

Question for written answer E-010061/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Philippe Juvin (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Future projects of the Union for the Mediterranean

At her hearing before the European Parliament, Federica Mogherini stressed that in order to meet current Euro-Mediterranean challenges, the European Union needed to strengthen collaboration with the regional cooperation bodies, such as the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the 5+5 dialogue. After a period in the doldrums, the UfM has enjoyed something of a recovery, thanks to greater involvement of the UfM co-presidencies and ministers, who have organised ministerial meetings in a number of sectors since September 2013, including a meeting on 30 September 2014 dedicated to the digital sector.

The ministerial declaration adopted on that occasion identified a number of specific projects for support: EU-MED-CONNECT – a project to interconnect university networks, the Euro-Mediterranean open data charter, the long-term e-health strategy, the development of digital-based twinning and a Euro-Mediterranean interoperability framework, with specific reference to electronic signature.

1. How does the Commission intend to strengthen the collaboration between the Union and the UfM and boost the regional body's new-found dynamism?
2. Will these digital projects be supported by the Horizon 2020 programme and the European Neighbourhood Instrument?
3. Does the Commission envisage launching Euro-Mediterranean industrial cooperation in the digital arena?