

THE PACT FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

One Sea. One Pact. One Future



A NOVEL APPROACH in the COMMON MEDITERRANEAN SPACE: CO-OWNED, PRACTICAL, FLEXIBLE

- An approach driven by **extensive and inclusive consultations**, involving:
 - EU Member States
 - Partner countries of the southern Mediterranean
 - Regional and international stakeholders
- **17 Initiatives** with more than 100 **concrete actions**, delivering tangible results for peoples and societies, under **three interconnected thematic pillars**.
- A **flexible framework**, tailored to the needs and specificities of each partner.

WAY FORWARD – IMPLEMENTATION and MONITORING

Implementation

First Action Plan (see [link](#)):

- Presented in April 2026
- A living document, updated twice a year
- Consists of 21 actions across the 3 pillars
- Used to monitor progress, ensure transparency and match needs and ambitions

Monitoring

- **Two-layer structure**

EU level

Euro-Mediterranean level

- **With support from key stakeholders**

THE PACT IN THREE PILLARS

1. People: driving force for change, connections and innovation

Higher education, skills and vocational training, jobs, culture, tourism and sport, civil society, youth and local communities.

2. Stronger, more sustainable and integrated economies

Trade and investment, support to start-ups, renewable energy and clean technology, blue economy, digital connectivity and transports, statistics and knowledge sharing.

3. Security, preparedness and migration management

Security and peace, preparedness, migration management, justice and law enforcement cooperation.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE PACT FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Objectives of the Pact:

- Contribute to a more integrated and inclusive higher education and skills development area
- Position the Mediterranean as a **hub for transnational education, research and innovation**
- In this context, **Erasmus+ remains a strategic enabler for the Pact – with EUR 333M** earmarked via DG MENA for the period 2021-2027 for the southern Mediterranean, out of which:
 - EUR 179.5M for international credit mobility
 - EUR 64.2M for capacity-building in higher education
 - EUR 13.2M for Erasmus Mundus

THE PACT FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ERASMUS+

ERASMUS+ IN SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN:

Between 2022 and 2025, Erasmus+ supported:

- 64 higher education projects (CBHE),
- 48 VET projects (CBVET),
- 95 youth projects (CBY),
- 807 scholarships for Erasmus Mundus master's programmes, and
- 33 000 student and staff mobility exchanges.

ERASMUS+ IN JORDAN:

Between 2022 and 2025, Erasmus+ supported:

- 14 CBHE projects (50 instances)
- 20 CBVET projects (36 instances)
- 49 CBY projects (53 instances)
- 52 Erasmus Mundus Master's programmes scholarships
- Close to 3400 student and staff mobility

MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE

Key higher education initiative under the Pact (*see [Action Document](#)*)

Objective:

- Position the Mediterranean as a center of excellence in education and research.

Main activities:

- Create a consortia of universities coordinated by a Secretariat.
- Strengthen university networks, launch joint programs and micro-credentials.
- Promote mobility of students, staff, and researchers.
- Conduct a feasibility study for a full-fledged transnational institution with campuses across the Mediterranean.

MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE

Funding:

- EUR 11M (Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI – Global Europe), for 2026-2027)
- Complementarity and synergies with Erasmus+
- Additional contributions from EU Member States and Southern Neighbourhood – TBC
- Additional funds to be considered with the next multi-annual financial framework (MFF) – TBC

Timeline:

- Summer 2026: Launch of the Secretariat and open call for university consortia – stay tuned
- Q4 2026: Launch of the feasibility study and start of cooperation on joint programs.

THANK YOU

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