



Redogörelse för verksamheten inom Parlamentariska församlingen för unionen för Medelhavet (PA-UfM) och den svenska delegationens arbete under 2017

Redogörelsens huvudsakliga innehåll

I redogörelsen redovisas verksamheten inom Parlamentariska församlingen för Unionen för Medelhavet (PA-UfM) och den svenska PA-UfM-delegationens arbete under 2017.

Stockholm den 14 februari 2018

På riksdagsstyrelsens vägnar

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Bakgrund

Ordförandena för PA-UfM-delegationen respektive IPU-delegationen framförde i en skrivelse till riksdagsstyrelsen den 8 april 2011 (dnr 049-2548-2010/11) önskemål om att den årliga redogörelsen för delegationernas verksamhet ska lämnas till kammaren i stället för som tidigare till riksdagsstyrelsen för att ytterligare synliggöra verksamheten. I utredningen om riksdagens internationella verksamhet (RivUt, 2010/11:URF1) framförs att det är angeläget att det internationella engagemanget i högre grad integreras med riksdagens övriga verksamhet. En debatt i kammaren ger ledamöterna möjlighet att sprida kunskap och information till varandra och till allmänheten. Riksdagsstyrelsen beslutade 2012 att överlämna redogörelserna till riksdagen. Ärendena bereddes av utrikesutskottet, och det hölls debatt i kammaren. I översynen av riksdagsordningen (2012/13:URF3) som gjordes av en kommitté under ledning av talmannen, föreslås att denna försöksverksamhet ska fortsätta eftersom den kan ge underlag för fortsatta överväganden. Riksdagsstyrelsen har i framställningen Översyn av riksdagsordningen (2013/14:RS3) förklarat sig dela kommitténs uppfattning.

Riksdagsstyrelsen har mot denna bakgrund och i enlighet med 10 § lagen (2011:745) med instruktion för Riksdagsförvaltningen, beslutat att överlämna redogörelsen för verksamheten för 2017 från riksdagens delegation till Parlamentariska församlingen för Unionen för Medelhavet (PA-UfM) till riksdagen.

Sammanfattning

Frågor i fokus under 2017 har bland annat handlat om hållbar utveckling och nya arbetstillfällen i medelhavsområdet: Med4jobs och Agenda 2030 ("Sustainable Development and New Job Opportunities in the Mediterranean: Med4jobs and Agenda 2030"), vilket var huvudtemat för den årliga sessionen i Rom. I samband med sessionen överlämnades ordförandeskapet för församlingen från Italien till Egypten.

PA-UfM har under året också behandlat frågor kopplade till migrationsströmmar, projektverksamhet i Gaza, innovationsfrågor och strategisk forskning, miljöfrågor för främjande av blå arbetstillfällen och tillväxt i Medelhavsområdet.

Bekämpandet av radikaliserings, islamism och islamofobi, ungdomars framtidsutsikter, kvinnors deltagande i beslutsfattandet, trafficking samt villkor för kvinnor i väpnade konflikter har varit andra teman.

Arbetet i PA-UfM har, liksom i fjol, under året dock fortlöpt med en relativt låg intensitet, vilket till stor del har att göra med organisationens administrativa tillkortakommanden och bristfälliga organisering. Den svenska PA-UfM-delegationen hoppas emellertid att detta kan komma att åtgärdas över tid. Sverige valdes under 2017 in som medlem i kvinnoutskottet, som en av tre vice ordförande, och ambitionen är att fortsätta med detta engagemang. Delegationen avser att under 2018 söka mer dialog med sekretariatet och relevanta medlemsländer för att på det viset verka för bättre organisering och effektivare verksamhet. Vidare avser delegationen att fortsätta att arbeta för demokrati och mänskliga rättigheter, fred, stabilitet och välbefinnande runt Medelhavet, förstärkt samarbete i sociala och kulturella frågor, jämställdhet och hållbar utveckling. Ambitionen under 2018 är att anordna aktiviteter, seminarier och möten med olika teman för att belysa aktuella frågor som rör samarbetet. I årsredogörelsen redovisas delegationens verksamhet 2017 och de aktiviteter som genomförts under året.

Stockholm i februari 2018

Olle Thorell (S)
Ordförande

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Delegationssekreterare

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1 PA-UfM och dess organisation

Den parlamentariska församlingen för Unionen för Medelhavet (PA-UfM) är en mötesplats för parlamentariker från EU och Medelhavsländerna. Församlingen har som mål att skapa fred, stabilitet och välstånd runt Medelhavet, samt att öka förståelsen och samhörigheten mellan de länder som deltar. Målet är att skapa ett gemensamt område runt Medelhavet med fred och stabilitet, delat välstånd och förstärkt samarbete i sociala och kulturella frågor, baserat på grundläggande principer som respekt för mänskliga rättigheter och demokrati.

Samarbetet har sitt ursprung i den så kallade Barcelonaprocessen – ett partnerskap på regeringssidan mellan EU och Medelhavsländerna som inleddes 1995. Samarbetet övergick så småningom till att bli Partnerskapet Europa-Medelhavet (EMP eller Euro-Med). En rådgivande parlamentarisk församling för Euromedsamarbetet, den så kallade Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA), bildades 2004. Fyra år senare fördjupades regeringssamarbetet och kom att bli Unionen för Medelhavet (UfM). Dess parlamentariska församling kallas Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM), eller på svenska den parlamentariska församlingen för Unionen för Medelhavet.

Barcelonaprocessen eller Euromedsamarbetet är ett samarbete mellan EU och ett antal länder i Mellanöstern och Nordafrika som gränsar till Medelhavet. Processen vilar på den s.k. Barcelonadeklarationen med de fyra huvudinriktningarna politik, ekonomi, kultur och migration. I december 2003 beslöt man att upprätta en rådgivande parlamentarisk församling för Euromedsamarbetet, vilken kom att kallas Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA). Barcelonaprocessen fick 2008 en fortsättning i Unionen för Medelhavet (Union for the Mediterranean, UfM), och dess parlamentariska församling övergick till att heta Parlamentariska församlingen för Unionen för Medelhavet (Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean, PA-UfM).

PA-UfM var ursprungligen en mötesplats för parlamentariker från de dåvarande EU-länderna och de så kallade partnerländerna Algeriet, Egypten, Israel, Jordanien, Libanon, Marocko, palestinska myndigheten, Syrien, Tunisien och Turkiet. Numera ingår även Albanien, Bosnien och Hercegovina, Kroatien, Mauretanien, Monaco, Montenegro och Libyen i samarbetet. Församlingen består av 280 ledamöter, och platserna har fördelats mellan de olika nationella parlamenten inom respektive utanför EU samt Europaparlamentet. Målet är att skapa ett område runt Medelhavet med fred och stabilitet, delat välstånd och

förstärkt samarbete i sociala och kulturella frågor samt i miljöfrågor. Till dags dato är det ett av mycket få forum för möten mellan Israel och delar av arabvärlden.

PA-UfM:s arbete bedrivs i fem permanenta fackutskott – utskottet för politik, säkerhet och mänskliga rättigheter (politiska utskottet), utskottet för ekonomiska, finansiella och sociala frågor samt utbildning (ekonomiska utskottet), utskottet för energi, miljö och vatten (miljöutskottet), utskottet för förbättrad livskvalitet, utbyte mellan civilsamhällen och kultur (kulturutskottet) samt utskottet för kvinnors rättigheter (kvinnoutskottet). Varje utskott leds av en parlamentariker från något av medlemsländerna alternativt från Europaparlamentet. Vid sidan av utskotten finns en arbetsgrupp med uppgift att se över organisationens arbetsordning.

Utskotten möts som mest fyra gånger per år för att behandla relevanta teman och enas om utkast till rekommendationer inom sina respektive sakområden. Eventuella beslut fattas huvudsakligen med konsensus.

Rekommendationerna antas därefter vid församlingssessionen, varefter de vidarebefordras till regeringssidan av samarbetet (UfM) som förslag på åtgärder. Församlingssessionen är organisationens högsta beslutande organ och sammanträder en gång per år.

Ordförandeskapet för PA-UfM i sin helhet roterar på årsbasis, och i maj 2017 övergick det från Italiens parlament till Egyptens. Den s.k. byrån är ansvarig för att koordinera organisationens arbete och företräda den i relationerna med andra institutioner. För perioden 2016–2020 består byrån av talmannen i Europaparlamentet, talmännen i första och andra kammaren i italienska parlamentet, talmannen i Turkiet och talmannen i Egypten. Ibland sammanträder byrån i utvidgat format, då även de olika utskottens respektive ordförande deltar.

Ett mindre sekretariat för PA-UfM har etablerats i Europaparlamentets lokaler i Bryssel. Det leds av en portugisisk generalsekreterare och består i övrigt av två tjänstemän från Europaparlamentet, eftersom de övriga medlemmarna av byrån underlåtit att sekondera personal. Därutöver stöds ordförandelandet av en sekretariatsfunktion i det egna parlamentet.

Det ökade antalet medlemsländer i kombination med det oförändrade antalet platser i den parlamentariska församlingen ledde till en stadgeändring 2014. Denna stipulerar att EU:s medlemsstater kan delta i tre av fem fackutskott. Från den svenska delegationens sida deltar man primärt i politiska utskottet, ekonomiska utskottet och kvinnoutskottet.

Under 2017 har delegationsmöten hållits vid flera tillfällen. Mötena har till stor del ägnats åt substansfrågor och förberedelser inför PA-UfM:s årliga församlingssession och utskottsmöten. Det huvudsakliga arbetet inom PA-UfM och för den svenska delegationen utförs inför och under den årliga församlingssessionen. Nedan följer en rapport från denna session samt utskottsarbetet.

