




# ★ EU Neighbourhood Policy

★  
PROF. DR. DR. ARNDT KÜNNECKE



“European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) aims at bringing the EU and its neighbours closer, to their mutual benefit and interest”

[EU NEIGHBOURS HOMEPAGE](#)

# EU Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

- ★ Launched in 2004 to help the EU support and foster stability, security and prosperity in its closest neighbourhood
- ★ Set as a framework to govern the EU's relations with 16 of the EU's Eastern and Southern Neighbours in order to achieve the closest possible political association and the greatest possible degree of economic integration

# EU Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

- ★ Governs the EU's relations with 16 of its closest neighbours
  - ★ **To the South**: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine\*, Syria\*\*, Tunisia
  - ★ **To the East**: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine
- ★ Russia takes part in Cross-Border Cooperation activities under the ENP, but is not part of the ENP as such

\* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine

\*\* Suspended bilateral cooperation with Syria and participation in regional programmes in 2011

# EU Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)



## PARTNER COUNTRIES

● European Union Member States

● Candidates and potential candidates for EU membership

(\*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

● European Neighbourhood Policy Partners

(\*\*) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

■ Capitals

● Jerusalem: Not recognised by the international community as the capital of Israel.



# EU Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

## ★ 1st review: 2011 (following the Arabian spring)


- ▶ major novelty: so-called 'more for more' principle, whereby additional reform efforts by partner countries were to be rewarded with additional financial and other support

## ★ 2nd review: 2015

- ▶ continuing defending the EU values and human rights
- ▶ also engaging partners in increased cooperation on security matters, in the light of a differentiated (tailor-made) approach to partner countries
- ▶ reinforced the principle of flexibility in order to accelerate assistance and to ensure it is better adapted to rapidly evolving political circumstances and priorities

# Focus of the ENP

- ★ Focus on stabilisation of the region, in political, socio-economic and security-related terms
  - ★ supporting the economic development of EU's partner countries
  - ★ improving the aspirations, hopes and prospects of the local population



“ Our most important challenge today is to find ways for the young men and women in our region to see a meaningful future; a sense of belonging to a local and global community where they can offer and get rewards for their individual skills. We need to send them the message that we see the future of this region as one of cooperation and exchange ”

JOHANNES HAHN, EU COMMISSIONER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY AND ENLARGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS (2014-2019)



# Political priorities of the ENP

## **(1) Good governance, democracy, rule of law and human rights**

- ▶ aiming at fostering a just, inclusive and stable society with maximal respect for human rights and space for civil society

## **(2) Economic development for stabilisation**

- ▶ creation of job opportunities for youth, as key measures for economic stabilisation in the region

# Political priorities of the ENP

## **(3) Security**

- ▶ mainly in the areas of conflict-prevention, counter-terrorism and anti-radicalisation policies, but also energy security and climate action

## **(4) Migration and mobility**

- ▶ tackles mobility on the one hand, and irregular migration, human trafficking and smuggling on the other

# Key Principles of the ENP

## ★ Differentiation and ownership

- ▶ recognising the different aspirations of the partner countries in developing their relations with the EU
- ▶ EU and each partner country set their partnership priorities together, focusing each relationship on shared interests

## ★ Flexibility

- ▶ in tailoring support to each partner country's ambitions
- ▶ in the use of financial assistance, enabling the EU to react more efficiently to new challenges, e.g. conflict and post-conflict needs, disaster response, security

# Implementation of the ENP

- ★ The EU provides its support to partners in the Neighbourhood region mainly through the **European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)**
- ★ ENI supports the ENP and turns decisions taken on a political level into actions on the ground

# EU Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)

## European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) 2014-2020



### ABOUT ENI

The ENI funds the European Neighbourhood Policy, a renewed commitment to bring the EU and its Neighbours closer, supporting political and economic reforms through cooperation programmes.



