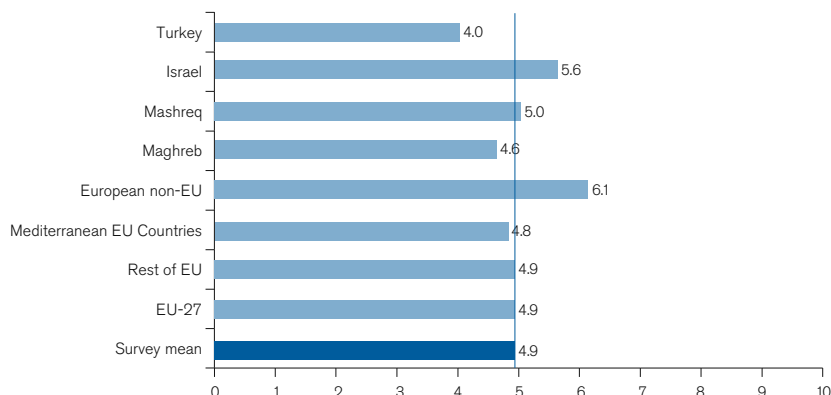

MONITORING OF PROGRESS AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP /
UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
AND EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD
POLICY IN 2011

Euro-Mediterranean General Assessment

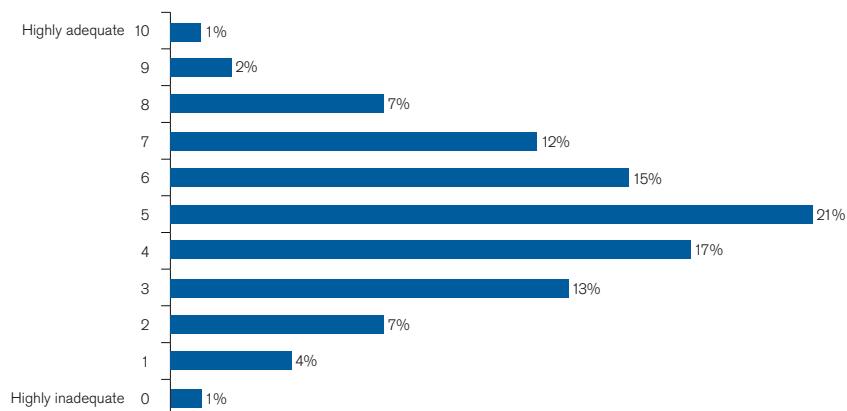
Question Q1 on the general adaptation of the EU initiatives towards the southern neighbours shows results very close to the average of 5 (4.9), which could be considered a neutral response. The distribution of percentages for each grade seems normal (see graph 2), with the largest number of respondents in the central grades. We could say that respondents see the EU initiatives aimed at its southern neighbours indifferently (neither good nor bad).

Graph 1: Global assessment of the results of the EU initiatives towards its southern neighbours in 2011
(average on a scale of 0-10)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 3rd Euromed Survey

Graph 2: Global assessment of the results of the EU initiatives towards its southern neighbours in 2011 (%)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 3rd Euromed Survey

Although the results vary slightly for the different groups of respondents, they are mainly close to the overall average. By geographical areas, Maghreb respondents give the lowest grade (4.6) along with Turkish respondents (4.0), while residents in European non-EU countries and Israelis have a higher average.¹ Results by age show that the youngest grade these initiatives more positively. The results by type of institution reveal that experts grade these initiatives most negatively while political actors grade them more positively, always bearing in mind that the differences between groups are very small.

1. The disaggregated data of Israeli respondents must be regarded with due caution given the low number of respondents they represent.

Malgré la bonne volonté de l'Union européenne, le manque de visibilité de son action est criant, seuls les spécialistes reconnaissent ses initiatives et sa volonté, la population méditerranéenne n'a aucune idée de son réel engagement.

Tunisian respondent

Le printemps arabe a démontré le manque d'une vision méditerranéenne par l'UE et non une vision euro-méditerranéenne qui repose sur l'ancienne perception (mare nostrum) aussi son désengagement en ce qui concerne les principes déclarés (le co-développement, la démocratie, les droits de l'Homme, à titre d'exemples).

Moroccan respondent

EU initiatives were clearly unprepared to respond effectively to the Arab Spring, not to mention the fact that EU policies were not able to anticipate these and further developments.

