



*European Economic and Social Committee*

2016 Euro-Mediterranean Summit of Economic and Social Councils  
and Similar Institutions  
Athens-Greece, 24 & 25 October 2016

## **SHORT DESCRIPTION**

### **Background and objectives**

The Euro-Mediterranean Summit of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions aims at promoting greater understanding of the main issues affecting organised civil society in the Euromed region and at discussing the common challenges they face.

These Summits bring together some 120 participants from a range of economic and social councils, or similar institutions, representatives of employers, trade unions, other economic and social interests groups and NGOs from countries which are members of the Union for the Mediterranean.

This year, the exchange will focus on the following topics:

- The challenges of migration in the region
- Women participation in labour force and as entrepreneur
- Civil society and climate change in the Mediterranean region in the view of the COP22
- Social security

As on previous occasions, the meeting will conclude with the adoption of a final declaration that will be sent to the political authorities involved in the Euromed Ministerial Summits as civil society's contribution to the summits, and disseminated widely amongst civil society organisations in the region.

In accordance with the decision taken at the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference in Barcelona in November 1995, the Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions of the European Union and the Euromed partner countries have regularly held Summits since 1995.

The 2016 Euro-Mediterranean Summit is organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). The event is co-financed by the European Commission.

**Venue:** *tbc*

**Date:** 24-25 October 2016

**Participants**

- Representatives of economic and social councils and similar institutions of the Euromed region;
- Representatives of employers, trade unions and other economic and social-occupational organisations of the Euromed region;
- A delegation of European Economic and Social Committee members;
- Representatives from NGOs of the Euromed region;
- Representatives from the EU institutions;
- Representatives of the Union for Mediterranean;
- representatives of international organizations related to the topics to be discussed
- Press representatives;
- Observers.

**For more information**

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