# LEBANON

### Southern Neighbourhood

## **Key milestones**

#### • APRIL 2006

The EU-Lebanon Association Agreement entered into force

#### **NOVEMBER 2016**

Lebanon **Partnership** Priorities for 2016-2020 and **Compact** to address the

#### **DECEMBER 2020**

Adoption of the **Reform, Recovery** and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) World Bank

#### **MAY 2024**

package of **€1 billion** for 2024 to 2027



Security and Counter-terrorism





Fostering Growth and Job opportunities



In 2022, EU-Lebanon two-way trade in goods amounted to €6.26 **billion.** The EU is Lebanon's first trading partner, accounting for 28.4% of its total trade in goods in 2022, 32% of its imports and 12.4% of its exports.



Around 4,198 Lebanese students, professors and university staff travelled to Europe and 2,185 European counterparts travelled to Lebanon between 2015 and 2023.





## EU funding and programmes

#### The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation

Instrument (NDICI) is the main instrument for the EU's cooperation and development with Lebanon for the period 2021-2027. From 2021 to 2023, overall assistance to the country amounted to €570.5 million:

- The EU bilateral allocation during this period amounted to €161 million in support of good governance and reforms, inclusive and resilient economy, and green and sustainable recovery.
- In response to the Syrian crisis, EU support to Lebanon amounted to €384.5 million from 2021 to 2023. it aims to ensure access to basic services: education, health, water and sanitation and social protection benefiting all, refugees from Syria and host communities.
- Due to the impact of Russia's war against Ukraine, the EU allocated €25 million to Lebanon in 2022 via the EU Food and Resilience Facility to reduce socio-economic insecurity of the most vulnerable segment of the population.
- In addition, Lebanon benefitted from the European Peace Facility with an amount of €6 million in 2023.
- Lebanon also benefits from other EU programmes and instruments, such as the Human Rights and **Democracy** instrument, with EUR 6.95 million and EUR 2 M for the **Support to Civil Society** programme, for the period 2021-2024.
- Regarding Palestine refugees, the EU contributes to the central budget of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and support projects in Lebanon.

# EU response to challenges & crises

- Out of the more than €3 billion that the EU has provided to Lebanon since the beginning of the Syrian crisis in 2011, €2.6 billion has been provided in response to the Syrian crisis to refugees from Syria and vulnerable Lebanese.
- After the 4 August 2020 Beirut Port Blast, the EU has developed with the UN and World Bank the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) that bridges the immediate humanitarian assistance with medium-term recovery and reconstruction and is contributing to its implementation.
- Lebanon is the neighbouring country most affected by the Israel-Hamas war. In the southern part of the country, more than 90,000 people are displaced and face economic losses. In this context, the EU is adapting its ongoing support and ensures, for instance, the continuity of health services for the populations affected.

**Partnership priorities**