



SOUTH PROGRAMME¹ IMPLEMENTED BY THE PACE

<p>Theme of the Project</p>	<p>South Programme III (2018-2020) "Ensuring Sustainable Democratic Governance and Human Rights in South Mediterranean"</p> <p>South Programme II (2015-2017) "Towards Strengthened Democratic Governance in the Southern Mediterranean"</p> <p>South Programme I (2012-2014) "Strengthening democratic reform in the Southern Neighbourhood"</p>
<p>Parliamentary dimension implemented by the PACE</p>	<p>The parliamentary dimension of the South Programme project is focused on promoting of democratic values through awareness raising among parliamentarians of the Southern Mediterranean Region and promoting the role of national parliaments of the region in strengthening democracy, human rights and anti-discrimination in their countries through the legislative reforms and Interparliamentary political dialogue on peer-to-peer basis.</p> <p>Another challenge is to strengthen the capacity building and skills of the staff members of national parliaments of the neighbourhood region to support them in assisting the parliamentarians in the definition and adoption of relevant legislation in compliance with the Council of Europe standards.</p> <p>The added value of the PACE activities is its recognised expertise in the field of democracy and democratic institutions but also in the fields of expertise of its Committees, such as: democracy issues, legal and human rights, social rights, culture and media, migration issues, equality and non-discrimination. PACE shares with the partner countries its rich collection of adopted texts and the experience of its members, representing 48 member states.</p> <p>Thanks to the implementation of the South Programme, PACE became a platform for an enlarged political dialogue and the centre of an effective regional Interparliamentary cooperation in the Southern Mediterranean Region.</p>
<p>Public</p>	<p>Parliamentarians and staff members of national parliaments of the Southern Mediterranean Region;</p> <p>Co-operation at national and regional level with the Parliaments of Morocco and Jordan and with the Palestinian National Council, Partners for Democracy to the PACE;</p> <p>Co-operation at regional level with the Parliaments of Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia.</p>

¹ South Programme – joint programme financed by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe

