

**Question for written answer E-008542/2014**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Rachida Dati (PPE)**

Subject: VP/HR - New cultural lease of life for the Union for the Mediterranean

In the new European Commission, Ms Federica Mogherini will succeed Baroness Catherine Ashton as High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and will therefore be called on to assume the role of Co-President of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

During the hearings, the incoming High Representative underlined the need to strengthen cooperation between the European Union and other regional organisations, including the UfM.

Going beyond security, immigration and economic concerns, strengthening our links with the UfM will also necessarily involve enhancing our cultural relationships, through which we are able to gain a deeper understanding of each other. To this end, we may envisage further promoting the development of dual diplomas split between Mediterranean countries, or else further encouraging the exchanging of ideas and sharing of experiences through so-called 'profession hubs'.

As a member of the Committee on Improving Quality of Life, Exchanges between Civil Societies and Culture of the Parliamentary Assembly of the UfM, I would be very grateful if the honourable High Representative could answer the following question:

What cultural initiatives does the High Representative intend to implement in order to give a new lease of life to the Union for the Mediterranean?