

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY** Our key principles up close

Countdown till the third regional dialogue around EU-Arab Partnership  
30-31 October 2015  
Beirut, Lebanon

EuroMed Non-Governmental Platform  
Plate-forme non gouvernementale EuroMed  
منبر المنظمات غير الحكومية للمنتدى الأروموسطى

annd  
Arab NGO Network for Development  
شبكة المنظمات العربية غير الحكومية للتطوير

**solidar**

## THE EU-ARAB PARTNERSHIP SHOULD PROMOTE A RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT!

**SOLIDAR** together with the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) and the Euromed Non-Governmental Platform is organising the Third EU Regional conference on the EU-Arab Partnership, from 30-31 October 2015.

On 30 October 2015, 80 participants from CSOs from the Arab region and Europe, will discuss the ongoing challenges in the MENA region related to **shifting from a security-oriented to a rights-based approach to Migration**. MEP **Cécile Kashetu Kyenge**, member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, will join this panel debate in order to shed light on the role of the EU in tackling the root causes of migration, by adopting a rights-based approach to migration and sustainable development.

The session will consider how the revised European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) can ensure a rights-based approach to migration policy, aimed at targeting the root causes of migration flaws, ensuring the respect for fundamental rights of migrants and deconstructing the discourse of the securitisation of borders, reconsidering the Mobility Partnerships, and promoting equal access to health, education and housing services for all.

### In this light, **SOLIDAR** insists that the partnership should:

- Open **safe and lawful channels** to the EU for people seeking international protection
- Activate coordinated measures to manage the **current exceptional situation of mass influx of refugees** by ensuring full respect of human rights obligations.
- Rethink the EU security policy and its consequences on **criminalising mobility**
- This should be strengthened by using the **EU accession strategy** as a tool to enhance human rights protection in candidate countries - including the rights of refugees and migrants - instead of a way to stop migration flows.
- Promote a **rights-based approach to mobility and migration as an integral component of the new ENP**, by promoting decent working and social conditions for all migrants (conform to international labour standards), extending social protection for migrant women, men and children in countries of origin and destination, increasing migrant participation and contributing in public policy planning and implementation, facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, through enhanced international cooperation.
- With regards to **development aid**, rather than cutting budgets, the EU should encourage the implementation of UN Geneva Convention for Refugees 1951 and the ratification of UN Migrant Worker Convention as well

as the ILO Conventions 97 and 143 on migrant workers. Mobility partnership agreements should not be limited to release visas to qualified workers only, but should provide third countries' nationals with the opportunity to enter the EU.

- Reconsider the **EU's engagement with third countries**, by building on existing relevant policy frameworks, such as the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy and the ENP, therefore contributing to provide a coherent response by linking Home and Foreign Affairs. At the same time, partnerships and agreements signed with countries, where frequent violations of the rights of migrants and refugees occur, should exclude readmission clauses.

**SOLIDAR and its members and partners are organising the European Neighbourhood Days that will take place from 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in Brussels. You can register now for our two public events;**

**'Defending Civil Society Space. EU-Arab Dialogue: Rebuilding relations with European Southern Neighbourhood Countries'**

Seminar organised by CONCORD, Euromed Non-Governmental Platform and the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND).

16 November 2015 , 09:30 – 16:30 at the EESC

[Programme](#)

[Online Registration](#)

**'The EU as a peace promoter in the Middle East and North Africa: between human rights and security'**

Roundtable debate organised by SOLIDAR, Euromed Non-Governmental Platform and the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) hosted by Pier Antonio Panzeri , MEP.

17 November 2015, 18:00 – 20:00 at the European Parliament

[Programme](#)

[Online Registration](#)

# EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY DAYS

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**JOIN US** 16- 17 NOVEMBER 2015  
Brussels

With public debates on

Defending Civil Society Space. EU-Arab Dialogue:  
Rebuilding relations with European Southern Neighbourhood Countries

The EU as a peace promoter in the Middle East and North Africa: between human rights and security



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