2 Verksamheten 2017

2.1 Utskottsarbetet

Precis som tidigare år blev det få utskottsmöten inom PA-UfM under 2017. Antalet möten varierade mellan utskotten, och ekonomiska utskottet utmärkte sig med en högre mötesfrekvens än de andra utskotten. De svenska ledamöterna har huvudsakligen deltagit i de utskottsmöten som legat i anslutning till församlingssessionen med undantag för ekonomiska utskottets möte i Lissabon i december, där såväl delegationens ordförande Olle Thorell (S) som Yasmine Larsson (S) deltog.

2.1.1 Byrån

Den så kallade byrån, bestående av president och vice president liksom utskottsordförande, möttes i samband med sessionen. Sverige deltog denna gång genom Yasmine Larsson (S) med anledning av att Larsson ledde utskottsmötet vid vilket rekommendationen behandlades. Vid byråmötet presenterades samtliga utskotts resolutioner. Byrån fattade även beslut om ändring av artikel 15, paragraf 1, i PA-UfM:s Rules of Procedure. Den nya formuleringen slår bland annat fast att byrån, liksom andra församlingsorgan, ska assisteras av ett permanent sekretariat som även ska ha en ekonomiansvarig.

2.1.2 Politiska utskottet

Politiska utskottet höll två möten under 2017, varav ett var förlagt till Bryssel och ett till Rom i anslutning till årets församlingssession. Under Brysselmötets första del presenterades och diskuterades implementeringen av UfM:s projekt i Gaza med ledamöter, representanter från palestinska myndigheter, medlemmar av Europaparlamentet och EU-kommissionen. Under mötets andra del diskuterades "the Euro-Mediterranean agenda for managing migration in the Mediterranean" med företrädare för EEAS, EU-kommissionen och UNHCR.

Utskottets andra möte för året, i samband med sessionen i Rom, behandlade uteslutande utskottets rekommendation till församlingen. Vid detta möte deltog den svenska ledamoten Amir Adan (M). Rekommendationen riktar sig till såväl UfM, EEAS och EU som till den egna församlingens utskott och medlemmar och fokuserar på aktuella utmaningar såsom pågående konflikter, migration, terrorism och radikalisering.

2.1.3 Ekonomiska utskottet

Ekonomiska utskottet höll fyra möten under 2017, varav det första i Coimbra den 27 mars och det andra i Barcelona den 21 april. På dagordningen fanns temat "Global Platform for Syrian Students" under vilket generalsekreteraren för organisationen som är verksam vid Coimbrauniversitetet, Helena Barroco, presenterade det arbete som lanserats 2013. Barroco efterföljdes av biträdande rektorn för Coimbrauniversitetet samt en debatt. Dagordningens andra tema var "Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez" som är ett UfM-projekt lanserat

2008. Utskottets andra möte för året hölls i Barcelona den 21 april, och vid detta möte presenterades och diskuterades huvudsakligen UfM-projektet Med4Jobs.

Vid utskottets tredje möte, som hölls i samband med församlingssessionen i Rom, diskuterades uteslutande årets rekommendation på följande två teman ”Innovation and Higher Education in the Euro-Mediterranean Region” och ”Job Creation – Policy and Joint Projects in the PA-UfM-countries”.

Årets fjärde och sista möte med ekonomiska utskottet hölls i Lissabon den 18 december. Olle Thorell (S) och Yasmine Larsson (S) deltog från den svenska delegationens sida. Vid mötet diskuterades framför allt frågor kring Europas digitala framtid och BLUEMED-initiativet om strategisk forskning och innovation för att skapa stordriftsfördelar och främja blå arbetstillfällen och tillväxt i Medelhavsområdet. Inbjuden talare var Luis Viegas, digital policy-analytiker vid European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC).

Vid mötet togs också frågan upp om USA:s flytt av sin ambassad i Israel, från Tel Aviv till Jerusalem, och en skrivelse togs fram på initiativ av delegationerna från Algeriet, Egypten, Jordanien och Marocko, som protesterade mot detta beslut.

2.1.4 Miljöutskottet

Miljöutskottet höll tre möten under 2017. Första mötet hölls i Amman i april. Vid detta möte diskuterades utkastet till årets resolution som utarbetats av en arbetsgrupp inom utskottet. UfM:s biträdande generalsekreterare deltog vid mötet och informerade om UfM:s aktiviteter inom utskottets politikområde. Utskottet arbetar med fyra NGO-projekt i regionen; Med Pan, Horizon 2020, Let's Do it Mediterranean samt Eco Towns. Frågor som diskuterades var utsläpp och föroreningar, vattenbrist, förnybar energi, behovet av snabba åtgärder i flyktingområden i fråga om vatten, energi, återvinning och avfall. I denna kontext diskuterades också situationen på Gazaremsan. Vid detta möte bekräftades även att utskottets två huvudsakliga prioriteringar är följande: 1) att upprätthålla ekosystemet och den rena miljön i Medelhavet samt 2) att identifiera lösningar och projekt som adresserar energi- och vattenfrågan i flyktingvärdländer.

Utskottets andra möte hölls i Rom i samband med församlingssessionen och behandlade årets rekommendation. Till mötet hade även en professor från Solentuniversitetet bjudits in för att föreläsa på temat föroreningar i Medelhavet. Årets rekommendation fokuserar på dels föroreningar i Medelhavsområdet, dels flyktingars påverkan på vatten, energi och infrastruktur i värdländerna.

Årets sista möte hölls i Kairo, i oktober. Vid detta möte valdes två rapportörer som har till uppgift att arbeta fram utkastet till 2018 års resolution.

2.1.5 Kulturutskottet

Kulturutskottet höll två möten under 2017, varav båda var förlagda till Rom. Vid första mötet, som ägde rum den 3 april, stod frågan om radikalisering och mer specifikt orsakerna till radikalisering i fokus. Ett flertal forskare hade bjudits in för att belysa problematiken ur olika vetenskapliga vinklar. Vid mötets inledande del konstaterade utskottets italienska ordförande, Khalid Chaouki, att det är nödvändigt att försöka förstå orsakerna bakom radikalisering för att kunna utveckla motsstrategier. Italiens undersekreterare för utrikes ärenden, Benedetto dela Vedova, deltog vid mötet och konstaterade att diskrepansen är enorm vad gäller förutsättningarna för länderna norr om Medelhavet jämfört med de sydliga, och att dessa ojämlikheter sätter en destruktiv utveckling i rörelse. Länderna i norr präglas av en demografisk nedgång, medan länderna i syd går mot en utveckling med 30 miljoner unga arbetslösa.

Utskottets andra möte för året hölls i samband med församlingssessionen. Vid mötet diskuterades utskottets utkast till rekommendation och inkomna förslag till ändringar. I rekommendationen uttrycker utskottet inledningsvis stor oro för den fortsatta instabiliteten i regionen, som kräver effektiv och koordinerad respons från det internationella samfundet, och fokuserar därefter på bekämpandet av radikalisering, islamism och islamofobi samt på ungdomars framtidsutsikter.

2.1.6 Kvinnoutskottet

Kvinnoutskottet höll två möten under 2017. Det första mötet ägde rum den 3 april i Rom. Vid detta möte stod följande överordnade frågor på dagordningen: kvinnors deltagande i beslutsfattandet, trafficking samt UfM:s WoRTH-projekt (Womens Right to Health). I tillägg diskuterades två stående teman: villkor för kvinnor i väpnade konflikter samt kvinnor och migration. Mötet öppnades av utskottets ordförande, den tunisiska ledamoten Leila Chettaoui, följt av tjänstemän från såväl departementet för migration och asylfrågor som UNHCR och ett Turinbaserat epidemiologiskt projekt som bjudits in för att diskutera aktuella teman.

Utskottets andra möte hölls i samband med församlingssessionen, och mötet behandlade uteslutande förslaget till årets rekommendation, med inkomna önskemål om ändringar. I ordförande Chettaouis frånvaro ledde den svenska ledamoten, Yasmine Larsson (S), mötet. Därmed var hon även talesperson för utskottet vid församlingssessionen där rekommendationen presenterades och godkändes av församlingen. Årets rekommendation hade det överordnade temat "Participation of women in the leadership positions and decision making: Challenges and prospects".

2.2 Församlingssessionen och antagna rekommendationer

PA-UfM:s trettonde församlingssession ägde rum i Rom den 12 maj under italienskt ordförandeskap. Sessionen följde ett traditionellt upplägg med utskottsmöten under den första dagen under vilka utkasten till årets rekommendationer diskuterades för att senare kunna antas vid församlingssessionen som ägde rum under dag två. Den svenska delegationen företrädades av Yasmine Larsson (S) och Amir Adan (M).

2.2.1 Församlingssessionen

Temat för årets församlingssession var hållbar utveckling och nya arbetstillfällen i Medelhavsområdet: Med4jobs och Agenda 2030 ("Sustainable Development and New Job Opportunities in the Mediterranean: Med4jobs and Agenda 2030"). Precis som i fråga om talmansmötet öppnades församlingssessionen den 13 maj av den italienska senatens samt underhusets talmän. Även i dessa anföranden påtalades regionens utmaningar med gamla och nya konflikter och behovet av hållbar utveckling, välfärdssystem, mänskliga rättigheter och demokrati. Även flyktingsituationen nämndes liksom behovet av solidaritet, humanitet och samarbete. Talmännen efterföljdes av Federica Mogherini, EU:s höga representant för utrikes frågor och säkerhetspolitik. Mogherini framhöll bland annat att medborgarna i regionen är mer lika än vad de kanske själva tror, att regionen måste hitta en gemensam väg framåt och att det därmed behövs fokus på jobb, kvinnor och hållbar utveckling.

2.2.2 Antagna rekommendationer

Vid varje församlingssession presenterar vart och ett av PA-UfM:s utskott ett förslag till en gemensam rekommendation inom ramen för sitt respektive politikområde, varefter församlingen har att godkänna förslaget. Rekommendationerna riktar sig till medlemsländernas regeringar, UfM och andra relevanta aktörer i regionen.