Italian respondent

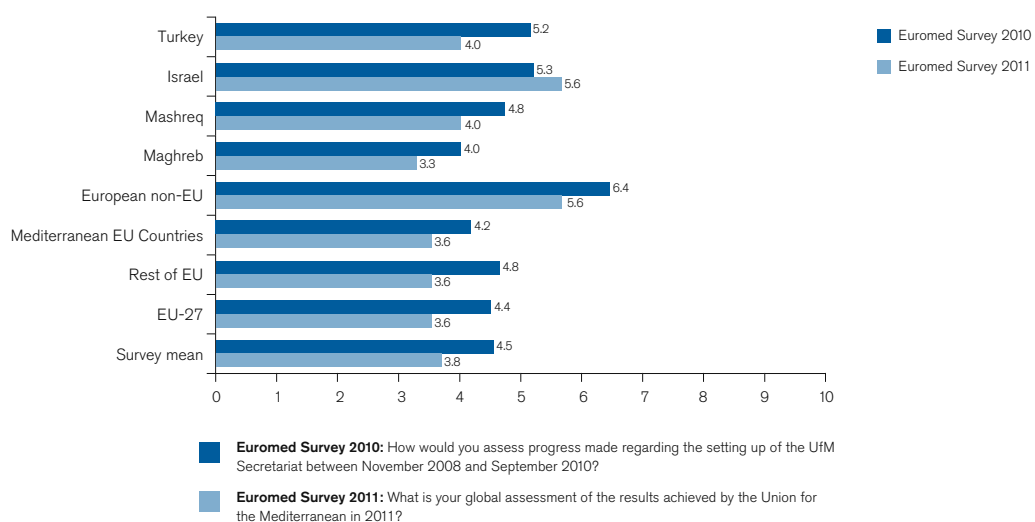
Les initiatives sont arrêtées le plus souvent en fonction des priorités européennes parmi les besoins des pays du sud, et non selon celles des pays intéressés.

Mauritanian respondent

When asked specifically about the UfM results in 2011 (Q2) the assessment is quite negative (average of 3.8), with 48% of respondents grading it below 4, clearly showing that the UfM's performance has not even achieved a minimum level. In comparison to a similar question in the previous Survey, the grade has dropped from 4.5 to 3.8 on average. The instability of the UfM in terms of the figure of the Secretary General probably affects this assessment.

By regions, the most negative vision (as in the previous question) comes from Maghreb respondents in contrast to those from the Mashreq, who assess the UfM above the average (leaving aside the case of European non-EU respondents who give the only positive assessment, although it must be regarded cautiously due to the low significance in the pattern). EU respondents give average grades very close to the overall average.

Graph 3: UfM Global Assessment (average on a scale of 0-10)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 3rd Euromed Survey

Within the negative assessment, by type of institution experts assess the results of the UfM the most negatively while civil society representatives grade them above the average. By area of specialisation, the most critical respondents are those from the political and security field.

The UfM is poorly compatible with the objectives of the ENP. It offers a multilateral framework that lacks legitimacy and institutional credibility, compared with other initiatives.

French respondent

Again, the Arab Spring has brought the UfM to a standstill due to its close identification with the ancient regimes of the southern Med.

Greek respondent

The UfM suffered a tremendous blow in 2011 due to the events connected to the Arab Spring. In particular, it was completely discredited due to the fact that one of the Co-Presidents of the Union was the Egyptian former ruler, Hosni Mubarak. Another factor is connected to the total disregard for political dialogue and reform inside the UfM. This was a crucial mistake and a lost opportunity to understand the societal and political changes that have led to the Arab Spring.

Italian respondent

Il est certainement prématuré de parler des résultats obtenus. L'UPM est encore en phase de construction, avec un certain nombre de problèmes à surmonter pour asseoir sa légitimité et fédérer les partenaires autour de ses initiatives. Par ailleurs, la crise économique et financière actuelle a certainement fait évoluer les priorités annoncées depuis 2007 dans le cadre de l'UPM.

Moroccan respondent

The survival of the UfM through the current crises is an achievement in itself. Despite all these difficulties, including internal institutional ones, a number of projects are under way. The Mediterranean Solar Plan, the Gaza Desalination Facility and smaller projects in the field of gender equality are noteworthy examples.

