

Newsletter

EU NEIGHBOURS SOUTH

2025



EU Neighbours South is part of the EU-funded Regional Communication Programme for the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods. Running until December 2025, the programme aims to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve public understanding of the European Union and its policies, enhance strategic communication actions and build resilience against disinformation in the [Southern Neighbourhood](#).

HIGHLIGHTS



Media Week 2025: A Celebration of Youth and Journalism

From 3 to 9 July, EU Neighbours South held its first **Media Week**, nurturing the next generation of **Southern Neighbourhood journalists** through digital and in-person activities on constructive reporting, coaching, networking and regional cooperation.

Highlights included interviews and online sessions on **constructive journalism**, women in media entrepreneurship and **ethical reporting** including interviews from Les Assises du Journalisme with Her Royal Highness Princess Rym Ali and Lebanese Information Minister Dr Paul Morcos. The week concluded with **Newsroom Connect**, a **48-hour hackathon** in **seven countries** that brought together more than **50 journalism students** and **30 media experts** and senior journalists to create multimedia content addressing regional challenges and solutions.

[See the photos](#)



EU Neighbours South @ ALForum 2025

EU Neighbours South joined members of its networks who had been invited by the **Anna Lindh Foundation** to attend its notorious Forum, in Tirana, which returned after an 8 years hiatus. This year's Forum marked the **20th anniversary of the Foundation** and the **30th anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership**, and was attended by **over 1,000 participants from 43 countries**. **EU Jeel and Media Connectors** participated as moderators, speakers and media partners, promoting **youth participation**, regional cooperation and shared values through interviews, social media and behind-the-scenes coverage.

A key moment for EU Neighbours South was its own **roundtable** on “**Public and Cultural Diplomacy in Action**”, where its youth networks (EU Jeel Connect, Media Connect and #InTheirEyes) were presented and highlighted through discussions involving journalist and Media Connector Sandra Sami, EU Jeel Connector Mohamed Alouane and InTheirEyes community member Baha Essanaghi. All three of them exchanged with **Director General Stefano Sannino** who was sitting on the panel and shared his views about the importance of youth in the process of co-creating the **new Pact for the Mediterranean** and shaping **DG MENA’s** policies for the region.

[Check the pictures](#)



New Video Series Brings Youth Closer to the EU

Allo Brussels is a new interactive video series that promotes direct dialogue between young people from the **Southern Neighbourhood** and officials from the EU. **EU Jeel and Media Connectors** shared short filmed questions on topics such as EU policies, **youth opportunities** and **regional co-operation**, which were answered on camera by **EU officials and experts**. In more than 10 episodes shared on social media so far, topics ranging from culture and sustainable fashion to women’s empowerment and the green transition were covered to strengthen **exchange and engagement** across the Mediterranean region.

A spin-off, **Allo Daniel**, was launched to introduce **Daniel Coleman**, the **new official EU spokesperson in Arabic** for the MENA region. In this series, Daniel answers questions from youth, touching on both professional and personal topics. Questions range from his journey with the Arabic language, his favourite ways of discovering a new country, and his priorities as the EU spokesperson for the region. He also addresses what **opportunities** the EU offers youth, creating another space for open, relatable and multilingual dialogue.

[Watch the videos](#)



Libyan Youth Take the Lead in Inspiring Workshop

EU Jeel Connector Hawwa Altaeb led an interactive online session titled “**How Thinking Like a Researcher Can Empower You in Life, Work, and Initiatives**”. Designed for young professionals and aspiring entrepreneurs, the workshop explored how **research thinking** can enhance decision-making, fuel **innovation** and support personal and professional growth. Participants were introduced to **practical research methods**, ways to apply research to real-life challenges, and opportunities offered by EU programmes such as **Erasmus+ and IBTIKAR**. A total of 117 people registered, reflecting strong interest in the EU Jeel Connectors initiative and its capacity-building activities. The session proved highly interactive. Discussions, **idea exchanges and critical thinking** exercises helped participants grasp the core principles of research thinking. The positive response was evident, with several attendees expressing **interest in more EUJC-led initiatives**.

