



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

UfM YOUTH STRATEGY 2030

Euro-Mediterranean youth towards a common goal

Restricted Document

“Euro-Mediterranean Youth constitute our common hope, future, aspiration and commitment. Only together can we build a better future for our Youth and better societies in our region.”

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Foreword

The Euro-Mediterranean region has one of the youngest populations in the world, with one in every three people being younger than 25 years old, and with this number reaching almost half of the population for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries.

Moreover, youth are among the most vulnerable groups in the face of the pressing challenges our Mare Nostrum has been facing in the last decades, mainly the issues of unemployment and gender equality, which have been exacerbated with the Covid-19 pandemic, but also migration, radicalization and violent extremism. Climate change and sustainable development represent also major challenges for the new generations, as the future of the region is at stake.

Nevertheless, the daily achievements of millions of Mediterranean young people continue to be remarkable. They represent, in the South and in the North, one of the best assets of the region, and its greatest potential to address the root causes of the challenges we are facing.

Youth should therefore be given prominence in policy-making across Euro-Mediterranean countries; not only as objects of these policies but as partners in the discussions and full actors in the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development in the region.

In this sense, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) has placed young people at the heart of its action, focusing on empowering and engaging them as agents for positive change. The UfM Youth Strategy 2030 is a milestone that comes as a targeted response to the call of the 42 UfM Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the at the 2nd UfM Regional Forum, to launch a 'Positive Agenda for Youth in the Mediterranean'.

This Strategy is fully in line with UN Youth 2030 and the EU Youth Strategy. In this framework, the UfM will continue to support and mobilize youth in its main areas of action, cognizant of the fact that in addition to introducing fresh and alternative perspectives, they have direct knowledge and insights into the issues they continue to be at the forefront of.

The success of this Strategy and its Action Plan that will follow, is based on the conviction that we must act with, and not only for, youth, in view of promoting an effective regional cooperation with tangible impact on the ground. The UfM is fully committed to be a reliable partner in the quest to facilitate increased impact and expanded regional and country-level action to empower the Euro-Mediterranean youth in building an inclusive and sustainable future in the Mediterranean.

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Secretary-General
of the Union for the Mediterranean

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