

# 34TH EUROPEAN DAY OF THE CATALAN EUROPEAN MOVEMENT

## Towards the Relaunch of the Euro-Mediterranean Policy

### Thirty Years of the Barcelona Process

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CATALAN PARLIAMENT  
BARCELONA, 27 JANUARY 2025



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Relations between the EU and the ten Southern Mediterranean neighbouring countries are defined by the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), which was established in 2004 and revised in 2015. The fundamental pillar of this policy is the construction of an area of stability and resilience by defining a set of fields of common interest, such as economic development, security and migration. The EU also seeks to actively promote good governance, democracy and human rights in the Southern Mediterranean countries as crosscutting priorities with the aim of deepening dialogue with partners and supporting their citizens.

In 2021, the EU launched the Agenda for the Mediterranean, which sought to recalibrate the approach of the Union's cooperation with the Southern Mediterranean countries in response to the humanitarian and economic impact of COVID-19, accompanied by an Investment Plan for Europe. In this response, the European Union has fostered more sustainable, green and circular economies, as well as digitalisation, while maintaining a focus on human development, human rights and the rule of law.

However, since the adoption of the Agenda for the Mediterranean, the geopolitical context has greatly changed with far-reaching consequences as a result of Russia's aggression against Ukraine and the war in the Middle East following the events of 7 October 2023. In this regard, the perception of the EU – the most important donor and partner for the Southern Mediterranean countries – has deteriorated significantly among the population of the region, while anti-EU narratives fuelled by disinformation, manipulation and interference from foreign news media proliferate, given that other powers try to enhance their influence in the region.

With the EU entering a new institutional cycle, rebuilding trust and strengthening relations with the Southern Mediterranean have been prioritised in the second term of the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. In this regard, a new Commissioner for the Mediterranean has been appointed and tasked with deploying a new Pact for the Mediterranean, in close collaboration with the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The Pact will cover bilateral relations with the countries in the region, as well as the regional dimension, promoting regional integration and cooperation with the Southern Neighbourhood, included in the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

On 28 November 2025, thirty years will have passed since the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Declaration that established the Barcelona Process. How can it be assessed thirty years later? Are its principles still valid? How does the Barcelona Declaration link up with the new Pact for the Mediterranean?

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Towards the Relaunch of the Euro-Mediterranean Policy



## Date

Monday, 27 January 2025

## Place

Catalan Parliament, Parc de la Ciutadella, Barcelona

## Registrations

On this [link](#)

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# Programme

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### ✓ 9.00H - 9.30H OPENING

- **Josep Rull**, president, Catalan Parliament
- **Jordi Xuclà**, president, Catalan European Movement
- **Senén Florensa**, executive president, European Institute of the Mediterranean
- **Keynote address:**  
**Nasser Kamel**, secretary general, Union for the Mediterranean

### ✓ 9.45H - 10.15H OPENING LECTURE: “CONSTRUCTING A SOVEREIGN EUROPE IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD: THE PATH TO STRATEGIC AUTONOMY”

- **Javi López**, vice-president, European Parliament

### ✓ 10.15H - 11.00H DIALOGUE: “THE MEDITERRANEAN, THE ETERNAL DISPUTE”

- **Enric Juliana**, journalist and writer, deputy Editor-in-Chief of La Vanguardia
- **Jordi Xuclà**, president, Catalan European Movement

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### 11.00H - 11.30H COFFEE BREAK

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### ✓ 11.30H - 12.30H PANEL: “THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN POLICY IN THE CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT: CHALLENGES FOR THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY PARTNERSHIP”

- **Youssef Cherif**, director, Columbia Global Center Tunis
- **Joaquim Llimona**, director CEI International Affairs
- **Julien Barnes-Dacey**, director, Middle East and North Africa programme at the European Council on Foreign Relations
- **Moderator: Senén Florensa**, executive president, European Institute of the Mediterranean

### ✓ 12.30H - 13.30H PANEL: “RETHINKING ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION: ECONOMY, MOBILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN A NEW GLOBAL SCENARIO”

- **Aurèlia Mañé**, full professor of economics, University of Barcelona
- **Jérémie Fosse**, president and co-founder, Eco-union
- **Olivia Orozco**, coordinator of formation and economics, Casa Árabe
- **Moderator: Roger Albinyana**, managing director, European Institute of the Mediterranean

✓ **13.30H - 13.50H COMMUNICATION: “PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY: THE CASE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN THE GAZA WAR”**

- **Stelios Stavridis**, Araid, University of Zaragoza
- **Paula Lamoso**, professor of International Relations, University of Loyola

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**13.50H - 15.00H LUNCH BREAK**

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✓ **15.00H - 15.30H PANEL: “FUTURE PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES FOR MEDITERRANEAN YOUTH”**

- **Nadia Chaib Ras**, lawyer
- **Francesc Almendros**, professor of economics, UAB, spokesperson of Equipo Europa
- **Taha Zitan**, president, Joventut Europea Federalista de Catalunya (JEF)
- Moderator: **Lluís Falgàs**, parliamentary journalist, RTVE

✓ **15.30H - 16.30H PANEL: “THE MEDITERRANEAN, A SEA OF INTERCULTURALISM: OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN CULTURES”**

- **Manuel Forcano**, poet, Hebraist and Catalan translator
- **Esmà Kucukalic**, researcher, Universitat Europea de València
- **Jusaima Moaid-azm**, profesor, Universidad de Granada
- Moderator: **Gemma Aubarell**, director of culture, gender and civil society, European Institute of the Mediterranean

✓ **16.30H - 17.00H CLOSING**

- **Maria Eugènia Gay**, vice-president, Diputació de Barcelona and Delegate for International Relations
- **Agustí Fernández de Losada**, secretary of European Union and External Action, Government of Catalonia
- **Senén Florensa**, executive president, European Institute of the Mediterranean
- **Susanna Rivero**, secretary general Catalan European Movement