Vid sessionen 2017 presenterade samtliga utskott förslag på rekommendationer och samtliga rekommendationer godkändes av församlingen. Nedan följer en kort sammanfattning av det huvudsakliga innehållet i var och en av de fem rekommendationer som godkändes.

2.2.3 Politiska utskottet

Rekommendationen 2017 riktar sig till såväl UfM, EEAS och EU som till den egna församlingens utskott och medlemmar. Rekommendationens inledning rör PA-UfM och UfM:s funktion, det vill säga syfte, roll och behov, och uppmanar till utvärdering och självkritik för att åstadkomma nödvändiga förbättringar. Vad gäller läget i regionen konstateras att regionen är full med gemensamma utmaningar i fråga om migration, säkerhet, terrorism, våldsam extremism, mänskliga rättigheter, ungdomsarbetslöshet och behov av interkulturell dialog. Utskottet uttrycker i årets rekommendation stor oro över den pågående

instabilitet i regionen som följt på år av gamla och nya konflikter. Genom rekommendationen välkomnar utskottet därför bland annat den färdplan som utarbetats av UfM för att revitalisera den politiska dialogen i regionen och även beslutet om årliga möten för regionens utrikesministrar. Rekommendationen framhåller även att migrationen har blivit ett pågående fenomen som kräver gemensamma svar och välkomnar EU:s ambitioner att arbeta med de bakomliggande orsakerna till migrationen.

2.2.4 Ekonomiska utskottet

Temat för årets rekommendation från ekonomiska utskottet är innovation och högre utbildning samt jobbskapande ("Innovation and Higher Education in the Euro-Mediterranean Region" and "Job Creation – Policy and Joint Projects in the PA-UfM countries"). Rekommendationen inleds med en bekräftelse på målen för partnerskapet så som det uttryckts i Barcelonaprocessen med syfte att främja fred, stabilitet och ekonomisk utveckling i regionen och främja politisk dialog och samarbete. Genom rekommendationen uttrycker utskottet oro för flyktingsituationen och det faktum att medelhavsregionen genererar ett stort antal flyktingar globalt sett. Mot bakgrund av detta uppmanar utskottet i rekommendationen alla medlemsstater att brådskande stärka sitt politiska stöd till alla slags aktiviteter som har som målsättning att främja fred, stabilitet och ekonomisk utveckling, att förbättra sitt humanitära stöd till länder påverkade av väpnade konflikter och assistera grannländer till dessa länder liksom att uppmana EU:s stater att välkomna och effektivt organisera mottagandet av flyktingar i sina länder. Utskottet uppmanar även medlemsstaterna att skapa planer för integrationen av flyktingar och understryker den avgörande roll frivilligorganisationerna har i detta arbete. I tillägg anger rekommendationen jobbskapande och utbildning som avgörande faktorer för en hållbar utveckling, tillsammans med stöd till små och medelstora företag, jordbrukssektorn samt projekt som utvecklar landsbygden.

2.2.5 Miljöutskottet

Det överordnade temat för utskottets rekommendation är vatten, energi och infrastruktur – flyktingarnas påverkan på mottagarländerna och föroreningar i Medelhavet ("Water, Energy and Infrastructure: the Impact of Refugees on the Host Countries and Pollution in the Mediterranean"). Frågor som adresseras i rekommendationen är därmed inom ramen för dessa teman, vad gäller föroreningar så nämns bland annat transportereringen av miljöfarligt material, tömning av färskvatten, och dumpning av icke nedbrytbart material i Medelhavet. Rekommendationen uppmanar UfM att agera för att Barcelonakonventionen, för skydd av Medelhavet, följs och utarbeta handlingsplaner för att adressera de utmaningar som rekommendationen uppmärksammar, inte minst vad gäller att stötta mottagarländer. Andra förslag är att vidta åtgärder för att motverka den ökande nedskräpningen av havet genom exempelvis kampanjer för att öka all-

mänhetens medvetenhet, att utforma en bindande miljökonsekvensbedömningsmodell samt en "Mediterranean Code" som Medelhavsländer ska under teckna för att skydda och skapa ett hållbart användande av de marina resurserna.

2.2.6 Kulturutskottet

I årets rekommendation framhåller utskottet att kultur och utbildning är förutsättningar för att motverka radikalisering liksom islamism och islamofobi, att det finns ett behov av att utbyta information om bästa praxis och strategier, att ägna särskilt fokus åt fångelser och flyktingläger då dessa är platser där rekrytering sker, liksom att fokusera på framtidsutsikter för den unga befolkningen som utgör en särskild riskgrupp. Därtill måste kontroll, lagstiftning och under rättelseaktiviteter kompletteras med utbildning för att främja en kultur som består av dialog, diversitet och förtroende. Rekommendationen adresserar de utmaningar som ytterligare kommit att prägla regionen på grund av de stora flyktingströmmarna, att mottagarländerna behöver stöd liksom att orsakerna till migration, såsom fattigdom, arbetslöshet, korruption, social exkludering, orättvisor och klimatförändringar, måste adresseras. Avslutningsvis uttalar utskottet även, genom rekommendationen, sitt fulla stöd för de aktiviteter som UfM lanserat för att nå den unga delen av befolkningen i regionen med utbildningsprogram som fokuserar på exempelvis mänskliga rättigheter. Det tredje öppningsanförandet hölls av en inbjuden professor i ekonomi och statistik från Roms universitet som talade om Agenda 2030 och hållbarhetsmålen och hur dessa kräver ett helt nytt sätt att samarbeta på tvärs över politikområden, departement etc. En fri diskussion med inlägg från deltagande parlamentariker följde, varefter UfM:s generalsekreterare Fathallah Sijilmassi presenterade UfM:s aktiviteter under året. I församlingssessionens sista del presenterade utskottens ordförande årets rekommendationer, varefter en debatt följde och rekommendationerna godkändes. Avslutningsvis överlämnade Italien ordförandeskapet för församlingen till Egypten.

2.2.7 Kvinnoutskottet

Temat för årets rekommendation från kvinnoutskottet var kvinnors deltagande på ledande positioner och i beslutsfattande: utmaningar och utsikter ("Participation of Women in the Leadership Positions and Decision Making: Challenges and Prospects"). Rekommendationen inleds med att man påtalar den signifikanta skillnad som finns i regionen mellan lagar och praktik vad gäller kvinnors deltagande på ledande positioner och i beslutsfattandet. Utskottet framhåller behovet av att reformera valsystemen för att möjliggöra ökad representation och välkomnar användandet av positiv särbehandling och kvot-system, även om dessa åtgärder alltid ska ses som ett medel och inte ett mål. Rekommendationen uppmanar UfM att göra en årlig kartläggning av jämställdheten i regionen. Vidare tar rekommendationen upp frågan om kvinnors deltagande i konfliktlösning och fredsbevarande arbete, skyddet för kvinnliga

migranter, behovet av att utveckla barn- och äldreomsorg liksom av att främja delad föräldraledighet för att främja kvinnors deltagande på arbetsmarknaden och i politiken. Även behovet av könsuppdelad hälsostatistik och behovet av att öka barns- och ungdomars medvetenhet om jämställdhet adresseras, och rekommendationen uppmanar UfM att arbeta med dessa frågor.

2.3 Toppmöte för medlemsländernas talmän

För fjärde gången sedan PA-UfM:s tillkomst anordnades ett toppmöte för medlemsländernas talmän i anslutning till församlingssessionen. Tidigare talmansmöten har ägt rum i Marseille 2011, Lissabon 2015 – vid vilket vice talmän Tobias Billström deltog – och i Tanger 2016 – vid vilket delegationens ordförande Olle Thorell (S) deltog. Sverige deltog ej vid årets möte.

Mötet öppnades av talmannen för italienska senaten, Pietro Grasso, följd av talmannen för den italienska andrakammaren, Laura Boldrini. Temat för årets möte var ”Employment, Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development in the Euromediterranean Region”. Vid mötet fanns ett flertal medlemsländer representerade. Algeriet, Bosnien-Hercegovina, Cypern, Egypten, Europaparlamentet, Italien, Malta och Turkiet deltog med talmän. Österrike, Grekland, Ungern, Jordanien, Luxemburg och Spanien deltog med vice talmän. Restande tjugo länder representerades av ledamöter eller tjänstemän. I sina anföranden tog talmännen upp behovet av att stabilisera läget i regionen, inte minst vad gäller migrationsströmmarna, liksom behovet av att adressera migrationens grundorsaker. I förlängningen efterlystes även större sammanhållning i regionen, där framtiden bygger på delade värderingar, inte religion eller etnicitet. Det konstaterades även att politisk dialog inte längre är ett val utan ett måste om det ska finnas en gemensam hållbar framtid för regionen. Konflikter, flyktingströmmar och migration, radikaliserings, arbetslöshet och social orättvisa var återkommande frågor, liksom UfM:s roll.

En deklaration antogs av talmännen i vilken de ovannämnda utmaningarna adresserades och talmännen uttryckte sitt stöd för tidigare antagna prioriteringar och målsättningar, såsom ”Europe 2020 – A European Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth”, ”Union for the Mediterranean Action Plan on Employment”, ”Global Strategy for the EU:s Foreign and Security Policy” liksom FN:s hållbarhetsmål.

2.4 Övriga möten

Medlemskapet i PA-UfM är även en plattform för delegationsmedlemmarna där de kan nätverka och skapa samarbeten med aktörer såväl i Sverige som i regionen, såväl gemensamt i delegationen som i egenskap av enskilda ledamöter. Delegationen har vid flera tillfällen under årens lopp hållit möten med Tunisien:s ambassad i Sverige, och planen är att hitta fler kontaktytor i regionen för att utbyta tankar och idéer om samarbetet. Delegationen har därtill en dia-

log med Utrikesdepartementet och Sida för att inhämta information och delegationen har briefats vid delegationsmöten under året. Delegationen har även i mån av möjlighet varit företräd vid talmannens möten med delegationspresidierna.

