piazzi, based in Geneva, is the current Secretary General².

¹ 1st Standing Committee: Political and Security-related Cooperation and Regional Stability;

² 2nd Standing Committee: Economic, Social and Environmental Cooperation, Development and Partnership;

³ 3rd Standing Committee: Dialogue among Civilisations and Human Rights.

² Italian-born, Amb. Piazzi is a UN Senior official, with broad experience in Crisis Management, EU and NATO affairs.

PAM has a decentralized structure with Permanent Observers to the UN in Geneva, New York and Vienna, a Liaison with UNSCO and UNIFIL in Jerusalem, a Representation to LAS in Cairo, a Regional Office and Research Centre in Naples, and the administrative services in Switzerland.

PAM RELATIONS WITH NON EURO-MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The membership criteria and the geographical location of its members position PAM as the central inter-parliamentary actor in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

The General Assembly of the United Nations granted the **Permanent Observer Status** to PAM, by Resolution A/RES/64/124, at its 64th Session on 16th December 2009, in recognition of its excellent work. This further strengthens PAM's contribution to the Euro-Mediterranean region, in addition to that of States and other international bodies, which have a direct interest, or a specific role, in the region.

Today's challenges, including mass migration, climate change and most importantly the resurgence of conflicts and the evolution of terrorism, require a collective effort, good will and confidence building measures.

An essential link with civil society, parliamentarians are key to any political decision-making process. In order to ensure coherence and coordination in decision processes, including social peace, it is necessary that parliamentarians fully participate in today's regional debates thereby contributing to the elaboration of policies that bear both an immediate impact and a long-term impact for future generations.

The political dialogue established among members of PAM, in particular with respect to the Middle East issues, Syria and Libya crises, is of vital importance.

To further its objectives, PAM encourages the inter-governmental support of the main actors in the region as well as regional institutions.

PAM MEMBERSHIP

The Member States of PAM: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Palestine, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

Associate Member States of PAM: Holy See, Qatar, Sovereign Order of Malta, United Arab Emirates

Observers: Russian Federation

Partner States and Organizations

- Bulgaria, Georgia, Kuwait, Moldova, Slovakia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America;
- African Parliamentary Union, Arab IPU, Arab Parliament, Asian Parliamentary Assembly, Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, Conseil Consultatif de l'UMA, European Parliament, IPA CIS, Inter-parliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, IPU, NATO-PA, OSCE-PA, PABSEC, PACE, Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie Pan-African Parliament, PA-UfM, PUIC, Parliamentary Network of the World Bank and IMF, SEECF PA;
- African Union, CTBTO, EBRD, EIB, EUROMED, European Court of Human Rights, European Union, European Commission, FEMISE, Gulf Cooperation Council, International Monetary Fund, IRENA, League of Arab States, NATO Allied Joint Force Command and Strategic South Hub, North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, OECD, Union du Maghreb arabe, UfM, UN System, World Bank, WTO, WMO;
- Anna Lindh Foundation, ASCAME, BUSINESS MED, Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI), FIDU–Italian Federation for Human Rights, Mediterranean Citizens' Assembly Foundation, MEDREG, MED-TSO, Women Political Leaders.

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