Maltese respondent

When asked about the role of the UfM Secretariat in the Euro-Mediterranean institutional architecture, the responses seem more positive, as the overall average is 5.2. By geographical areas, non-Mediterranean EU respondents (4.7) and Maghreb respondents (4.9) give a more negative grade while those from the Mashreq and Mediterranean EU respondents grade it more positively (5.4).

However, if we compare the overall results of 2011 with those of the 2010 Survey, we see that the positive perception of the results decreases, given that the grade on the role of the Secretariat has decreased in one year from 6.0 to 5.2. By geographical areas, grades are notably lower than one year ago, which seems to indicate that the Secretariat may no longer be considered a key institution in the Euro-Mediterranean process in the view of actors and experts. Nevertheless, the Secretariat of the UfM manages to maintain a slightly positive grade in overall answers and in the view of some groups, according to institutional affiliation, it will play a key role in the institutional architecture, as reflected by respondents from institutions linked to civil society who give an average grade of 6.1.

L'institution pourrait devenir opérationnelle, à condition d'être plus à l'écoute de l'opinion publique en Europe et au Maghreb. Peut-elle transgresser la bureaucratie de l'Union Européenne et faire valoir les relations avec le Sud?

Tunisian respondent

Puede desempeñar un papel importante, si refuerza su perfil técnico y es capaz de formular propuestas.

Spanish respondent

As long as the UfM Secretariat still depends on its relation with the governmental and political level and is reluctant to open discussion with civil society, the output will be limited. The Arab Spring shows the power of the community, and what we need is more discussion, cooperation and partnership between NGOs, civil society and parties and not between governments.

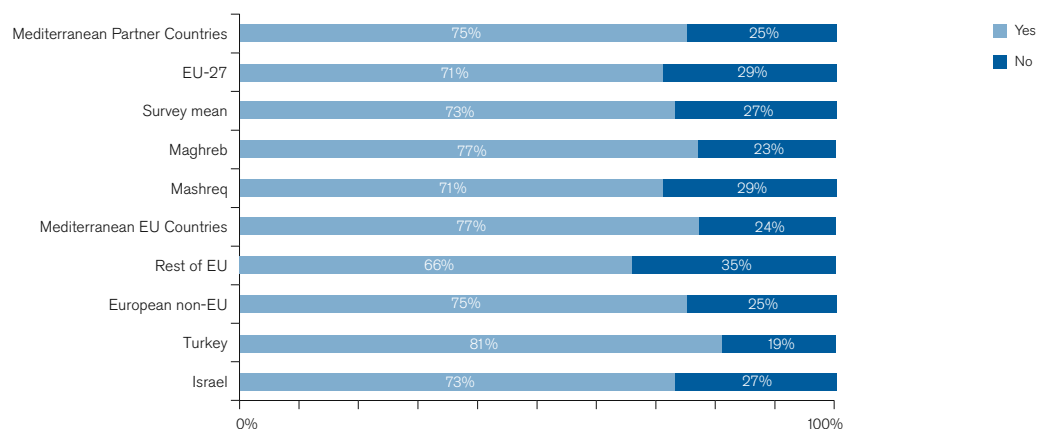
Egyptian respondent

The UfM Secretariat could play a key role but not by dictating how things should be, but by being a platform provider.

Turkish respondent

Moreover, question Q4 on whether the community institutions should assume the European co-presidency of the UfM (a decision which was finally adopted² although after the fieldwork of the Survey) shows the highest level of agreement in this series of Surveys, as 73% of respondents support this change. Despite the large majority, we should point out that those with a lower percentage in favour are respondents from non-Mediterranean EU countries (66%) while the highest percentage corresponds to Turkish respondents (81%).

