

 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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DRAFT JOINT DECLARATION

PA-UfM 10TH Summit of Speakers

on

Artificial Intelligence, Youth Engagement and Parliamentary Diplomacy for Peace and Stability in the Middle East

The 10th Summit of Speakers of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM) was held in Cairo, on 4 July 2026, under the Egyptian Presidency of the PA-UfM. This high-level event brought together Speakers, Deputy Speakers, and high-ranking parliamentary representatives from the Parliaments member of the Assembly, as well as representatives of other international and regional organisations.

Peace and Stability in the Middle East

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean:

1. Points to the instability in the Middle East and reiterates that military solutions cannot provide lasting peace and security. Calls on all parties to immediately cease actions that further fuel tensions and to support diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalation and conflict resolution, in full respect of the United Nations Charter, international law and international humanitarian law.
2. Strongly deplores the loss of civilian lives and the tremendous suffering caused by ongoing conflicts, stresses the obligation of all actors to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, and calls for unhindered humanitarian assistance to populations in need.
3. Underlines the importance of safeguarding freedom of navigation, maritime security and the uninterrupted flow of trade, while stressing the need for coordinated efforts to

respond to the wider consequences of the current crisis, including displacement, economic disruption and threats to energy security.

4. Reaffirms its support for a just, comprehensive and lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians, based on the two-state solution, in accordance with international law and relevant UN Security Council resolutions. Supports international efforts aimed at the recovery and reconstruction of Gaza and the strengthening of conditions for lasting peace and stability in the region.
5. Welcomes the signature of the agreement between the US and Iran on 14 June, which follows sustained diplomatic efforts by several partners, and hopes it will ensure stability and peace in the region.
6. Encourages sustained international efforts to support recovery, reconstruction and institution-building in conflict-affected areas, with a view to fostering durable stability and resilience across the region.
7. Reaffirms its support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region and its determination to strengthen Euro-Mediterranean dialogue, parliamentary diplomacy and regional cooperation as essential tools for promoting peace, stability, mutual understanding and shared prosperity.

Human-centred and ethical AI

8. Calls for the development of Artificial Intelligence systems that are human-centred, trustworthy, transparent and respectful of fundamental rights, ethical principles and cultural diversity, ensuring that AI serves the common good and contributes to inclusive and sustainable development across the Euro-Mediterranean region.
9. Calls for enhanced Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on Artificial Intelligence through inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue involving public institutions, academia, civil society and the private sector, as well as through strengthened capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and exchanges of expertise among countries of the region.
10. Encourages the Union for the Mediterranean's Governments to move beyond the role of technology adopters and to become active contributors to responsible AI innovation and to the development of the global governance of AI, building on the region's diversity, talent and shared commitment to sustainable development.

Youth policies and women's empowerment

11. Calls on the Union for the Mediterranean's Governments for the strengthening of structured mechanisms for youth participation in public decision-making processes, including through institutionalised consultation frameworks, advisory platforms and enhanced engagement of young people in democratic life. Stresses the importance of recognising youth as key actors in governance, peacebuilding and social cohesion across the Euro-Mediterranean region.
12. Calls on the Union for the Mediterranean's Governments and relevant stakeholders to implement targeted measures to address youth unemployment, including active labour market policies, vocational education and training programmes, and apprenticeships initiatives, with a particular focus on digital transition and artificial intelligence. It further underlines the need to improve young people's access to entrepreneurship opportunities and financing instruments, including microfinance, credit facilities and guarantee schemes, in cooperation with public and private financial actors.
13. Welcomes the Pact for the Mediterranean initiative for Mediterranean University, aimed at deepening academic collaboration, research excellence, and innovation across the region; equally welcomes the initiative for a Youth Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean, enabling young, elected European and Southern Mediterranean representatives to gather in a structured platform and contribute to regional policies and expresses interest in being further informed on these developments.
14. Calls for concrete measures to ensure women's equal access to education, vocational training, quality employment and financial resources, including targeted programmes to support women's entrepreneurship and economic inclusion. It emphasises the need to remove structural barriers limiting women's participation in economic life across the Euro-Mediterranean region.
15. Reaffirms the importance of ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in political and public decision-making and calls on Union for the Mediterranean's Governments and regional organisations to make effective use of the instruments available under the Pact for the Mediterranean and other Euro-Mediterranean cooperation frameworks to advance gender equality and women's leadership. It further highlights the crucial role of women in conflict prevention, mediation and peacebuilding, and calls for enhanced capacity-building and institutional support to reinforce their contribution to stability and security in the region.

Institutional cooperation

16. Recalls that current Euro-Mediterranean challenges require enhanced coordination and integrated cooperation across the region. In this respect, welcomes the UfM Vision Statement 2025 which stresses that the UfM will intensify its efforts to strengthen coordination among key Euro-Mediterranean institutions, and notably the PA-UfM. Stresses its commitment to increase, on its side, the synergies with the UfM, including through representation at high level meetings and regular exchanges between the two institutions.