



**European Committee  
of the Regions**



*Brussels, 5 October 2022*

## **ARLEM NEWSLETTER – October 2022**

### **Day of the Mediterranean**

*28 November 2022*



In the lead-up to the second edition of the Day of the Mediterranean, an initiative by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) celebrated annually on 28 November, we would like to encourage ARLEM Members to actively participate in this celebration and build on the large success of the first edition.

ARLEM Members are encouraged to organise new or build on planned events or initiatives taking place from October to December under the Day of the Mediterranean, for example by placing the [official logo](#) on communication materials and by publishing activities on the [agenda of the official website](#). This would allow the events to be displayed on the [official interactive map](#). Members can also join this year's regional #MediterraneanDay video campaign entitled '[The Mediterranean, a journey through the senses](#)', which aims to showcase the shared Mediterranean identity. For more information, see the annex below or visit the [official website](#).

### **13th ARLEM plenary session**

*7-8 November 2022*

*İzmir, Turkey*

The [13th ARLEM plenary session](#) will take place on 7-8 November as part of the International Day of the Mediterranean on 28 November, of which ARLEM and the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) are partners. This year, members will gather in İzmir, Turkey, where they will discuss the inclusivity and resilience of the cities of the Mediterranean basin, paying particular attention to climate action in the Mediterranean, as a prelude to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) hosted by the Egyptian city of Sharm El-Sheikh from 6 to 18 November. Members are also expected to adopt two reports on *Innovation ecosystems and start-ups in the Mediterranean as a means of recovering from the COVID-19 crisis* and on *Service sector re-orientation: transferring skills to and from the tourism sector*.

The ceremony for the **4th edition of the ARLEM Award, *Young local entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean***, will take place alongside the plenary session.

Furthermore, after the summer mid-term review, the new ARLEM mandate will start with a fresh membership and co-presidency for both groups, the EU and the Mediterranean partners. ARLEM members will adopt the ARLEM action plan for 2023-2025 and the ARLEM recommendations for 2023.

**27th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

*6-18 November 2022*

*Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt*

The COP27, to be hosted in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, is quickly approaching, and will be held from 6 to 18 November. The CoR and ARLEM will send a strong message to the COP, both through its opinions drawn up in the Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE), and the Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX), and through a delegation of participating members. As we are stronger together, we know we must reach out to partners and join forces beyond the official CoR delegation.



Therefore, we would kindly like to ask you to let the ARLEM secretariat ([arlem-secretariat@cor.europa.eu](mailto:arlem-secretariat@cor.europa.eu)) know if you plan to travel to Sharm el-Sheikh for COP27, in whichever capacity. This will allow the secretariat to update you on interesting elements and opportunities to further strengthen the message from the local and regional level to this important conference.

**#EUregionsweek – Workshop on youth empowerment and democracy**

*12 October 2022*

*Brussels, Belgium*



Within the framework of the 20th edition of the [European week of regions and cities](#) (#EUregionsweek), jointly organised by the Committee of the Regions and the European Commission, we kindly invite you to follow the workshop on [youth empowerment and democracy](#) on 12 October. Attendees will include Ms Aleksandra Dulkiewicz, Mayor of Gdansk and member of the European Committee of the Regions; Ms Hadhemi Boukadida, member of the Mediterranean Youth Council; Ms Emilia Cerdeira, Councillor for Education and

Youth in the Municipality of Arcos de Valdevez; and Mr Sam Van Der Staak, Head of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance's (IDEA) Europe Programme. The workshop will be moderated by Mr Thomas Matthew, board member of the European Youth Forum.

## UfM Conference: Enhancing MSMEs Resilience

6–7 October 2022

Nicosia, Cyprus

The Union for the Mediterranean's conference on *Enhancing MSMEs resilience in the face of future shocks* will take place on 6-7 October in Nicosia, Cyprus. Through multiple panels, the conference will tackle the role of MSMEs in driving economic development, the impact of the COVID-19 and subsequent crises, and MSME resilience.



Mr Santiago Mondragón, representing the ARLEM secretariat, will take part in the 5th panel entitled 'the role of international cooperation in shaping adapted MSMEs strategies'.

## MUNIWORLD Conference

6-8 December 2022

Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem, Israel

The 6th MUNIWORLD Conference will take place on 6-8 December in Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem, Israel, under the umbrella of the 2022 MUNIEXPO Exhibition and in partnership with the Jerusalem Municipality.

The MUNIEXPO 2022 Exhibition, and the international MUNIWORLD Conference as an integral part of it, presents a unique stage for global brainstorming on urban challenges and city innovation. It will host exhibitors, decision-makers from Israel and abroad, and thousands of visitors.

Guests will be invited to take part in both exclusive tailor-made innovation tours and thought-provoking plenary and dedicated sessions relating to municipal affairs worldwide, thus providing an unforgettable experience.



## Highlight: The Team Europe Partnerships Portal

### Team Europe Partnerships Portal

The [Team Europe Partnerships Portal](#) (TEPP) is a newly launched platform facilitating partnerships between Team Europe's members and partner countries. TEPP outlines the various goods, services, expertise and availability of Team Europe's members. A matchmaking tool then connects those providing expertise and assistance with those who seek it.

## **CIVEX's new Chair**

*28 September 2022*

*Brussels, Belgium*

Mr Vincenzo Bianco (IT/PES) has been elected chair of the European Committee of the Regions' CIVEX Commission at the commission's meeting on 28 September. Mr Bianco has been a member of the CoR since 1994. He has been rapporteur for many CIVEX Commission opinions on topics related to asylum, migration, democracy, and the Southern Neighbourhood, to which he has brought his expertise from past experiences as Mayor of Catania and Italian Minister of the Interior.