Delegationen mötte i maj Tunisien:s ambassadör Fatma Omrani Chargui och förste ambassadsekreterare Nouredine Daly för en arbetslunch. Vid mötet diskuterades bland annat frågor kring säkerhetsläget och samhällsekonomi i Tunisien då Tunisien utgör transitland för flyktingar, vilket har medfört ett behov av ökad bevakning av gränsen och problem med smuggling. Den politiska situationen berördes även samt PA-UfM och samarbetet med den svenska delegationen och Sverige. Det nämndes att möjliga samarbeten med den svenska delegationen kunde röra till exempel strukturfrågan i PA-UfM (behov av permanent sekretariat) eller ske inom ramen för kvinnokommittén. Även studiebesök till Sverige diskuterades, då Tunisien bland annat har intresse av att lära om den svenska arbetsmarknadsmodellen samt lära om det svenska arbetet med att bekämpa terrorism.

Ett ytterligare lunchmöte hölls sedan på senhösten, i november, med den nytillträdde tunisiska ambassadören Moez El Mehdi Mahmoudi samt förste-sekreteraren för utrikesfrågor vid ambassaden Wissem Boudriga. Vid mötet diskuterades bland annat konkreta samarbetsprojekt och planer påbörjades för ett inkommande besök till riksdagen av en parlamentarikerdelegation från Tunisien under våren 2018 samt för en utgående resa för PA-UfM-delegationens medlemmar till Tunisien under 2018.

3 Framåtblickande

Under 2018 har PA-UfM-delegationen som ambition att på olika sätt arbeta aktivt med informationsspridning och att väcka debatt. Bland annat planeras ett seminarium i riksdagen våren 2018 med fokus på jämställdhet i Mellan-österregionen. Under våren planerar delegationen också att genomföra två resor, till Tunisien och Turkiet. Inför besöket i Tunisien kan fokus på dagordningen komma att bli utvecklingen efter den arabiska våren och jämställdhetsfrågor. Via möten i parlamentet hoppas delegationen också kunna utveckla det parlamentariska utbytet mellan riksdagen och det tunisiska parlamentet. Inför ett besök i Turkiet kan det komma att bli aktuellt med inriktningen flyktingfrågor, dialogen/avtalet med EU och MR-frågor.

Den svenska PA-UfM-delegationen planerar också att sedanvanligt delta i den årliga vårsessionen, som 2018 äger rum i ordförandelandet Egypten. Svenska ambassaden i Kairo kommer också att anordna ett sidoprogram för delegationen med intressanta möten och studiebesök.

Delegationen ser fram emot det kommande verksamhetsåret och att fortsatt få återrapportera och debattera om sitt arbete i riksdagens kammare.

4 Den svenska delegationen

Efter en ändring i riksdagsordningen utses PA-UfM-delegationen numera av talmannen efter samråd med gruppledarna, till skillnad mot tidigare då den utsågs av riksdagsstyrelsen. Den svenska delegationen väljs för en mandatperiod, det vill säga fyra år. Delegationen består av tre ordinarie ledamöter, varav en är ordförande och en vice ordförande, samt tre suppleanter. Den nya delegationen utsågs efter valet 2014 och består av de ordinarie ledamöterna Olle Thorell (S) som delegationsordförande, Ulrika Karlsson (M) som vice delegationsordförande samt Yasmine Larsson (S). Ersättare är Adnan Dibrani (S), Amir Adan (M) och Kalle Olsson (S). Under 2017 avsade sig dock Ulrika Karlsson (M) sin plats i delegationen och ersattes av Eva Lohman (M), som formellt valdes in som ordinarie medlem och vice delegationsordförande i januari 2018, fram till dess att ett nytt riksdagsval hålls.

BILAGA I

Rekommendation – politiska utskottet

PA-UfM  AP-UpM	PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY – UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE – UNION POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من أجل المتوسط
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Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights

12.05.2017

RECOMMENDATION

on What’s next for the Union for the Mediterranean? Political dialogue, new priorities and implementation of approved projects

Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights

Recommendation by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean on**What's next for the Union for the Mediterranean? Political dialogue and new priorities***The Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean:*

1. Takes the view that the UfM's approved project approach is an effective vehicle to build on the situation in the Euro-Mediterranean area; Deems it necessary, nine years after setting-up the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), to contribute to the reflection on the achievements and failures, as well as future prospects and limitations of the UfM, notably due to the existing conflicts in the region and in the light of the political developments in the Euro-Mediterranean region since 2011 in response to the peoples' legitimate aspirations to social rights, democracy and freedom and the economic and social crisis that has affected peoples both in the South and the North of the Mediterranean, while deepening the asymmetries between the two shores of the Mediterranean Sea;
2. Points out the intrinsic link between the stability and security of the Mediterranean and that of Europe and stresses the importance of injecting new life into efforts to: (1) bolster peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity by reflecting on the achievements of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in the nine years that it has been in existence, and (2) address common challenges that the Euro-Mediterranean region is facing such as: migration, security, terrorism, violent extremism, human rights, youth employment and the promotion of intercultural dialogue;
3. Firmly condemns all terrorist acts that represent a common threat to both shores of the Mediterranean and that must be fought with determination and within the limits of the legal framework;
4. Is deeply concerned about the general and ongoing instability that has hit the Mediterranean region following years of old and new conflicts that call for an effective response from the international community; notes that without a sustainable solution to these conflicts, a new era of peace and sustainable prosperity is out of the question;
5. Invites the UfM and all the stakeholders, in order to encourage the regional economic and political stability, to promote actions for economic development, job creation and technological cooperation in the Mediterranean basin;
6. Welcomes the adoption by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the UfM member States on 23rd January of the 'Roadmap: UfM, an action-driven organisation with common ambition', which demonstrates a strong political commitment for the years to come; calls on the PA-UfM to work in the same spirit and take on a genuinely key role in inter-parliamentary dialogue and regional cooperation; warmly welcomes this close interaction between the UfM and the PA-UfM, and believes that a permanent and efficient PA-UfM Secretariat is necessary in order to cooperate with the Secretariat of the UfM;
7. Supports the idea set out in the UfM roadmap to revitalise the political dialogue in concert with senior officials on regional issues in order to contribute to defining a strategic, future-oriented vision and to stabilising the region: (1) by agreeing on annual meetings of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and on a stronger involvement of the UfM as an institutional

“ecosystem” and (2) by linking issues of security and development more broadly, including the priority given to human development and youth employment, which the Committee notes with satisfaction was at the core of the 2017 UfM Regional Forum;

8. Considers that the issue of violent extremism is crucial in the Euro-Mediterranean region today; in that respect, takes the view that the role that online violent extremism plays is still underestimated and that the international community is under-equipped to deal with it; therefore calls for a discussion to be launched on the issue and for the PA-UfM to support the efforts of the ICCCT in this field; stresses the strategic importance of offering counter discourse to the hate discourse that is too easily found on the Internet;
9. Takes note of the Secretariat's proposal to improve the governance of the UfM by holding annually in Barcelona a 'Regional UfM Forum', at appropriate intervals to be provided by consensus and at least once a year, involving a meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, an inter-institutional summit and a forum of project promoters and institutions active in the region as a positive step in order: (1) to give the UfM political and policy guidelines in line with current developments, (2) to improve coordination between all stakeholders and (3) to better assess progress; in this regard, considers absolutely necessary to ensure the active participation of civil society from both shores in this process ;
10. Points out that migration has become an ongoing phenomenon that requires a collective response; welcomes the European Commission's intention to set up new financial instruments to combat the root causes of migration; takes the view that the PA-UfM should be involved in the setting of the main policy goals of those financial funds and trust funds; calls on the UfM member States to contribute financially to those financial funds as initially suggested by Jean-Claude Juncker in his State of the Union speech on 14 September 2016;
11. Calls, in this context, after coordination with the senior officials and after previously informing them, on (1) the European External Action Service (EEAS), the Commission and the Secretariat of the UfM to better coordinate the activities of the UfM with those funded by the European Neighbourhood Policy and vice-versa, in particular by effectively involving the UfM in shaping decisions and policies that affect the euro-Mediterranean region; (2) the Secretariat of the UfM to ensure the participation in the UfM ministerial meetings of the relevant committees' Bureaux of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM), as well as the coordination and continuation of works from a PA-UfM Presidency to the next one and (3) PA-UfM to seek better coordination between the activities of the Assembly and those of the UfM, whose Co-Presidents would be systematically invited to the plenary sessions and the summits of the Presidents of the Parliaments of the PA-UfM with due respect for their respective mandates;
12. Calls on the PA-UfM to encourage the revival of regional integration in the Southern Mediterranean, in particular the Arab Maghreb Union; points out that regional cooperation is an instrument of peace, mutual understanding and prosperity between states;
13. Welcomes the extension of the UfM Secretariat's activities to intercultural dialogue, mobility and migration; regarding migration, urges UfM member States to rapidly identify appropriate forms for UfM involvement and contribution to addressing this challenge, in the belief that only multilaterally discussed solutions, avoiding military interventions and war, could greatly benefit the Euro-Mediterranean region; reiterates in this regard the

determination of the PA-UfM to act in order to stop the unacceptable number of deaths occurring in migration tragedies in the Mediterranean, the need to comply with the international principle of non-refoulement and to ensure safe and lawful routes for asylum seekers and refugees to put an end to the violation of the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and of migrants' human rights and to adequately support the countries on the front line of the reception of migrants and refugees, both on the Northern and the Southern shore;

