

EN
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Answer given by Ms Šuica
on behalf of the European Commission
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The New Pact for the Mediterranean is one of the priorities for the Commission. The Pact is expected to offer a common political commitment across the Mediterranean with a focused and integrated approach on joint priorities. It will allow to deepen EU partnership with the Mediterranean through practical cooperation and have a stronger impact on areas of mutual interest such as trade, investment, economic stability, environment, energy, clean technology, climate mitigation and adaptation, digital and transport connectivity, security, migration and more.

The Commission intends to conduct thorough consultations with all relevant actors during the first half of 2025. Visits to the region will be organised to consult partner countries and engage with stakeholders, in particular the private sector and civil society, on how best to address shared challenges, invest in a common future and enable sustainable development and enhanced security.

Discussions will also take place with Member States, the European Parliament, civil society organisations, academic and research and business sectors, local and regional authorities. The outcome of these consultations will be reflected in the New Pact for the Mediterranean.

The consultations will determine the thematic orientations of the Pact that may include exploring further avenues for cooperation on environment protection. The EU, represented by the Commission, already takes active action in the protection of the marine environment, notably through the Barcelona Convention¹, of which it is a contracting party.

¹ <https://www.unep.org/uneppmap/who-we-are/contracting-parties/barcelona-convention-and-amendments>