In particular, he was rapporteur for the CoR opinion on [A new Agenda for the Mediterranean](#) (2021) and ARLEM rapporteur on the [Blue economy](#) (2019). He will chair the CIVEX Commission for 2.5 years until 2025.

After his election, Mr Bianco said: 'I am honoured to be taking over the chairmanship of the CIVEX commission in this particular conjuncture: the future of Europe, migration and integration, fundamental rights and freedoms, active citizenship, and our relations with neighbouring countries (in particular the Euro-Mediterranean ones), all of which constitute core CIVEX competencies which are currently in the spotlight'.

## **8th meeting of the ARLEM Commission for Sustainable Territorial Development**

*7 February 2022, hybrid meeting*

*Marseille, France, and online*



This ARLEM meeting, which came at the start of the European Year of Youth, heard impassioned calls from young politicians who, as well as emphasising the region's vulnerability to climate change, warned of the political marginalisation of young people and women, and highlighted the potential for cooperation between cities. Their concerns were reflected in recommendations adopted by ARLEM, with specific ideas aimed at empowering women, helping young politicians, promoting entrepreneurship among young people, and supporting cities and regions to take climate action.

The meeting, which was co-chaired by Ms Arianna Censi (IT/PES), Deputy Mayor of Milan (Italy), and by Ms Mina Bouhdoud, Mayor of Lagfifat (Morocco), brought together members of ARLEM's sustainable development commission and was held on the sidelines of the two-day Forum des mondes méditerranéens. The forum, which was organised by the south-eastern region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur as part of the programme of France's six-month Presidency of the EU, also placed a strong emphasis on sustainability, inclusion, and young people.

**Participation of CoR rapporteur Vincenzo Bianco in the European Parliament hearing on the  
New Agenda for the Mediterranean**

*14 June 2022*

*Brussels, Belgium*

On 14 June, the European Committee of the Regions rapporteur for the opinion on a *Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood – A new Agenda for the Mediterranean*, Mr Vincenzo Bianco (IT/PES), exchanged views with members of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) on the role of regions in the EU strategy on Southern Neighbourhood.

At this AFET meeting, Mr Bianco presented the main messages of the CoR opinion, which was the first adopted by an EU institution or advisory body after the publication of the Joint Communication and the Council Conclusions. He mainly referred to the CoR's appeal to launch the process for a Mediterranean Charter of Human Rights, open to signature by the members of the partnership. Incorporating the content of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, this would be the basis for a substantial convergence with the EU in terms of human rights. He also mentioned the need to provide targeted assistance to support large-scale investments in renewables and clean hydrogen production for both domestic consumption and export – investments which comply with the 'do no harm' principle and which safeguard green areas and biodiversity.

The exchange of views took place in the context of the drafting of the EP report on the *Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood – A new agenda for the Mediterranean* (rapporteur: Antonio López-Istúriz White), adopted by the European Parliament plenary in September.

**Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Meetings**

At the UfM Ministerial Meeting on employment and labour on 18 May in Marrakech (Morocco), ARLEM was represented by Mr Enric Millo, Secretary General for External Action of Andalusia, who attended on behalf of his president (and ARLEM rapporteur) Mr Juan Manuel Moreno Bonilla. In turn, Markku Markkula represented ARLEM during the meeting on research and innovation on 27 June (online). Upcoming UfM ministerial meetings will be on transport (Cairo, Egypt, and online, date tbc), and on strengthening the role of women in society (Madrid, Spain, on 26-27 October). Finally, the UfM will hold its 7th Regional Forum at the level of ministers of foreign affairs in Barcelona, Spain, on 24 November.

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ANNEX

Day of the Mediterranean (28 November)



DAY OF THE  
MEDITERRANEAN

NOVEMBER 28

mediterraneanday.com  
#MediterraneanDay

# BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT

## 1 FRAME YOUR EVENT UNDER THE DAY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

You can **organise new or frame planned events or initiatives in October-December under the Day of the Mediterranean**. This can be done by placing the **official logo** on your communication materials and by publishing your activity on the **collaborative web agenda of the official website**. All events are displayed **here** and on the interactive map of that same page.

- Kindly note that extra visibility will be given to your activity on the UfM social networks if it is published on the official Agenda.
- All events across all sectors can be framed under the Day of the Mediterranean as long as they enable regional exchanges and cooperation, promote culture, positive initiatives or best practices as well foster intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding.



## 2 PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL VIDEO-CAMPAIGN AND ENGAGE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**Join the 2022 regional campaign: The Mediterranean, a journey through the senses**, gathering testimonials of people from all walks of life. This year's thematic revolves around our five senses and how we feel this region, in a reminder of a shared identity.

You can participate by posting on social media a video-statement by the head of your organisation, a video of various colleagues participating or your own video. You can also share a picture or a post and tell us... Which of your senses are stirred by the Mediterranean? Use the official hashtag **#MediterraneanDay** and keep on engaging on social media!

Day of the Mediterranean (28 November)

# BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT



## 3 PROJECT THE LOGO OF THE DAY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ON YOUR BUILDING

Is your organisation hosted in an emblematic or visible building? We are promoting a regional initiative to light or project the Day of the Mediterranean logo and colours on illustrious buildings and monuments across the region on the eve of the 27<sup>th</sup> November. If you think your organisation could participate, please contact our communication team for more info in the email address provided below.

*Barcelona (Spain), City Council.*



## RESOURCES

**Here** you will find **the Communication Kit**. It provides background information on the Day of the Mediterranean, gives several ideas on how to celebrate it within your organisation/community and provides links to download the logo and communication materials.

Should you have any doubt or question, don't hesitate to reach out to our communication team at [mediterraneanday@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:mediterraneanday@ufmsecretariat.org)