14. Welcomes the efforts to support the coexistence of religions and interfaith dialogue such as the Marrakech Declaration of 30 January 2016, the Sousse Declaration of 20 April 2016 and the Cairo Declaration of 13 March 2017; considers that such efforts provide a basis for common citizenship, which is the most effective bulwark against violent extremism; therefore condemns all attacks by terrorist groups;
15. Fully supports the proposal made by the UFM Roadmap on prevention of extremism and terrorism, to join regional and international efforts to address socio-economic root causes of terrorism and extremism through supporting the development of further projects and initiatives of high impact with a special focus on youth employability and women empowerment;
16. Fully supports the proposal made by the UFM Roadmap to be involved in relevant migration initiatives in the Region in order to ensure the substantial and tangible contribution of the UFM parliamentary activities to addressing this challenge;
17. Invites the UfM, once entrusted of the migration-related mission, to work together with the PA-UfM with a view to support the international response to the current migration challenge by preventing irregular migration, promoting effective return and reintegration policies, enhancing national asylum systems, tackling the root causes of migration and promoting legal channels for migration and mobility; the ultimate objective is to encourage mobility in the region to promote economic and human development and structural reform in the interest of closer economic integration between Mediterranean countries, by linking migration and other domains of cooperation already covered by UfM projects, such as employment, support for SMEs, education and the empowerment of young people and women, while addressing current challenges linked to illegal migration and trafficking in human beings; insists, for any cooperation in this field to be effective, on the need to focus on an essential security and border control-driven approach, coupled with a proactive and non-militarised approach to search and rescue operations and a long-term vision based on Euro-Mediterranean mobility as a tool for legal migration and integration, for the benefit of all Parties; in this context, cooperation in the field of readmission and returns of irregular migrants should constitute an important element in managing migration and related mobility issues;
18. Stresses the need, with a view to addressing illegal migration and tackling migrant and human trafficking, to step up political cooperation between the two shores of the Mediterranean at all levels; considers that Euro-Mediterranean mobility could, in the long term, become an instrument for regional integration and economic revival on both the Southern and the Northern shore of the Mediterranean, creating employment and social advancement opportunities and opening up stable, sustainable development prospects;

19. Recalls the urgent need to improve the social integration and employability of young people, as these are the major challenges facing the region and at the same time the vehicles for stabilisation, prosperity and security; also recalls that the problems linked to youth employability in the South and North of the Mediterranean require joint solutions formulated within the framework of effective multilateral cooperation such as the UfM;
20. Warmly welcomes the Foreign Ministers summit of 23 January 2017; considers that meetings of this kind deepen the UfM member States' understanding of their shared problems; takes the view that the Foreign Ministers should regularly meet with PA-UfM to talk and share thoughts on the priorities of Euro-Mediterranean MPs;
21. Calls on the Secretariat to continue supporting the development of regional civil society platforms, which, by allowing the participation of the most active components of Euro-Mediterranean society, may (1) contribute significantly to UfM initiatives, particularly in the new priorities set out in the UfM roadmap as intercultural dialogue, mobility and migration and reinforcing the rights of women as part of actions to protect human rights and (2) set up specific projects that have a direct impact on and for the population in priority areas such as inclusive growth, youth employability, the empowerment of women and sustainable development, including through the promotion of new information and communication technologies;
22. Calls on the UfM to make the human dimension the focus of the process of building a shared Euro-Mediterranean community of peoples;
23. Refers to the Final Declaration of the 12th Plenary Session held in Tangier on 29 May 2016, bearing in mind that the challenge for the PA-UfM is to strengthen parliamentary relations and support the Euro-Mediterranean process so that it can be translated into concrete projects;
24. Recognises the importance of the central role played by the UfM in promoting regional cooperation and regional integration in the Mediterranean region and expresses its satisfaction at the progress made by the UfM in advancing the regional agenda, strengthening the regional political dialogue, by facilitating the implementation of a number of projects with a direct impact on the population, and interacting with all players of cooperation in the region;
25. Calls upon governments to increase their political and financial support for the UfM and its General Secretariat with a view to intensifying their impact and contributing more to regional socio-economic and human development;
26. Fully supports the PA-UfM Bureau decision to contribute from the parliamentary side of the UfM ecosystem to the monitoring efforts on key UfM projects by appointing co-rapporteurs by project, drawn from each of the committees of the PA-UfM and commits to release a report on the projects in its remit once appropriate enquiry of its co-rapporteurs is conducted;¹
27. Highlight in this context the relevance of the Gaza desalinisation plant project, labelled by the UfM in 2011, and the urgency of its implementation in order to address the urgent water needs of the population in the Gaza strip; requires Israel to guarantee, as member of

¹ The Egyptian delegation has expressed a reservation on this paragraph.

the UfM, a context favourable for this desalinisation plant and the ENP-financed infrastructures;

28. Welcomes the launch of the project to decontaminate Lake Bizerte in Tunisia and the European Investment Bank's recent support, worth EUR 70 million, for the Euro-Mediterranean University; calls for a progress report to be drawn up on those projects for the next meeting;
29. Notes with satisfaction the revision of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP); Underlines that regional cooperation in the Southern Neighbourhood has seen progress through the Union for the Mediterranean and that the UfM has proved to be a valuable forum for political and economic debate, providing a framework for cooperation on issues of common interest and operational projects in the region;
30. Encourages the pursuit of complementarities and synergies between the ENP and UfM activities and calls on the ENP to strengthen its support for the UfM regional cooperation efforts, as it encourages the development of a stronger partnership and synergies with other frameworks and forums such as the Arab Maghreb Union, the 5 + 5 Dialogue, the ARLEM and the Arab League for the Mediterranean, taking into account the strategic link with African countries;
31. Calls on the Co-Presidency of the UfM, the European External Action Service (EEAS), the Commission, the Secretariat, the Bureau, the committees and all the members of the PA-UfM to address these proposals and urges them to respond to them at a future meeting of this Committee.

2016/2017 Activity Report

The Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights held a meeting in Brussels on 2nd March 2017 to discuss the following points:

1. Implementation of projects approved by the Union for the Mediterranean – case study: the desalination plant in Gaza. Exchange of views with:
 - Mr Mazin Gnaim, Head of the Palestinian Water Authority.
 - Mr Mr. Michael Köhler, Director, Southern Neighbourhood, DG NEAR, European Commission
2. The Euro-Mediterranean agenda for managing migration in the Mediterranean. Exchange of views with:
 - Mr Mr. Leonello Gabrici, Head of Division "Migration and Human Security", EEAS.
 - Ms Susanne Mallaun, Head of Unit North, West and Central Africa, DG ECHO, European Commission.
 - Ms Annabelle Roig Granjon, Senior EU Affairs Officer, UNHCR Brussels

BILAGA 2

Rekommendation – ekonomiska utskottet



Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Innovation and Higher Education in the Euro-Mediterranean Region

Job Creation – Policy and joint Projects in the PA-UfM countries

The Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education of the Parliamentary Assembly - Union for the Mediterranean:

1. Confirms the principles and the objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, as expressed in the Barcelona Process, the aim of which is to foster peace, stability and economic development in the Mediterranean region, promote a political dialogue and cooperation between the European Union and third Mediterranean countries in respect of common values such as democracy, the rule of law and the human rights. One of the objectives of this partnership is also to encourage sustainable development, conflict prevention and resolution, the creation of a common area of peace and stability, including through the creation of a free trade area and the development of inter-regional cooperation.
2. Is concerned by the refugee situation in the Mediterranean over the course of the last year; according to the latest UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) report, the Mediterranean globally produces the most refugees (4.9 million in Syria alone) - which, due to continued instability caused by war and persecution, is translated by the offshoring and the displacement of millions of people in never before seen numbers, making the Euro-Mediterranean region a scene of desperate humanitarian tragedy.

3. Believes that Member States must urgently strengthen their political support for all actions which aim to promote peace, stability and economic development within the Region, in order to improve the security and quality of life of its inhabitants.
4. Calls European Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean to make all possible efforts to enhance humanitarian aid in countries touched by war conflicts in the Mediterranean region and to bring reinforced assistance to countries neighbouring with war zones in organizing the reception of refugees. Encourages European Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean to welcome and effectively organise the reception of refugees on their soil, asks host countries to provide accommodation as quickly as possible, ensuring dignity and privacy and increasing social integration. Strongly encourages the Southern Mediterranean countries to combat human traffickers and smugglers by strengthening their cooperation with the national authorities of the Member States of the European Union and the European Agency, Frontex.
5. Encourages the States that host refugees, including Member States of the European Union to draw up plans for the integration of refugees, including, in particular, language lessons, citizenship lessons (how the host state functions institutionally, the status of women, the principle of equal treatment etc.), and professional training.
6. Emphasises the crucial role which NGOs or international organizations such as the Red Cross, the Red Crescent, Caritas, etc. play with regards refugees in the host countries as well as in the countries of origin and transit.
7. Bearing in mind the high levels of unemployment throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region, in particular among vulnerable groups such as young people, women, refugees and migrants, the Committee recognises the crucial importance of initiatives concerning job creation, education and training, on the part of the Member States and the main international actors.
- 7.1. Stresses the importance of the economic inclusion of SMEs as the engines of economic growth in the Mediterranean region by facilitating their internationalisation efforts; encourages the networking of enterprises through the creation of multilateral Chambers of Commerce; and reaffirms that economic opportunity and human development largely depend on the security and safety around the Mediterranean, especially in the sector of agriculture, tourism and services.

7.2 Calls upon UfM and the Member states to identify specific domains where to focus the political and cooperative efforts and to implement projects for growth of Euro-Mediterranean region and for an effective employment creation.

7.3. Stresses the central role of agriculture for the economic and social growth of Euro-Mediterranean region, in this regard calls on the Secretariat and Member states to engage and develop projects on the exchange of good practice, farming techniques and entrepreneurship for rural areas development.