[Learn more here](#)



EU
NEIGHBOURS
SOUTH

March 15 , 2024
2:00 P.M

UE jeel connect
Virtual Room

CREATING CONTENT THAT CONNECTS

Content creation and social media workshop

Christina Fakhry
Merzaia Baraka
Abdulhamid Gait

EU Jeel Connect Workshop on Social Media Storytelling

Ghaith Allibi, an **EU Jeel Connector from Libya**, teamed-up with Baraka Merzaia, a member of the **InTheirEyes Community from Algeria**, to deliver 'Creating Content that Connects'. This engaging online workshop was designed to inspire young creatives through the art of storytelling. Drawing from their personal journeys as content creators within **EU-supported networks**, Ghaith and Baraka shared how **authentic narratives** can spark dialogue, **strengthen communities** and **drive change**. The session combined practical guidance with personal inspiration, encouraging participants to craft **impactful content** rooted in their own experiences. Part of the workshop also reflected on successful **social media campaigns** by EU Neighbours South, offering lessons learned and concrete examples. Christina Fakhry from EU Neighbours South complemented the discussion with a presentation on the latest social media trends for 2025 and showcased standout videos from various EU-funded projects.

[Find out more](#)



حديث مع
الشفيرة

Media Connectors Meet EU Ambassadors

The EU Neighbours South programme has launched a **new video interview** series «**Hadith maa Safir.a**», run by **Media Connectors**, and featuring conversations with EU Ambassadors in their respective countries. Blending professionalism with a more personal touch, the series offers **concise interviews** interspersed with rapid-fire questions. The first three episodes, released on the occasion of **International Women's Day**, featured the women EU Ambassadors in Lebanon, Egypt and Morocco. The series has since continued with a new episode , featuring an interview with the **EU ambassador to Tunisia** and the format remains available for EU Delegations to replicate with the support of Media Connectors.

[Watch the videos](#)



Media Connect Press Trip: Youth Voices in Journalism

EU Neighbours South invited **nine Media Connectors**, young journalists and journalism students from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria and Tunisia, to take part in a press trip to at the third edition of the **Agora of Journalism** in the Mediterranean that took place in Marseille on April 28, 29 and 30. During the Forum, they produced a wide range of original content such as **videos, interviews and social media posts** on a topic of their choice and animated their own stand, which included an interview room and served as an interactive centre for participants.

The EU Neighbours South programme contributed to the Agora with several **side activities**, including a roundtable discussion on **constructive journalism** and another entitled «**Keeping the Flame Alive**», which brought together **experienced and young journalists** to reflect on the future of the profession. The delegation also took part in a special **Radio Grenouille programme** presenting the aims and achievements of the **Media Connect network**.

[Find out more](#)

Spotlight on



EU Jeel Connect in Tunisia: Driving Dialogue, Innovation and Awareness

Tesnime Khemiri, **EU Jeel Connector**, brought together students, educators, and EU representatives for a **Night Talk** at the Université Internationale de Tunis. Under the theme “**Digital Transition & Education**,” the event sparked discussions on how **digital transformation** is reshaping the **learning experience** in Tunisia. Participants explored both the opportunities and challenges of digital access and discovered EU-funded programmes such as Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe.

Meanwhile, Zakaria Ayadi, also an **EU Jeel Connector**, launched a **video series** marking international days through stories of EU-funded projects making a difference on the ground. The first episode, released for **World Environment Day**, spotlighted the **GREENOVI project**, an initiative supporting **Tunisian startups** that **develop sustainable and innovative** solutions.

[Find out more](#)

NEWS

EBRD & EU foster climate mitigation in Morocco



Closing Event after 7 Years of Clima-Med in Lebanon



EU's support to persons with disabilities in Egypt



EU & Tunisia: Cooperation on Infrastructure Projects



OPPORTUNITIES

WestMED Project Awards 2025



Call to support cultural activities in Alexandria



European Week of Regions and Cities



Day of the Mediterranean: Call for Music Performances

