

Pact for the Mediterranean

FIRST ACTION PLAN – April 2026



One Sea
One Pact
One Future

Following the launch of the Pact for the Mediterranean on 28 November 2025 in Barcelona by the EU and its southern Mediterranean partners, aiming to strengthen cooperation and promote a more integrated, resilient and secure Common Mediterranean Space, the Action Plan is now turning this vision into action. Together with an interactive webpage, a dynamic Action Plan will:

- Monitor the implementation progress: tracking key initiatives and deliverables.
- Ensure transparency: listing participating countries, partners and stakeholders.
- Match needs and ambitions: identifying funding to support the Pact's actions.

The first Action Plan (April 2026): comprises 21 Actions across the three Pillars of the Pact.

Key actions

Pillar 1



People: driving force for change, connections and innovations

HIGHER EDUCATION, SKILLS, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- Mediterranean University
 - Innovation and Research Centres

BRIDGING THE SKILLS AND QUALIFICATION GAP IN LABOUR MARKETS

- Schemes modelled on Youth Guarantee National Plans
- MED Skill Tracker
- Enhancing quality apprenticeships and improved work-based learning models

PROTECTING AND VALORISING CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Euro-med initiative for culture, sport and tourism

EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY, YOUTH AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- A Youth Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean
 - Strengthened support for media organisations



MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY

The action will strengthen cooperation among universities and academics from all shores of the Mediterranean. In this initial phase, a Secretariat will coordinate efforts, with a consortia of universities fostering regional collaboration. This action will lead to:

- Stronger university networks
- Joint degree programmes & micro-credentials
- Greater student, staff, and researcher mobility
- A feasibility study, exploring the long-term view of creating a Mediterranean University institution, with campuses across all sides of the Mediterranean

EURO-MED INITIATIVE FOR CULTURE, SPORT AND TOURISM

This initiative will restore and promote cultural heritage sites and landmarks to:

- Boost skills and youth employment
- Drive sustainable economic growth
- Strengthen cultural identity and social cohesion

YOUTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

This action will establish a structured space for young, elected representatives from the EU and the southern Mediterranean to express their views on issues of interest to them, ensuring young voices:

- Shape and advise on Pact for the Mediterranean implementation
- Strengthen youth engagement in the Common Mediterranean Space

Key actions

Pillar 2

Stronger, more sustainable and integrated economies



STARTUP4MED

TECH BUSINESS OFFER FOR INTEGRATED DIGITAL AND DATA ECONOMIES

TRANS-MEDITERRANEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN TECH INITIATIVE (T-MED)

BLUE MEDITERRANEAN HEALTH AND WEALTH

- A Blue Mediterranean Partnership and a BlueInvest Platform will support investments in sustainable blue economy solutions

TRANS-MEDITERRANEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN TECH INITIATIVE (T-MED)

To boost clean energy investment in the Mediterranean and foster a transparent, fair and competitive energy business environment, the T-MED Investment Platform will:

- Mobilise blended finance & de-risking tools to attract investment
- Launch a Regulatory Accelerator to improve investment readiness
- Modernise energy systems with sustainable planning
- Support renewable energy certification & trade
- Address skills and gender gaps through a T-MED Skills Agenda

Pillar 3



Security, preparedness and migration management

EU-MED PEACE AND SECURITY INITIATIVE

- Setting up a regional forum for the EU and the southern Mediterranean countries on peace and security
- Launching the EU-MED Security Facility for security sector reform

MEDITERRANEAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

- Expanding cooperation in civil protection (new European Firefighting Hub)

IMPLEMENTING A WHOLE-OF-ROUTE APPROACH TO MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

- Enhancing cooperation on preventing illegal migration, countering migrant smuggling and human trafficking
- Scaling up Talent Partnerships

SECURE BORDERS

- Strengthening institutional and operational border management capacities

MED-OP: JUDICIAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION

- Regional dialogue for the EU and southern Mediterranean countries on internal security
- Combating serious and organised crime and terrorism
- Negotiation and implementation of international agreements and working arrangements



EUROPEAN FIREFIGHTING HUB

The Cyprus Aerial Firefighting Station (CRAFS) will be scaled up to:

- Improve disaster response speed
- Protect communities and ecosystems
- Enhance cross-border cooperation

SCALING UP TALENT PARTNERSHIPS

By reinforcing the operationalisation of Talent Partnerships with partner countries of the southern Mediterranean, this action will structure legal migration and mobility and attract skilled individuals to address occupational shortages. It will strengthen capacity building and skills development. This will be done through:

- Expanding legal migration pathways
- Attracting skilled workers to fill labour gaps
- Strengthening skills training & capacity building
- Improving return & readmission cooperation, including through potential Legal Gateway Offices

[Learn more about the Pact for the Mediterranean](#)

Follow us on social media for Pact's progress and achievements!