<p>Objectives and expected results</p>	<p>South Programme III (2018-2020): This action will be carried out mainly at the regional level and will focus on the development of interparliamentary cooperation and the strengthening of Parliament's role in the development of legislation and policies in line with Council of Europe standards in a few specific areas of common interest, in order to achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To build democratic security in the Mediterranean - the role of the Parliament in democratic stability of the Region through political dialogue with their neighbourhood; drafting and adopting national laws in compliance with Council of Europe democratic standards; improving the inter-institutional collaboration and consultations with the civil society; - To develop migration and Diaspora policies aiming at facilitating the economic exchanges and Diasporas contribution to the development of their countries of origin and host countries through creation of synergies between public authorities and Diasporas civil societies; to combat radicalisation of migrants through more inclusive policies for Diasporas populations; - To improve women's participation in political life – the role of the Parliament in developing democratic instruments giving an equal access to women to political parties, parliaments and elections; - To make progress in combating violence against women in the Southern Mediterranean countries through a better legislation and policies combatting violence against women, as well as their effective implementation; - To develop regional parliamentary cooperation between neighbourhood countries of the region and with the Council of Europe member states on specific topics of common interest such as migration, diaspora or equality and non-discrimination issues. <p>South Programme II (2015-2017) In this period the following expected results were obtained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An effective support was provided to the parliamentarians and staff of Parliaments in the constitutional processes and the reform and development of new legislative frameworks, especially to the Parliaments of Morocco and Jordan and to Palestinian National Council. This support covered the awareness raising in regards of the functioning of democratic governance and implementation of necessary parliamentary structures to promote and protect parliamentary democracy and human rights; • The promotion of Council of Europe standards and conventions open to the neighbourhood countries in order to consolidation a common legal space between Europe and the Southern Mediterranean was developed; • The regional interparliamentary cooperation was developed in the areas of democracy, the Rule of law and human rights through the creation and support of formal and informal networks between Europe and Southern Mediterranean countries, such as Parliamentary Diaspora Network, Conferences on migration issues. <p>South Programme I (2012-2014) In 2011 the Council of Europe adopted its policy towards neighboring regions, which had three objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to facilitate the democratic political transition; 2. to contribute to promoting good governance; 3. to strengthen and expand the Council of Europe's regional action in the fight against trans-border and global threats such as trafficking in human beings, organized crime, terrorism, etc. <p>A link was also established between this Council of Europe policy and the new Neighborhood Policy of the European Union to jointly support the reform processes in the states of the Mediterranean region under the so called “South Programme”. This joint programme was structured around four components; the fourth component aiming at the promotion of democratic values and reinforcement of democracy in the South Mediterranean Regions was the one implemented by the PACE at parliamentary level. In 2012-2014, PACE mainly developed activities with the Parliament of Morocco, its first Partner for Democracy [see Resolutions 1680 (2009) and 1818 (2011)] and organised a first regional conference with other partner Parliaments of the region: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia and Palestinian National Council.</p>
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<p>PACE Reference texts</p>	<p>PPSD (2018) 05 rev. <i>Summary Report on Activities in the framework of the South Programme implemented by the PACE in 2012-2017</i> http://website-pace.net/documents/10643/4306264/PPSD-2018-05-EN.pdf/bfc5da99-a39a-4088-b152-875295361552</p> <p>Resolution 2183 (2017) <i>on Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan</i></p> <p>Resolution 2105 (2016) <i>Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Palestinian National Council</i></p> <p>Resolution 2086 (2016) <i>on Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of Jordan</i></p> <p>Resolution 2061 (2015) <i>Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco</i></p> <p>Resolution 1969 (2014) <i>Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Palestinian National Council</i></p> <p>Resolution 1942 (2013) <i>Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco</i></p> <p>Resolution 1940 (2013) <i>on Situation in the Middle East</i></p> <p>Resolution 1831 (2011) <i>Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the emerging democracies in the Arab world</i></p> <p>Resolution 1830 (2011) <i>on Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Palestinian National Council</i></p> <p>Resolution 1818 (2011) <i>Request for Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of Morocco</i></p> <p>Resolution 1680 (2009) <i>Establishment of a “partner for democracy” status with the Parliamentary Assembly</i></p> <p>Resolution 1598 (2008) <i>Strengthening co-operation with the Maghreb countries.</i></p>
<p>Activities</p>	<p>South Programme III (2018-2020)</p> <p>Geneva, 18 May 2018: Forum on Diaspora, “Diasporas as partners for development in the globalised world”</p> <p>Rabat, 5 July 2018: “Regional Conference on women and politics: how to progress toward equality”</p> <p>Paris, 20 September 2018: Regional Conference on “Legislation and policies on violence against women. Legislative progress and international standards in Southern Mediterranean countries”</p> <p>Kyiv, 24 September 2018: Regional Conference “Platform for co-operation policies: role of diaspora associations and synergies with public authorities”</p> <p>Dubrovnik, 6 November 2018: Regional Conference on “Building democratic security in the Mediterranean: Common challenges, shared responsibility”</p> <p>South Programme II (2015-2017)</p> <p>Lagos (Portugal), 30-31 March 2015: Regional Conference on “How to facilitate dialogue on migration issues between the two shores of the Mediterranean region”</p> <p>Strasbourg, 16-17 November 2015 : Information Seminar on the Council of Europe for staff members of the Palestinian National Council and of the Parliament of Jordan</p> <p>Amman, 30 May 2016 : Seminar on parliamentary democracy for the Parliament of Jordan, Partner for Democracy to the PACE</p> <p>Lisbon, 24-25 November 2016: Lisbon Forum 2016 and a Regional Conference on “Migration and human rights. How to structure effective collective action?”</p> <p>Rome, 2-3 March 2017: Capacity building seminar on public policies for the staff of the Moroccan Parliament</p> <p>Lisbon, 7-8 September 2017: Launching Regional Conference of the Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies</p>

	<p>Strasbourg, 20-22 November 2017: Training seminar for senior staff of the Parliament of Jordan</p> <p>Rabat, 8 February 2018: Regional meeting of the Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies on “Prevention of migrants’ radicalisation through integration: the role of parliaments and diaspora associations”</p> <p>South Programme I (2012-2014)</p> <p>Strasbourg, 5 and 6 July 2012: Study visit of Secretaries Generals of the two Chambers of the Parliament of Morocco and establishment of prerogatives of the co-operation programme for 2012-2014</p> <p>Rabat, 8 November 2012: Seminar on controls exerted by Parliaments on Government’s actions</p> <p>Strasbourg, 19 and 20 December 2012: Information seminar on the Council of Europe for staff members of the Moroccan Parliament</p> <p>Rabat, 15 May 2013: Seminar on popular legislative initiative</p> <p>Brussels, 19 and 20 June 2013: Information seminar on the European Institutions for staff members of the Moroccan Parliament</p> <p>Lisbon, 5-8 November 2013: Lisbon Forum 2013 and Regional Conference on the political changes in the South Mediterranean and in the Middle East: the role of representative institutions</p> <p>Rabat, 19 June 2014: Seminar on the roles of the opposition and the majority</p> <p>Strasbourg, 11-12 December 2014: Capacity building Seminar on Council of Europe policies for staff members of the Moroccan Parliament</p>
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