(English version)

Question for written answer E-001911/25
to the Commission
Thomas Bajada (S&D)
(13 May 2025)

Subject: Financial backing for the New Pact for the Mediterranean

The recently announced New Pact for the Mediterranean, expected later this year, envisages building comprehensive partnerships focused on areas of mutual interest. New instruments would also require new financial backing.

In this regard, can the Commission clarify:

1. what the expected cost of the New Pact for the Mediterranean will be;

2. whether there will be new funding instruments to support its efficient and effective implementation;

3. whether there will be a prioritisation of funding, such as, but not limited to, enhancing areas of mutual interest that bring our southern neighbours closer to the EU at the diplomatic level?

Submitted: 13.5.2025

Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(13 August 2025)

The New Pact for the Mediterranean ('the Pact'), whose preparation has been entrusted to the Commission, in close cooperation with the European External Action Service, aims to shape a concrete, respectful, and lasting partnership between the EU and the 10 partner countries of the Southern Neighbourhood ([1]) that reflects shared aspirations and priorities. This means going beyond broad principles to define together initiatives and flagship projects that can deliver tangible results.

The Pact aims to pool existing resources and bring together the collective efforts of the EU and its partner countries to create a more stable and prosperous environment, conducive to investments from both the EU and the partner countries themselves.

Regarding future funding for initiatives that will be launched in the framework of the Pact, the Commission cannot pre-judge the outcome of the interinstitutional negotiations on the composition of the Multiannual Financial Framework from 2028 to 2034.

The Pact will also contain initiatives involving the private sector, international financial institutions and other partners to maximise its impact.

Moreover, consultations on the Pact with stakeholders from both sides of the Mediterranean will support the Commission in framing it around priorities that are shared and that are mutually beneficial for the EU and the partner countries.

Initiatives which will be undertaken in this framework should contribute to bringing the EU and the Southern Neighbourhood closer by addressing common interests which concretely benefit citizens.

([1]) The European Neighbourhood Policy includes 10 partner countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine*, Syria and Tunisia.
*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.