Graph 4: EU institutions should assume the northern co-presidency of the UfM, instead of the current system (one Member State from the North) (%)



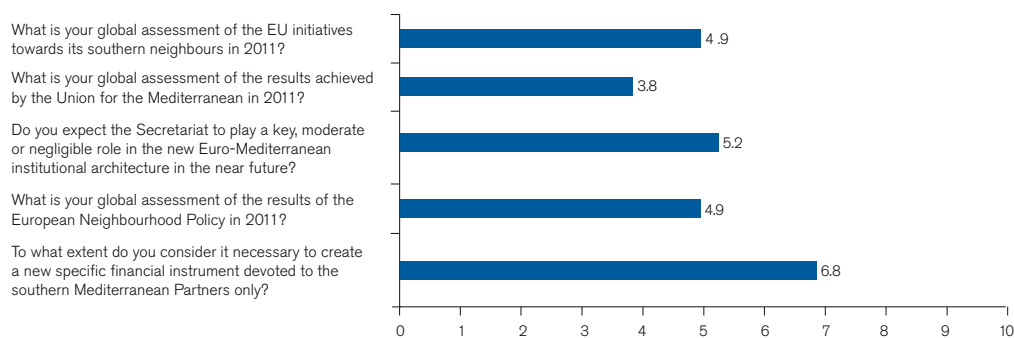
Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 3rd Euromed Survey

2. In February 2012, the assumption by the European Commission of the co-presidency of the EU countries in the UfM was approved.

The two last questions of this block focus on the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). The first (Q5) asks respondents for an overall assessment of the ENP in 2011 and the average of the total of respondents is 4.85; in other words, very similar to that of the first question (overall assessment of EU initiatives) and above the assessment of the UfM. Moreover, they repeat the same pattern of differences by geographical area as in the first question, with Maghreb respondents assessing it most negatively. By type of institution, once again experts assess the ENP more negatively.

Graph 5: Monitoring the Progress and achievements of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership/Union for the Mediterranean and of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2011

(average on a scale of 0-10, where 0 stands for highly inadequate, and 10 for highly adequate)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the 3rd Euromed Survey

« Business as usual ». La PEV aurait du démarrer d'un nouvel élan en 2011. Au lieu de cela, la programmation régionale 2011-2013 a été reportée, sans qu'il lui soit substitué un programme d'urgence pour répondre aux aspirations manifestées par les pays sud. Les enveloppes budgétaires annoncées ont tardé à arriver en Egypte et en Tunisie, quand elles sont arrivées. Pour le reste, les délégations CE font un bon travail d'appui aux dispositifs institutionnels.

French respondent

C'est un des rares outils de l'UE qui pourrait sortir renforcé des dernières révolutions arabes. Il a réussi, avec plus ou moins de succès, à intégrer dans ces plan d'action la quasi totalité des problématiques qui ont été à l'origine des révolutions en cours.

Lebanese respondent

En dépit de quelques signes envers le Maroc et la Jordanie, la PEV reste en deçà des espoirs initiaux et cette politique ne semble pas distinguer les pays liés à l'UE par des accords d'association et les autres pays de l'extrême Est de l'Europe et de l'Asie mineure, ce qui ne renforce pas la confiance des PSM à l'égard des initiatives européennes.

Algerian respondent

The second question (Q6) refers to the need to create a new financial instrument exclusively for MPCs. The average of the total of respondents is 6.8, and it would be even greater if it were not for the group of non-Mediterranean Europeans whose average remains at 5.4 while those of the remaining groups exceed 7. However, by type of institution, the highest percentages correspond to members of civil society and experts as well as those from the economic and socio-cultural field of specialisation.

Il est crucial de reconnaître la spécificité de l'enjeu euromed et de responsabiliser ses acteurs. Cela suppose des outils et même une institution financière de développement régional. Les enjeux sont de natures très différentes de ceux du Voisinage oriental.

French respondent

It is very necessary because the united ENPI gives the MPCs the feeling that the eastern partners enjoy preferential treatment and advantages over them. Moreover, it is true that within the EU there are elements that favour the East over the South. In the wake of the Arab Spring it is a must to split the instrument into two separate ones as today the crises looming in the MPCs should give the latter greater priority in the realm of diverse assistance.

Israeli respondent

Either a new specific financial instrument or a clear separation/division between the southern and eastern partnerships' financial budget so that they do not have to compete with each other.

Hungarian respondent

Most outstanding elements:

- Decrease of the overall assessment in relation to the previous Survey.
- The UfM below the ENP.
- UfM: "What results?" "Il y a trop de réunions et peu de résultats".
- Prior approval of the co-presidency in the hands of the Commission.
- Need for a specific instrument for MPCs. (The importance of non-Mediterranean EU countries assessing it less positively.)