8. Welcomes the results of the third Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour of the UfM, held in Jordan on 26 and 27 September 2016, particularly the definition of policy orientations for improving employment and labour, for promoting social dialogue and to foster UfM cooperation on employment and labour.

9. Commends the UfM for its initiative Med4Jobs, which contributes to creating job opportunities and promotes inclusive growth by increasing the employability of youth and women, closing the gap between labour demand and supply, and fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and private sector development. Having been informed in detail on the objectives, scope and state-of-play of the Med4Jobs initiative, the Committee calls on the UfM Secretariat to continue its active contribution to improving the employment situation in the region by continuing to promote projects further in line with employment, employability and decent work priorities and to enhance, in cooperation with relevant actors, visibility, ownership and access to finance. On this regard, calls on Member States of the UfM, the European Commission and other relevant institutions to consider further financing for the implementation, reinforcement or replication of these projects.

9.1. Urges the Secretariat of UfM to include agricultural and rural development projects.

10. Welcomes the decision of the Secretariat of the UfM for associating the Committee to the Med4Jobs initiative by granting the Chair of the Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education permanent member status on the Advisory Board of Med4Jobs. This participation will allow the Committee to have an active role and contribute to the development of the initiative.

11. Recognises the need to give a clear answer to the aspirations of migrant communities, in particular refugees who have been forced to abandon their home countries due to political and military conflicts. In this regard, calls on the UfM to support initiatives like the “Global Platform for Syrian Students”, whose presentation at a Committee meeting demonstrated the necessity of a coordinated answer for the

problems that refugees face when entering the academic and employment cycles in third countries. It is vital to prepare a new generation of leaders: when a person has been educated, that person will create a community and that community will create a country.

12. Welcomes the Ministerial Conference on Strengthening Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation through Research and Innovation, held in Malta on 3 and 4 May 2017, focusing on research and innovation as tools to strengthen cooperation within the Euro-Mediterranean region. Key initiatives such as the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) and the Initiative for Research and Innovation for Blue Jobs and Growth in the Mediterranean (BLUEMED) was discussed as well as the role of research and innovation in understanding and addressing the root causes of migration.

13. Warmly welcomes the opening of the first courses of the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez, which constitutes a milestone for the promotion of a Euro-Mediterranean culture. The establishment of the UEMF is a joint responsibility of all Member States of the UfM, which should involve themselves more actively in the scaling-up of the project, either by direct financing or by contributing to the pedagogic teams or students, namely through the attribution of scholarships. The Committee invites the UEMF to consolidate partnerships with existing networks of universities, especially with the Euro-Mediterranean University, but also with networks such as UNICA, UNIMED and Tethys, to build on synergies and stimulate the mobility of students in the region.

13.1. Urges the UfM to go further the academic education cooperation, also undertaken professional training courses in strategic sectors, such as agriculture, handicraft, tourism, services, etc. addressed to the wider part of the population.

14. Stresses the importance of exchange and mobility of students and teachers of various nationalities at the UEMF (Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez) and other institutions in order to create bonds within the Euro-Mediterranean region. The mobility of peers requires foreign language skills, internationalisation of academic courses and the integration of the various curricula. In this regard, the Member States must support initiatives which aim to build bridges between curricula in different countries and universities and make study plans more flexible in order to allow mobility. Calls also for incentives and implementation of paths of mobility and exchange of good practises among entrepreneurs of small and medium-sized enterprises.

15. Commends the UfM Secretariat for choosing the theme “Youth for stability and development and strongly backs the idea of focusing on youth-driven projects, notably in the fields of education, vocational training, employability, job intermediation, job creation and business promotion.

Activities report 2016/2017

During the years of 2016/2017, the Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education drafted a plan, proposing an analysis of job creation and innovation and higher education, for the purpose of fulfilling two main objectives: deepening knowledge between PA-UfM Member States and strengthening cooperation among the parliaments of PA-UfM Member States.

In this regard, the Committee members visited the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez on 6 March 2017 and attended three meetings: the first, in Coimbra, on 27 March 2017, the second, in Barcelona, on 21 April 2017, and the third in Rome, on 12 May 2017. The following points were discussed:

- The Global Platform for Syrian Students, discussed by the Secretary General of the Global Platform for Syrian Students, Helena Barroco, and the Vice-Rector of the University of Coimbra, Joaquim Ramos de Carvalho.
- The Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez (UEMF), a project of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), discussed by the UfM Diplomatic Advisor, Mário Gomes, and the UEFM Rector, Mostapha Bousmina.
- The Mediterranean Initiative for Employment - Med4Jobs, discussed by Sherif Younis, Senior Financial and Trade Advisor of Med4Jobs, and Nickolas Neibauer, Chief Development Officer of the "Generation Entrepreneur" initiative developed under Med4Jobs.
- Recommendations on “Innovation and Higher Education in the Euro-Mediterranean Region”
- Recommendations on “Job Creation – Policy and joint Projects in the PA-UfM countries”

BILAGA 3

Rekommendation – miljöutskottet

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY- UNION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE -UNION POUR LA
MEDITERRANEE**

الجمعية البرلمانية للإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Parliamentary Assembly-Union for the Mediterranean **Committee of Energy, Environment and Water**

Recommendations

on

**Water, Energy and Infrastructure: the Impact of Refugees on
the host countries**

and

Pollution in the Mediterranean

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The Committee of Energy, Environment and Water in the Parliamentary Assembly Union for the Mediterranean considers that:

1. Owing to its already precarious water replenishment and renewal possibilities, the Mediterranean Sea is subject to massive environmental pressure from man-made sources, which may in the short run overwhelm its ecosystem with an irreversible aftermath on the economies, security and stability of all coastal states. This pressure stems from a series of causes, of which the following are particularly noteworthy:

a) Maritime transportation of pollutants and hazardous materials, whose routine discharges, barring the serious threat of potential accidents, further aggravate a situation in which the Mediterranean has the world's largest volume of hydrocarbons;

b) Fresh water courses emptying into the sea, laden with chemical (including medicinal and antibiotic) and bacterial, municipal, industrial, agricultural and livestock waste;

c) Direct and often untreated discharges from large urban and industrial sites;

d) Dumping at sea of non-biodegradable material, namely plastic, which represents almost 75% of all marine litter (it is estimated that in the Mediterranean there are 250 billion of plastic fragments);

2. It further notes the water pollution and its scarcity around the Mediterranean;

3. Considers that renewable energy projects assist in creating a clean environment;

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4. Notes that large numbers of refugees in host countries result in pressure on infrastructure facilities such as energy, water, education and health services;

5. Emphasizes that consideration must be given to the projects that serve the refugees in host countries, for example water and renewable energy;

6. Considers that energy and environment are two interwoven topics in the global agenda - thus of the UfM - and at the same time have great potential solutions to sustainable growth, social and economic development of the region. The connection of these topics should be further emphasized both for the improvement of steps taken and during the consideration of future environment-friendly infrastructural projects and actions;

7. Notes that the Protocols for implementing the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention), adopted as part of the Plan of Action for the Mediterranean by 22 coastal states in 1976, as amended in 1995 and renamed Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, have not been fully ratified by all the parliaments of the signatory States as yet. It is further noted that:

- The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean must in fact be deemed effective and binding on all governments since 2004 following the ratification of the first six signatory states;
- The Convention and its implementing protocols make provisions for the adoption of coordinated monitoring and action by signatory states, in order to prevent and solve environmental emergencies in the Mediterranean;
- The Convention envisages the establishment and actual completion of international protected marine areas for which the United Nations post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda has

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set the goal of extending the world's total protected marine and coastal areas by at least 10 per cent by 2020.

Recognizing the above, the Committee:

1. Calls on member states to cooperate on and support a comprehensive action plan aimed at reducing the impact of refugees on infrastructure;
2. Encourages governments to set up urgent projects for the purpose of solving water problems and promoting water management investments, including participation in water desalination projects using renewable energy in refugee host countries, and to encourage the establishment of water desalination units and water distribution networks, and to protect against water loss in the Mediterranean countries;
3. Suggests a concept of partnership between the public and private sectors for finance and investment in renewable and water desalination domains, whilst safeguarding its character as a public good of general interest;
4. Invites the institutions of the Union for the Mediterranean to provide the required support for the refugees in the Mediterranean countries and to assist in bearing the additional burdens shouldered by the host countries. The committee urges the authorities as well as local and national institutions to cooperate with refugee host countries through means of political, technical and financial support;
5. Encourages the Mediterranean countries to set up a strategy and a coordination plan for energy on both national and regional levels in order to meet the Mediterranean region objectives, including climate change and to provide opportunities of different technologies to produce renewable energy from wind energy in concerned countries;

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6. Encourages the fostering of co-operation with the other committees, such as the joint initiative (Position paper on “Tourism in the Mediterranean”) with the Committee on Economy and Education, to raise the level of synergy established and to embed an outcome-oriented agenda;
7. In the framework of the outcomes of the UfM Ministerial Conference on Water of 27 April 2017, recommends to review the commitment to national and regional water policy frameworks, and to reinforce scientific studies for the protection of water and marine environment with a view to improving and maintaining the source of income and life in the region. To this end, invites to promote support to the PRIMA program, and develop dialogue with the stakeholders especially through members of the committee - if any - from the states participating in the programme.

