

# 06

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## PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

The action fronts identified in the forward-looking analysis of Question 4.2 (see Section 5) are so many that respondents seem to appreciate all initiatives taken in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. This is the conclusion that can be drawn from answers to Question 5.1 on the priorities identified in the Ministerial Conference in Marseille in November 2008. Of the total of 30 priority fields of action of the EMP identified by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Marseille, all of them are considered important or very important, and the average grade (on a 0-10 scale) is 6 or higher for all of them and 7 or higher for most of them. The top ranked priorities are water (8.11) and the Middle East Peace Process (8.02). Among the identified priorities, the less highly ranked are deepening of dialogue on the ESDP and crisis management (6.16), statistics cooperation (6.2) and terrorism (6.6; this is a more important priority in Maghreb countries – 7 – and less so in Mashreq countries – 5.9).

As far as priorities for the future are concerned (in particular for the 2010 Work Programme to be approved in the Summit of the UfM to be held in Barcelona in June 2010, Question 5.2), among the 20 possible priorities of action submitted to respondents, the most often mentioned amongst the five top priorities are the following:

- Promotion of democracy and political pluralism (49%),
- Water access and sustainability (41.5%),
- Education (41%),
- Human rights and intolerance (38.5%),
- Sustainable development (36%), and
- Promoting dialogue between cultures and cultural diversity (34.8%).

The least cited priorities include civil protection (only 18% of respondents mention it amongst the five top priorities); a wider free trade area, liberalisation of EU agricultural markets and food security (20% each); the fight against international terrorism and creation of an area free of weapons of mass destruction in the Mediterranean, as well as establishment of free movement of persons in the Mediterranean (21% each); and the management of migration flows and the promotion of equality between men and women (22%). This should give rise to some thoughts about the priority projects for the EMP and the UfM.

However, regional differences are paramount as far as priorities are concerned: conflict resolution is mentioned by 73% and 77% of Maghreb and Mashreq respondents and only 55% of EU countries and 58% in Turkey. Meanwhile, the creation of an area free of weapons of mass destruction is a priority only for 16% of EU respondents, but for 37% of Mashreq and 27% of Maghreb respondents. The increase in funds allocated for the EMP is a priority for only 20% of EU respondents (15% in non-Mediterranean EU Member States), but for 44% of Maghreb, 33% of Mashreq and 42% of Turkish respondents. Energy is a priority for 32% of EU respondents, but only for 20% of Maghreb and Mashreq countries, whereas employment promotion and employment policies are mentioned as a priority by 28% of EU respondents and 31% of Mashreq respondents, but 41% of Maghreb respondents (see Table below).

**Question 5.2.**

In your opinion, what should be the main priorities for the Spanish Co-Presidency of the UfM (and the Euro-Mediterranean Summit Barcelona 2010)? Please choose five from the whole list.

	TOTAL		MAGHREB		MASHREQ		EU 27		EU Med		Rest of Europe		TURKEY		ISRAEL	
		% of 342		% of 71		% of 52		% of 176		% of 102		% of 74		% of 12		% of 14
<b>Political and Security Cooperation</b>																
Conflict resolution in the region	211	62%	52	73%	40	77%	96	55%	54	53%	42	57%	7	58%	7	50%
Fight against international terrorism	72	21%	22	31%	13	25%	21	12%	8	8%	13	18%	4	33%	8	57%
Creation of an area free of weapons of mass destruction in the Mediterranean	73	21%	19	27%	19	37%	28	16%	11	11%	17	23%	2	17%	4	29%
Civil protection and prevention of man-made disasters	62	18%	19	27%	10	19%	26	15%	13	13%	13	18%	1	8%	3	21%
Human rights and intolerance	132	39%	20	28%	20	38%	76	43%	43	42%	33	45%	6	50%	4	29%
Promoting democracy and political pluralism	167	49%	37	52%	32	62%	84	48%	51	50%	33	45%	2	17%	5	36%
<b>Total answers</b>	<b>717</b>		<b>169</b>		<b>134</b>		<b>331</b>		<b>180</b>		<b>151</b>		<b>22</b>		<b>31</b>	
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>342</b>		<b>71</b>		<b>52</b>		<b>176</b>		<b>102</b>		<b>74</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>14</b>	
	TOTAL		MAGHREB		MASHREQ		EU 27		EU Med		Rest of Europe		TURKEY		ISRAEL	
		% of 342		% of 71		% of 52		% of 176		% of 102		% of 74		% of 12		% of 14
<b>Economic and Financial Cooperation</b>																
Increasing the funds allocated to the EMP	99	29%	31	44%	17	33%	35	20%	24	24%	11	15%	5	42%	5	36%
Wider Free Trade Area	71	21%	15	21%	10	19%	40	23%	26	25%	14	19%	2	17%	2	14%
Energy	91	27%	15	21%	10	19%	56	32%	32	31%	24	32%	3	25%	2	14%
Water access and sustainability	142	42%	32	45%	20	38%	75	43%	41	40%	34	46%	1	8%	6	43%
Food security	71	21%	18	25%	16	31%	32	18%	14	14%	18	24%	1	8%	1	7%
Environmental issues and sustainable development	123	36%	29	41%	15	29%	65	37%	37	36%	28	38%	6	50%	2	14%
Liberalisation of EU agricultural markets	71	21%	14	20%	9	17%	39	22%	22	22%	17	23%	3	25%	1	7%
<b>Total answers</b>	<b>668</b>		<b>154</b>		<b>97</b>		<b>342</b>		<b>196</b>		<b>146</b>		<b>21</b>		<b>19</b>	
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>342</b>		<b>71</b>		<b>52</b>		<b>176</b>		<b>102</b>		<b>74</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>14</b>	

	TOTAL		MAGHREB		MASHREQ		EU 27		EU Med		Rest of Europe		TURKEY		ISRAEL	
		% of 342		% of 71		% of 52		% of 176		% of 102		% of 74		% of 12		% of 14
<b>Social, Human and Cultural Cooperation</b>																
Employment promotion and employment policies	102	30%	29	41%	16	31%	50	28%	26	25%	18	24%	1	8%	2	14%
Education	140	41%	27	38%	24	46%	74	42%	32	31%	29	39%	7	58%	2	14%
Promoting equality between men and women	78	23%	17	24%	7	13%	44	25%	41	40%	15	20%	4	33%	2	14%
Promoting the participation of civil society and social partners in the EMP	79	23%	16	23%	12	23%	39	22%	26	25%	13	18%	2	17%	4	29%
Promoting dialogue between cultures and cultural diversity	119	35%	21	30%	15	29%	67	38%	32	31%	34	46%	4	33%	3	21%
Management of migration flows	76	22%	13	18%	8	15%	52	30%	41	40%	22	30%	1	8%	2	14%
Establishment of free movement of persons in the Mediterranean	71	21%	15	21%	10	19%	40	23%	26	25%	11	15%	4	33%	2	14%
<b>Total answers</b>	<b>665</b>		<b>138</b>		<b>92</b>		<b>366</b>		<b>224</b>		<b>142</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>17</b>	
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>342</b>		<b>71</b>		<b>52</b>		<b>176</b>		<b>102</b>		<b>74</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>14</b>	