### BUDGET

**15.4**  
billion euro



Bulk of funding is used for bilateral co-operation, tailor-made on the needs of each partner country, and based on agreed partnership priorities or association agendas, which provide the framework for political engagement and co-operation

# EU Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)

- ★ ENI has replaced the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)
- ★ Reflects real needs and considerations that have emerged over the years
- ★ Regulation setting up the ENI underlines that it should give support to the implementation of the political initiatives shaping the ENP, including the Eastern Partnership and the Union for the Mediterranean

# Improvements of the ENI

- ★ Faster and more flexible, reducing the complexity and length of the programming process
- ★ Offering incentives for best performers through the **more-for-more approach** that allows the EU to increase its support to those partners that are genuinely implementing what has been jointly agreed

# Improvements of the ENI

- ★ More policy-driven based on the key policy objectives agreed with the partners, mainly in the ENP bilateral action plans
- ★ Greater differentiation so that the EU allocates a greater proportion of funds where aid can have the highest impact
- ★ Aim for mutual accountability so that it takes greater account of human rights, democracy and good governance when it comes to allocating assistance



# Improvements of the ENI

- ★ Encourage closer links between the EU and partner countries to enable their citizens to participate in successful EU internal programmes, such as on student mobility, youth programmes or support to civil society

# ENI targets

- ★ Fostering human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, equality, sustainable democracy, good governance and a thriving civil society
- ★ Achieving progressive integration into the EU internal market and enhanced co-operation including through legislative approximation and regulatory convergence, institution building and investments

# ENI targets

- ★ Creating conditions for well managed mobility of people and promotion of people-to-people contacts
- ★ Encouraging development, poverty reduction, internal economic, social and territorial cohesion, rural development, climate action and disaster resilience

# ENI targets

- ★ Promoting confidence building and other measures contributing to security and the prevention and settlement of conflicts
- ★ Enhancing sub-regional, regional and neighbourhood wide collaboration as well as Cross-Border Cooperation

# Priorities of the ENI



# Support by the ENI

Support through the ENI is programmed and given in three different ways:

- ★ **Bilateral programmes** covering support to one partner country;
- ★ **Multi-country programmes** which address challenges common to all or a number of partner countries, and regional and sub-regional cooperation between two or more partner countries;
- ★ **Cross-Border Cooperation programmes** between Member States and partner countries taking place along their shared part of the external border of the EU (incl. Russia)

# Regional Engagement of the ENP

The European Neighbourhood Policy supports regional cooperation initiatives:

- ★ **Eastern Partnership (EaP)**
- ★ **Union for Mediterranean (UfM)**
- ★ **Cross Border Co-operation (CBC)**

# Eastern Partnership

- ★ The **Eastern Partnership (EaP)** is a joint initiative involving the EU, its Member States and six Eastern European Partners: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine
- ★ Specific dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy aiming at building a common area of shared democracy, prosperity, stability and increased cooperation
- ★ Heads of state or government from the EU Member States and the six Eastern Partner countries meet every other year in Eastern Partnership Summits (last: 2017)



# Eastern Partnership

- ★ The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) was developed as a framework for relations with the EU's neighbouring countries in 2004
- ★ Eastern Partnership engagement is focused on the four priority areas of cooperation, agreed at the 2015 Riga Summit:
  1. **Stronger governance:** strengthening of institutions and good governance
  2. **Stronger economy:** economic development and market opportunities
  3. **Better connectivity:** interconnectivity; mobility
  4. **Stronger society:** people-to-people contacts

# Eastern Partnership

The pursuit of tangible results has resulted in 20 deliverables of Eastern Partnership cooperation for 2020:

- ★ Modernised transport connections through the TEN-T network
- ★ Increased political ownership of energy efficiency
- ★ Easier access to finance for SMEs, including to lending in local currency
- ★ Establishing ways of reducing roaming tariffs between partners by conducting a study
- ★ Increased trade opportunities
- ★ Greater outreach to grassroots Civil Society Organizations; and,
- ★ More support for youth

