



LIBYA

Southern Neighbourhood



Key milestones

FEBRUARY 2011

The EU suspends its cooperation with Libya as a reaction to the brutal crackdown by the Gadhafi regime against demonstrators. Needs based humanitarian assistance is however maintained.

2014-2016

Reorientation of EU cooperation to address the most pressing needs of the Libyan population

NOVEMBER 2015

Launch of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa at the Valletta Summit on Migration

SINCE 2017

Use of yearly 'Special Measures' to implement EU's bilateral cooperation due to Libya's unstable political situation



EU-Libya Relations

Following the 'Arab Spring' uprising in 2011, the EU rapidly responded to the needs of the Libyan population in close cooperation with the United Nations Support Mission for Libya (UNSMIL). Since then, EU policy towards Libya aims at assisting the country in its efforts towards a democratic, stable and prosperous state through the so-called **'Berlin Process'** under the auspices of the UN. This involves promoting a democratic transition, strong, transparent and accountable institutions and vibrant civil society. Furthermore, the EU is actively working to provide protection, assistance and economic alternatives to migrants, refugees and internally displaced people in Libya.



Trade & investment

- The EU is Libya's main trading partner. In 2021, **35.3%** of Libya's imports originated from the EU, while **66.4%** of Libya's exports were directed towards the EU. The EU-Libya two-way trade in goods amounted to €28.3 billion.
- In 2020, total trade in services between EU and Libya amounted to €600 million.
- In 2019, EU Foreign Direct Investments stocks in Libya amounted to €19 billion and Libya FDI stocks in the EU to €1.4 billion.



EU-Libya Cooperation priorities



Governance



Economic development



Health



Support to civil society and youth



EU funding

- The EU provides support to Libya through the **European Neighbourhood Instrument** with **€98 million** in the period 2014-2020.
- Libya is the main beneficiary of the **EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa** – North Africa window (EUTF Africa) with a current total of **€465 million**, out of which the majority goes to the protection and assistance of migrants, refugees and internally displaced people, alongside actions to support municipalities along the migratory routes and to strengthen the integrated border management.
- Libya also benefits from EU thematic programmes and instruments such as the **Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace**, the **European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights**, the **Development Cooperation Instrument** and its Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities programmes.
- Under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument bilateral envelope, the EU adopted two new programmes aiming at supporting democratic governance, the rule of law, private sector development and sound economic policies (**€20 million** in total).



COVID-19 crisis response

The EU reacted fast and responded to the urgent needs of Libya and its citizens. As part of Team Europe, the EU mobilised a tailor-made response package of over **€65 million**, to support health related needs, such as personal protective equipment and training for health workers, and socio-economic recovery. In addition to this, the EU allocated **€23.1 million** under the EUTF Africa for specific COVID-19 actions, which particularly focus on Libya's most vulnerable communities, including refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants and their host communities. These COVID-19 response actions come in addition to existing EU programmes supporting the Libyan public health sector. Libya receives vaccines through the COVAX Facility, supported by Team Europe with over €3 billion, and bilaterally from EU Member States.