



European Committee  
of the Regions



Version of 3 May 2024

## NOTICE OF MEETING

### Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) Workshop on Civil Protection

**Co-chairs** Mina Bouhdoud, Mayor of Lagfifat (Morocco) and Apostolos Tzitzikostas, First Vice-President of the European Committee of the Regions (EL/EPP)

**Venue** Carcassonne, France

**Date** 1 July 2024  
4.00 – 6.30 p.m. (local time)

*Interpreting from/into AR, EN, FR, IT, TR (ES passive)*

*This workshop takes place as a concrete follow-up to the ARLEM report on Cities and regions' role in Mediterranean Civil Protection by rapporteur and host André Viola (FR/PES), adopted on 25 October 2023 in Alghero, Italy. The aim is to provide ARLEM members with concrete information on available programmes in the Mediterranean, as well as on opportunities for cooperation. These will be presented by key partners such as the Union for the Mediterranean and DG ECHO - European Civil Protection & Humanitarian Aid Operations, and will showcase best practices in civil protection.*

### Draft agenda

<b>3.45 p.m.</b>	<i>Participants arrive</i>
<b>4.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Hélène Sandragné</b>, President of the Departmental Council of Aude</li><li>- Statement by the <b>co-chairs</b> of the ARLEM Commission</li><li>- <b>UfM</b></li><li>- <b>DG ECHO</b></li></ul>
<b>4.15 p.m.</b>	<b>Roundtable 1: Cooperation and governance in Mediterranean Civil Protection</b> <i>Statement by Ms Mina Bouhdoud, Mayor of Lagfifat (Morocco), Co-chair of the ARLEM Commission</i>



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	<p><i>This first roundtable will focus on the state of play of cooperation and collaboration in the Mediterranean in terms of civil protection, as well as the opportunities to link all levels of governance. Programmes and concrete projects in the European Union and the Mediterranean region will be presented, including the Mediterranean Framework on Civil Protection, the PPRD MED and huB46.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Tristan Simonart</b>, Team Leader International Cooperation, Civil Protection Horizontal Issues, DG ECHO – European Civil Protection &amp; Humanitarian Aid Operations</li> <li>– <b>Franck Proust</b>, President of Nîmes Métropole (FR/EPP) / <b>Adrien Mangiavillano</b>, Head of airport unit</li> <li>– <b>André Viola</b>, ARLEM rapporteur, member of the Departmental Council of Aude (FR/PES), and host</li> </ul> <p>Discussion and exchange of best practices with members</p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>How does cooperation on wildfires represent an opportunity to strengthen links between Euro-Mediterranean countries?</i></li> <li>– <i>What are the connecting elements that still need to be improved between Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and the sub-national and local levels? How can local communities and municipalities contribute to this?</i></li> <li>– <i>In what way, at the end, is civil protection, as a whole, a factor of peace, stability and development? And what are the public policy levers that can encourage societies to be more resilient?</i></li> </ul>
5.00 p.m.	Coffee break
5.15 p.m.	<p><b>Roundtable 2: Case studies: Prevention, Preparedness and Response</b></p> <p><i>Statement by Mr Apostolos Tzitzikostas, First Vice-President of the European Committee of the Regions (EL/EPP), Co-chair of the ARLEM Commission</i></p> <p><i>During the second roundtable, several specific on-going case studies will highlight concrete actions in the Mediterranean taking place in the domain of wildfirerisks, which aim to create synergies on issues common to the region and closely linked to the local level.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Representative from Project WUI (Forest Habitat interface against forest fires in Ariana, Tunisia)</i></li> <li>– <i>Representative from the cross-border Tunisian-Algerian cooperation on Civil protection</i></li> <li>– <i>Representative from the Risk assessment mission on palm-tree fires in the oasis, Morocco</i></li> <li>– <i>Representative from Junta de Galicia, Spain, USE4FOREST project, Interreg Sudoe</i></li> <li>– <i>Representative from Département of Pyrénées Orientales, France, COOPEREM project, Interreg Poctefa</i></li> </ul>



	<p>Discussion and exchange of best practices with members</p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>What are the main obstacles to the implementation of local projects in land use planning policies?</i></li> <li>- <i>What are the challenges of wildfire risk assessment and mitigation in the Euro-Mediterranean zone?</i></li> <li>- <i>How can the European Union, through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, further amplify its action other than in the capacity response in the event of a disaster?</i></li> </ul>
<b>6.10 p.m.</b>	<p><b>Closing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>André Viola</b>, ARLEM rapporteur, member of the Departmental Council of Aude (FR/PES)</li> </ul>
<b>6.30 p.m.</b>	End of the meeting