# Union for the Mediterranean

- ★ Promotes integration across 15 neighbours to the EU's south in North Africa, the Middle East and the Balkans
- ★ Formerly known as the Barcelona Process, co-operation with these neighbours was re-launched in 2008 as the **Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)**
- ★ Platform for political dialogue while making relations more operational, with the initiation of new regional and sub-regional projects relevant to those living in the region

# Members of the UfM

- ★ Encompasses the 28 EU Member States, the European Commission and 15 Mediterranean countries, which makes a total of 43 UfM member states:

Austria; Algeria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Czech Republic; Egypt; Finland; Germany; Hungary; Italy; Latvia; Lithuania; Malta; Monaco; Morocco; Portugal; Romania; Slovenia; Sweden; Tunisia; UK; Albania; Belgium; Bulgaria; Cyprus; Denmark; Estonia; France; Greece; Ireland; Israel; Jordan; Lebanon; Luxemburg; Mauritania; Montenegro; Netherlands; Palestine; Poland; Slovakia; Spain; Syria; Turkey

# Bodies of the UfM

- ★ Chaired by a **co-presidency** shared between the two shores of the Mediterranean – the EU on the Northern side, and Jordan on the Southern side
- ★ **Secretariat** in Barcelona focuses on identifying and promoting projects which enhance and strengthen regional co-operation and impact directly on the livelihoods of the citizens in order to improve socio-economic development, regional integration, sustainable development and the exchange of knowledge among and within the members of the UfM

# Bodies of the UfM

- ★ The **Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean** builds on the work of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly established in 2004 as the parliamentary dimension of the Partnership set up by the 1995 Barcelona Declaration
- ★ **Euro-Mediterranean Local and Regional Assembly** is a consultative assembly, which aims to increase the involvement of local and regional actors in the Union for the Mediterranean and to give it a territorial dimension

# Projects of the UfM

To achieve its goal, improving people's lives in the Euro-Mediterranean region, the UfM gathers regional, sub-regional, or transnational projects in 6 strategic priority areas:

- ★ business development
- ★ social and civil affairs
- ★ higher education and research
- ★ transport and urban development
- ★ water and environment
- ★ energy and climate action

# Cross-Border Co-operation

- ★ **Cross-Border Co-operation (CBC)** is a key priority of the ENI and seeks to reinforce cooperation between EU Member States and Partner Countries along the external EU borders
- ★ While the ENI targets external relations with neighbouring countries as a whole, CBC puts the focus on equal cooperation across the EU external borders at local and regional level
- ★ CBC was launched after the 2004-2007 enlargements, building on the Interreg model of cross-border cooperation within the EU itself



# Members of the CBC

- ★ **Member States\***: Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus, United Kingdom
- ★ **Neighbouring partner countries\***: Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Syria\*\*
- ★ **Other countries:** Russia, Turkey, Norway

\* The United Kingdom, Azerbaijan, Algeria and Libya do not participate

\*\* All cooperation with Syria is currently suspended

# Programmes of the CBC

- ★ 16 different ENI CBC programmes have been identified along the EU's external border in the 2014-2020 financing period
- ★ These programmes range from the North to the South and currently include 18 EU member states, 16 neighbouring Partner Countries as well as Norway, Turkey and Russia
- ★ The main beneficiaries of the CBC projects are local and regional administrations, NGOs and civil society organisations from both EU Member States and Neighbouring Partner Countries

# Objectives of the CBC

- ★ Participating countries in each programme define their specific priorities that fit in the 3 overarching strategic objectives as follows:
  - ★ promote economic and social development
  - ★ address common challenges in environment, public health, safety and security
  - ★ promote better conditions and modalities for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capital



E-mail: [kuennecke@web.de](mailto:kuennecke@web.de)

For any questions or  
further information  
contact me per e-mail

