	PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY– UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
PA–UfM **AP–UpM**	PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY– UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE – UNION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من اجل المتوسط

Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education

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Recommendation on the social and economic impact of new technologies on the Euro-Mediterranean Region

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

1.   Stresses the importance of the exchange and mobility of students and teachers of various nationalities between Universities in the Euro-Mediterranean region, as well as the strengthening of cooperation and the sharing of best practices between Universities in the region. Encourages the use of new technologies in teaching and learning processes and sees education as a vector for change, and knowledge as a differentiator.

2.   Concludes that modern technologies constitute affordable, portable and easily accessible infrastructure that can easily be put to use in the areas of education, health and social protection, filling the gaps between north and south, and centre and periphery.

3.   Sees artificial intelligence and new technologies not as an end in itself but as a tool to preserve the human being and fight for peace. Encourages Member States to pay particular attention to the application of new technologies and digital instruments to the green economy.

Encourages that consideration is given to the positive impact that equitable and balanced access to technology and creative tools by peoples and countries may have within the scope of an appropriate partnership, allowing for the smooth and flexible transfer of technology between developed and developing countries.

4.   Recognises the importance of improving digital literacy and access to the internet in all areas of the Member States. Acknowledges that the digitalisation and automation of the economy may widen the gap between rich and poor peoples, territories, countries and regions.

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Underlines that sustainable development goals cannot be swiftly achieved unless underdeveloped countries can get full access to technology, in order to bridge the gap with developed countries.

5.   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, as well as the changes in the labour market triggered by the digital revolution and the emergence of Artificial Intelligence, recognises the crucial importance of initiatives concerning job creation, education, digital literacy and training, by companies, Member States and the main international actors.