The Committee also recommends:

8. To adopt measures to counteract the increase in marine litter, especially plastic waste, through policies aimed at reducing litter and promoting the use of biodegradable material; incentives to the elimination of already existing marine litter; the use of marine litter to reinforce dune systems; the tracking of marine litter in order to identify its origin and to pursue the global sharing of clean-up costs; the inclusion of marine litter elimination as a compensation measure for land affected by infrastructure works, e.g. gas pipelines; To promote public awareness of the damage caused by marine litter and dissemination of good practices such as the use of natural fiber clothes, which do not release microplastic into the sea during washing; the reduction of disposable objects, i.e. plastic bags; the identification of sites where marine litter builds up in the coasts and on the sea-beds;

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To apply as a general rule the precautionary principle, which requires suspending any actions in the absence of specific knowledge on the impact of potentially hazardous measures on environmental integrity;

9. To design a common, shared and binding Environmental Impact Assessment model for the issuing of concessions for offshore hydrocarbon prospection, exploration and exploitation, and in the wind energy sector, so as to ensure protection of the maritime environment as a whole, and in particular prohibit the installation of wind turbines near protected marine areas, in order to comply with the principles of liability, accountability and the provision of guarantees and payment of compensation for any environmental damage caused by the use of such concessions;
10. To ensure that all signatory states of the Barcelona Convention, its amendments and implementing protocols, immediately ratify such instruments, thereby taking on their obligations;
11. To draft through the UfM, a “Mediterranean Code”, to be adopted by all countries in the broader Mediterranean basin, in order to protect and make sustainable use of the marine resources in the interest of the inhabitants around it and their future generations;
12. To continue to follow up on what has been achieved in the committee’s previous action, with plans such as:
 - Med Pan
 - Horizon 2020
 - Let's Do it Mediterranean
 - Eco Towns.

Rekommendation – kulturutskottet

	PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY – UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE – UNION POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من أجل المتوسط
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Committee on Improving Quality of Life, Exchanges between Civil Societies and Culture

RECOMMENDATION

Countering radicalism and encouraging inter-faith dialogue and economic development as instruments for a new Euro-Mediterranean pact

The Committee on Improving Quality of Life, Exchanges between Civil Societies, and Culture

1. Expresses its deep concern at the continuing instability of the Mediterranean region, which is shaken by conflicts old and new that demand an effective and coordinated response from the international community to help restore peace and socio-economic development in the region; it is convinced that the Union can effectively contribute to solutions to the region's crisis as it is the only platform that maintains dialogue and communication lines among parties.
2. Underlines that stabilization processes leading to peace are the result of a cultural and educative process that begins since childhood and create the building base of a society based on respect, tolerance and reciprocity. It believes that culture and education are essential to combat radicalization and recognizes the role of prevention in countering both Islamism and Islamophobia; is convinced that the sense of unity, social

cohesion, collective growth, shared values in intrinsic diversity are concepts that must be rooted in human beings from the earliest age; a path of growth of young people today will allow the building, in the future, of integrated societies that will be able to put an end to wars and conflicts;

3. Notes that the ongoing conflicts have led to the exodus of millions of people, a humanitarian crisis and created an emergency that has affected in particular bordering states, which, already burdened by the migratory inflows from previous conflicts, have to deal with situations on the verge of collapse without receiving adequate economic or logistic support. The Committee calls on the international community to mobilise more resources and concerted strategies in favour of refugees, and to lend support to those countries that are taking in migrants.
4. Underlines there are other causes contributing to the mass displacement of people and migration including poverty, unemployment (especially youth unemployment), corruption, social exclusion and inequality and climate change; believes that the governments and the international community at large should focus particularly on addressing these root causes;
5. Is deeply concerned about the phenomenon of violent radicalisation and extremism which is gaining ground and constitutes a serious threat to the security of people and stability of countries; urges the exchange of best practices and the adoption of common preventive and counter-strategies through the definition of a comprehensive strategy that addresses the sources and relies on reinforced cooperation between the two shores of the Mediterranean;
6. Emphasises the need to develop a common understanding of the effects and impact of terrorism on populations and good governance in the Mediterranean region; highlights the necessity to avoid counterproductive effects of counter-terrorism policies on the political space of civil society; recalls

- that respect for human rights for all and the rule of law are the fundamental basis of the fight against extremism;
7. The Committee calls for attention to be focused on prisons, which have become breeding grounds for radicalisation and recruitment, and emphasises the importance of organising courses of spiritual education and guidance both in prisons and in reception centres for asylum-seekers, so that official religious institutions might collaborate in preventing radicalisation and identifying situations of risk.
 8. Urges the promotion of training courses and education in prisons, so that inmates can develop critical thinking to be able to face attempted radicalization and have the necessary skills for an active inclusion into society, especially with regard to the labour market, and can take advantage of good practices in terms of partnerships between prisons and the community. Youth should also be the focus of attention, since they are also mentioned as part of the population at risk and can become more easily vulnerable to radicalization. The economic and social instability nowadays makes young citizens more likely to be recruited, hence the importance of public investment in quality education and training as well as in job creation;
 9. Strongly condemns the attacks and persecutions of religious minorities, and considers it crucial to strengthen the measures designed to protect the freedom of religion, religious diversity and interreligious dialogue;
 10. Firmly condemns any attempt to identify Islam, a religion of peace, with acts of violence. The Committee also highlights the problem of rising Islamophobia, which the Internet and the media often amplify, and warns against the dangerous consequences of biased and stereotyped attitudes to immigration and the Islamic world; stresses the importance of intercultural and interreligious dialogue as powerful means to fight intolerance and extremism; recalls the need to develop the teaching of history of religions by insisting on the peace-oriented dimension of religions, while raising the awareness of teachers and expanding the curriculum in this area. Invites local authorities to develop initiatives at a local level to promote inter-

religious dialogues and forums to promote cohesion to fight islamophobia, highlighting education as a priority tool to promote inter-religious dialogue;

11. Believes that poverty, political instability, the prolonged crisis, oppression, marginalization, lack of employment, of education and prospects as well as discrimination have fostered radicalisation, and calls on the main international actors to act urgently to stabilise the Mediterranean region, support the economies, the democratic processes and institutions of the countries in greatest difficulty as well as leverage the socio-economic development potential of all the countries in the region, in order to achieve an increased political and economic integration between the southern Mediterranean countries, on the one hand, and between the countries on both sides of the Mediterranean on the other hand, in order to resolve the current crises and meet the common long-term interests;
12. Underlines that radicalism cannot be countered solely through control, law enforcement and intelligence systems, but it is also necessary to invest in education and training, to promote a culture of dialogue, respect for diversity and reciprocal trust between the peoples of all countries and religions, especially towards young people who, if sufficiently motivated and properly guided, mostly through all types of education, can achieve extraordinary results both in terms of their professional careers and as champions of the values of a multi-ethnic, multicultural and tolerant society. Recalls that the two aspects of the fight against radicalism – prevention and repression – must remain distinct;
13. Points out that the fight against Islamophobia also involves the promotion of religious freedom and freedom of expression by the authorities of the countries of the Mediterranean region; also reminds that hate speeches, Islamophobia and discrimination contribute to exclusion and may further reinforce religious radicalisation of young people. In this context, highlights the training provided to imams and 'mourchidates' at the Mohamed VII institute and the cooperation agreement between France and Morocco in this field;

14. When addressing the “youth question” of the Mediterranean region, believes that it is therefore of the utmost importance to offer in the short term a future perspective to young people from the region also by engaging them in policies addressing their needs and promoting youth entrepreneurship through enhanced cooperation between the public and the private sector. With around 30 million more young people entering the labour market between now and 2030, it is essential to develop effective vocational and educational strategies taking into account job market needs, expanding exchange programmes - in particular Erasmus+ and Erasmus Mundus -, strengthening cooperation between universities and enterprises of the Euro-Mediterranean region to offer opportunities for traineeships and jobs to young people. The aim must be to bring up a new generation that is amenable to dialogue and engagement, so that we may build a 2030 Euro-Mediterranean identity.
15. Therefore reiterates its full support for and appreciation of the projects launched by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, with particular reference to education programmes for responsible citizenship, programmes offering secondary, tertiary and postgraduate education, and programmes designed to promote the respect for human rights and to encourage education and the employment of women and young people; calls for reinforcing the engagement of civil society in the debate on the regional challenges and possible solutions in all aspects of preventing and countering extremism and the terror threat. Together these initiatives constitute an exemplary instance of good practice that can be adopted as a concrete response to the needs of the region.

BILAGA 5

Rekommendation – kvinnoutskottet



Committee on Women's Rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Countries

*Rome (Italian Chamber of Deputies)
12 and 13 May 2017*

RECOMMENDATION

on

**"Participation of women in the leadership positions
and decision making: Challenges and prospects"**

Chairwoman of the Committee: Ms. Leila CHETTAOUI (Tunisia).

The Committee on Women's Rights

of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean:

1. Emphasizes the existence of significant differences between the laws and practice in the field of women's participation in leadership and decision-making positions, and calls for protection of civil and political rights and support for achieving a gender balanced representation at all levels, while ensuring a transparent and merit-based approach in the political and economic decision making process, including the promotion of women in senior positions of political responsibility, economic policy and programmes, workplaces, business, academia and social life in general.
2. Encourages measures such as reforms in electoral systems to make them more favorable to women's representation, gender-based antidiscrimination provisions in constitutions and electoral laws, with the necessary exception of allowing positive discrimination measures for the under-represented gender and gender sensitive civic education and elimination of gender stereotypes and built in bias against women candidates, especially within political parties but also in the media;
3. Expresses the need for action and political commitment to put a focus on the role of women policies and reforms. In order to ensure equal education, work and political representation opportunities as well as religious tolerance, in the background of a challenging demographic development, it is a need for all UfM countries to implement sustainable reforms for these purposes.
4. Hopes that the upcoming UfM Ministerial meeting on strengthening the role of women in society will be focusing on this objective and invites the UfM to design gender equality policies and multifaceted strategies for achieving parity in participation in political decision-making and leadership at all levels. The PA-UfM should further lend political support to UfM Secretariat's projects in the field of gender equality and women empowerment and assess the impact of these projects by means appropriate, equality indicators, ensuring quantified targets, clear action plans and regular monitoring mechanisms. Deputies could play a key role in the mobilization of local actors to contribute to the implementation of these projects;
5. Invites the UfM to take into consideration a project to elaborate a Euro Mediterranean map of gender balance including the objectives for promotion of gender balance, the percentages of representation of women at state and regional parliaments and in local institutions and the percentage of representation in the executive bodies; considers that a

report on the basis of this map should be submitted yearly to this Committee on Womens Rights in the EuroMediterranean Countries;

