

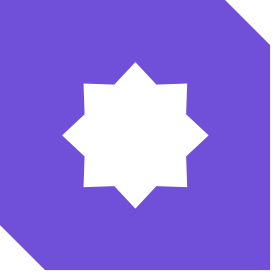


A new Agenda for the Mediterranean – 1 year on

From strategy to implementation

Ilektra Tsakalidou, DG NEAR





The Southern Neighbourhood in 2021

20%

faster climate
warming compared
to other regions

50%

reduction in
FDI due to
COVID-19

~ 50%

of population under
24 years old

**Over
16mio**

fulltime working
hours lost in Q2
2020 vs Q2 2019

**Up to
50%**

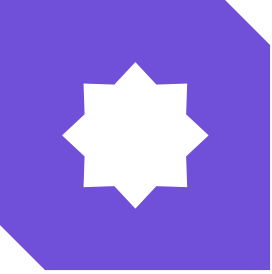
losses in
GDP since
2019





Looking beyond the challenges – grasping opportunities

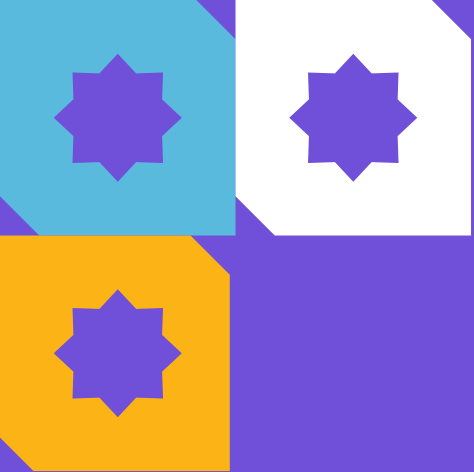




Our objective

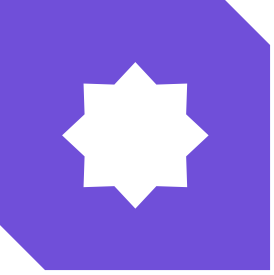
- ◆ Set a **positive Agenda** for our future partnership.
- ◆ Put **people at the centre**, especially youth.
- ◆ Take advantage of trends, including the **green and digital transition**, and EU priorities, including **an economy that works for people, to foster an inclusive and sustainable recovery that creates jobs**.
- ◆ Emphasise the **need for co-ownership** based on common values.
- ◆ Use the **full EU toolbox** and engage more strategically with **EU Member States**, both at the political and policy level, as well as through Joint Programming and Team Europe Initiatives.





Our key themes





Five themes

Human development,
good governance & the
rule of law



Strengthen resilience,
build prosperity &
seize the digital
transition



Migration & mobility



Peace and Security



Green transition:
climate resilience,
energy, and
environment



Human development, good governance & the rule of law



- ✦ Strengthen preparedness and response capacities of **healthcare systems**
- ✦ Support a renewed commitment to **human rights, the rule of law, democracy and good governance** to strengthen governance systems, boost transparency and accountability, and build trust in institutions
- ✦ Empower **young people and civil society, and foster gender equality**
- ✦ Encourage **research, innovation, culture and education** through closer participation in EU programmes





Peace and security

- ◆ Reaffirm EU's role as an **actor for peace, conflict resolution and prevention** as part of a revitalised rules-based multilateral system with the UN at its core
- ◆ Step-up **security and judicial cooperation** to better counter terrorism, cyber and hybrid threats as well as organised crime



Migration and mobility



- ✦ Enhance cooperation on migration on the basis of **comprehensive, balanced, tailor made and mutually beneficial partnerships**, in line with the **new Pact on Migration and Asylum**
- ✦ Address the **root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement** through conflict resolution and a targeted response to socio-economic challenges providing economic opportunities, especially for the youth
- ✦ Take advantage of opportunities from **legal migration and mobility**, in line with MS competences



Strengthen resilience, build prosperity & seize the digital transition



- ◆ Build **inclusive, resilient, sustainable and connected economies** by restoring trust in the business climate, encouraging economic diversification and improving interconnectivity
- ◆ Support the leap to the **digital transition**, both for the public and the private sector
- ◆ Support access to finance for **Small and Medium Enterprises** and financial inclusion



Green transition: climate resilience, energy, and environment

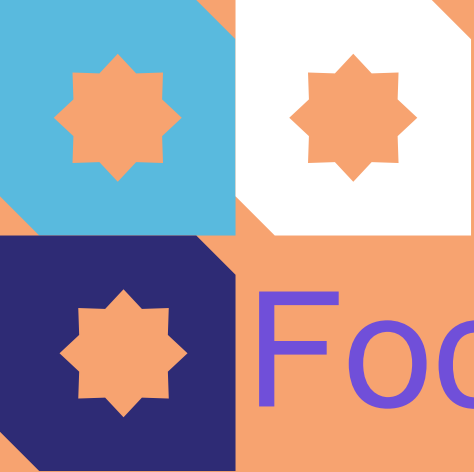
- ◆ Support countries in meeting their **climate commitments** and **strengthen their ambition**
- ◆ Drive **energy transition** and ensure **energy security**
- ◆ Encourage **resource efficiency**, including water and waste, protect terrestrial and marine **biodiversity**, and fight **pollution**
- ◆ Achieve transition to **sustainable food systems**



The Economic & Investment Plan for the Southern Neighbours

- ◆ 12 indicative **flagship initiatives in priority sectors**
- ◆ Based on concrete suggestions from partners and Delegations
- ◆ Aimed at strengthening resilience, building prosperity and increasing trade and investment to support **competitiveness** and **sustainable and inclusive socio-economic growth**
- ◆ **No prejudging the programming process**
– a conversation starter



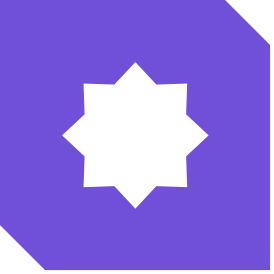


Focus on implementation

1. Ongoing negotiations on political priorities followed by adoption of multi-annual programming.
2. Development of **Team Europe Initiatives** with EU Member States
3. **Strategic Communications** – ensuring engagement receive adequate visibility







A few words on cooperation with Turkey

- ◆ 2021 - a year of increased engagement and dialogue.
- ◆ Turkey is eligible to participate and fully benefit from EFSD+ and capture development finance opportunities.
- ◆ Important themes include: **Green Deal, Global Gateways, Jobs and Growth.**



Thank you!



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