6. Welcomes the introduction of a quota system in some UfM States, and remembers it is a mean and not an objective, and it is still necessary in the Southern and Northern Mediterranean countries as an essential measure to ensure a minimum representation of women in parliaments. Recalls that the "quotas" system is a temporary measure that needs to be consolidated and complemented by other positive action measures such as zipper systems, but highlights that gender balance requires a real political will and responsibility, to promote women's participation in governments and in decision-making bodies; as well as in the economic decision making process and underlines the importance of gender educational programs starting from an early age acknowledging that women's rights are human rights and parity is essential in political life;
7. Exhorts UfM national parliaments and political parties toward reaching the critical threshold the 1/3 female political representation, as a first necessary step towards achieving equal opportunities and a more balanced representation between women and men in politics; considers it necessary to work towards the establishment of a common Mediterranean charter with the engagement of national parliaments to achieve this goal, and requests the political parties to revise their internal regulations for the purpose to enable women to assume leading positions in their structures; calls UfM governments and parliaments to take measures to promote balanced representation of women at all levels in political life in multinational organizations such as the UN, in governments and in national parliaments as well as at regional and local level and in local authorities and to increase cooperation with other actors at the international level, such as UN Women and the InterParliamentary Union, in order to promote these goals;
8. Dedicates a lot of attention to Women's role in peaceful resolution of conflicts, in peace building and conflict-related emergencies, such as providing humanitarian assistance to displaced people, and underlines that women should be fully included in peace negotiations, reconstruction efforts and political transitions;
9. Considers it necessary to strengthen women's participation in decision-making in conflict and postconflict situations, and ensure women's access to political leadership functions in post-conflict situations, all of which are essential for stability, and urges the UfM member states to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 2242 on Women, Peace and Security;
10. Recommends the establishment of a priority channel for the needs of refugee women to implement sustainable actions and medical care and to avoid and prevent the violence to

which they are subjected during their travels in refugee camps and accommodation centers;

11. Takes into account the United Nations Security Council Recommendations, which condemns all forms of exploitation, by asserting that trafficking in human beings is closely linked to conflicts and thus constitutes a threat to world security; Calls for the implementation of “United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime” and “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children”;
12. Recommends to renounce to all forms of restriction on women parliamentarians notably their prosecution, their arrest and their inability to carry out their political activities;
13. Emphasizes the need of promoting a balance between family life and working life by means of measures such as sharing parental permits equally between both parents and ensuring social services for child and elderly care; underlines the importance of continuing and intensifying work towards policies supporting and promoting female entrepreneurship in the context of decent work and the removal of all barriers and social prejudices in establishing and running a business, including improving access to financial services, credit, venture capital and markets under equal conditions and encouraging access to information, training and networks for business purposes;
14. Recommends that contributions to the health care economy be better recognized; To encourage investments in social infrastructure, such as facilities and services for care of children, the elderly and the disabled, and to examine the use of new technologies to create new skills and professional roles. Stresses the need for integration and job creation programs for migrants and refugees to be better adapted to women;
15. Stresses the need to promote the dissemination of cultural programs - in schools and other educational contexts - aimed at raising awareness among boys and girls about gender diversity, and ensuring the inclusion of women less educated. Specific actions should be planned to promote and foster the participation of women and girls in scientific and research activities, starting at school age. The participation of women and girls in the fields of science and research should be monitored and evaluated;
16. Recognizing that health is crucial for social, political and economic progress, indicates that there is a need to strengthen funding, accountability and coordination among governments, agencies and international institutions for women's health. Recommends

systematic collection of health data on the basis of gender and age, so that information about women can be collected and used appropriately;

17. The Committee expresses the strong need for a spontaneous women solidarity: women leaders should lead by example and commit themselves to this cause, so that the woman proves her merit and enhances the society trust in their capabilities and men leaders should join and support this process.

Activity report 2016/2017

During the Session of 2016/2017 the Committee on Women's Rights of the PA-UfM held two meetings: the First held in Barcelona on 10 October 2016, the second held in Rome on 3 April 2017. It discussed the following points:

- Exchange of views on the theme "Participation of women in the leadership positions and decision making: Challenges and prospects".
- Debate on the Standing topics: "The condition of women in armed conflicts" and "Women and migration": the challenge of human trafficking".
- UfM's Women's Right to Health: "The WoRTH project" to reduce the incidence and mortality of women's malignancies in Albania, Montenegro and Morocco.

BILAGA 6

Deklaration från toppmötet för talmän

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ITALIAN
PRESIDENCY



**Declaration of the Summit of Presidents of the Parliaments of the
Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean Union**

**‘Employment, inclusive growth and sustainable development in the
Euro-Mediterranean region’**

Rome, 12 May 2017

We, the Speakers of the Parliaments of the countries of the Union for the Mediterranean, meeting in Rome on 12 May 2017 in order to discuss the topic ‘Employment, inclusive growth and sustainable development in the Euro-Mediterranean region’,

Noting that the implementation of effective and durable strategies for employment and social cohesion in the Mediterranean countries is a decisive factor to ensure stability and security in the whole region and to counteract the social tensions and inequalities giving rise to radicalism, violence and lawlessness,

Endorsing the priorities and goals of *Europe 2020, A European strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*, and of the *Union for the Mediterranean action plan on employment*, which are intended to promote a more efficient and sustainable economy with a high rate of employment, promoting social and territorial cohesion,

Endorsing the actions set out in the Declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean Third Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, held in Jordan on 26-27 September 2016,

Recalling the objectives set in the *Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy*, and the *Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy*, in particular on economic modernisation and entrepreneurship, employment and employability: focus on youth, partnership for growth, migration and mobility,

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ITALIAN
PRESIDENCY



Having regard to the *Sustainable Development Goals* and the decisions of the Marrakech Climate Change Conference of November 2016,

Recalling our first Summit of 7 April 2013 in Marseilles,

Deem it necessary to:

1. Promote incisive and consistent employment policies, which account for one of the main priorities of the political space of the Union for the Mediterranean, particularly in South and East Mediterranean countries, which are marked by low rates of employment and high rates of unemployment especially among women and the young.
2. Express concern about the scale of the economic and social challenges facing the countries of the Southern Mediterranean, especially those in a period of democratic transition, and call for increased support and assistance to these countries in order to succeed in creating Employment opportunities for marginalized regions and to achieve development, stability and security, both inside and outside.
3. Support the UfM *Med4Jobs* programme, which is aimed at promoting a comprehensive regional approach to supporting employment in the region, particularly in the South and East, and with respect to young people and women, by matching the supply of and demand for jobs, strengthening entrepreneurial culture and promoting both private and State sector projects.
4. Revive and support an adequate investment programme to facilitate convergence on telecommunications between both shores of the Mediterranean including by expanding infrastructural networks, particularly digital networks.
5. Promote comprehensive policies for environmental protection, including possibilities for renewable energies and creation of “green” jobs, and tackle

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climate change as an essential key to sustainable development and to the reduction of environmental risks in the region;

6. Provide for the reprioritisation in use of financial instruments in order to promote, support and expand women's entrepreneurship, particularly in the context of small and medium-sized enterprises, which has proved an important means of development, reduction of women's unemployment and economic growth.
7. Invest in partnerships for youth and in the training of young people, especially in the new forms of knowledge and competence required by the digital economy, as a prerequisite for more sustained growth in the years to come.
8. Streamline the objectives for employment and decent work in all cooperation areas of the Union for the Mediterranean, including the 'blue economy', energy, industrial cooperation, research and innovation.
9. Enhance the implementation of the Political Declaration and Action Plan of the Valletta Summit of 11-12 November 2015. Take positive note of the efforts by the neighbouring countries in tackling the refugee crisis.
10. Encourage a different consideration of migration which, if soundly managed by means of appropriate integration and training policies, accounts for a factor of economic growth in host countries, in particular those affected by a shrinking and ageing population. To this end, it is important to promote wide-ranging information campaigns involving local government and schools in order to develop a welcoming culture, to promote involvement and prevent the emergence of racism and intolerance against diversity¹.
11. Strengthen participation in cultural and scientific cooperation programmes such as, Erasmus +, Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) or research projects on Mediterranean area funded under Horizon2020,

¹ The Presidency of the Hungarian Parliament expressed a reservation on paragraph 10 (former para. 9). See note attached

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in light of the importance of developing inter-academic co-operation and scientific research for growth and employment.

12. Encourage the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to continue to coordinate and promote initiatives and projects in the various sectors and to reinforce, in cooperation with other relevant bodies, the visibility of, information about, and access to financial instruments. Invite, in particular, the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to report regularly to the Parliamentary Assembly and the Summit of Speakers of the Union for the Mediterranean on the implementation of employment policies in the region.



ISTVÁN HILLER PHD.

DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF HUNGARY

To the attention of
**Italian Presidency
of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean**

12 May 2017, Rome

Dear Colleagues,

Allow me to thank you for the work done on elaborating the Declaration of the Summit of Presidents of the Parliaments of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean Union.

I would like to kindly inform you that the Hungarian National Assembly maintains its proposed amendment to the *paragraph 9* of the Declaration. According to our proposal the following text would express a more feasible compromise for the wording of the paragraph:

“9. It is important to promote wide-ranging information campaigns involving local government and schools in order to prevent illegal migration flows and further loss of life at sea, to tackle the root causes of the human emergency and to fight the traffickers.”

In case our proposed wording is not in line with the initiatives of the Italian Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean, the Hungarian National Assembly expresses its reservation to paragraph 9 of the Declaration.

Yours sincerely,



István Hiller

Deputy Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly

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