

5+5 Civil Society Dialogue Forum

The Mediterranean Youth of The Anna Lindh Foundation: Advocacy, Debate & Action

(Marseille, 28th October 2016)

As the region's Central institution and reference point for intercultural dialogue, the Anna Lindh Foundation has spent more than a decade investing in the idea of cooperation between people across the Mediterranean region. Operating from Alexandria across the 42 Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), the Foundation as intergovernmental institution working for and with the largest network of civil society across the EuroMed. has developed a unique capacity to play a bridging role, bringing together civil society and grass-root initiatives with regional institutions and opinion-leaders.

The Ministerial Meeting "5+5" Dialogue in Marseille is the first activity of communication and advocacy of the Anna Lindh Foundation to take place after the MED FORUM 2016, that will constitute the largest regional gathering of youth and actors from civil societies in order to discuss intercultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean.

The MED FORUM 2016 has been built on a unique participatory process launched 18 months ago with the participation of intercultural experts and national coordinators of the civil society networks, and representatives of the youth sector interinstitutional steering group. Through this process, the programme and the strategic themes have been defined. And they will be the bases for future advocacy initiatives and to regroup the activity of the main strategic partners in the region as well as the international organizations. The MEDFORUM is set to be a catalyst for collaboration, creating a far-reaching coalition of regional civil societies and institutional players, and a platform for a wider debate on the way forward towards making the Euro-Med region a space for peace, cooperation and development.

At the initiative of the French Government, the 5+5 Civil Society Dialogue Forum, will be an opportunity for the Anna Lindh Foundation to present the results and the recommendations of the MED FORUM 2016 to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries who are part of this initiative: Spain, France, Italy, Malta and Portugal, Mauritania, Algeria, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

In this regard the 5+5 Dialogue Forum presents a unique opportunity to engage Civil Society, Governments and Ministers in a debate on the wider regional agenda with inputs on the role of intercultural dialogue as a core component in international relations and on the necessity for the political actors to support the initiatives of the civil societies in this field.

The objectives of the ALF 5+5 Civil Society:

- 1) Amplify messages from the MEDFORUM 2016 and youth to decision-makers.**
Presenting the key recommendations of Civil Society and the representatives of the Mediterranean youth developed from the outputs of the MED FORUM 2016.
- 2) Scaling up/supporting innovative youth projects.** Highlighting contextualised youth led projects and good practices that are dealing with the current challenges in the region, and identifying from the MED FORUM 2016 conclusions of the intercultural initiatives that can be supported by the Government in the region
- 3) Reinforcing ALF's role as the region's central institution and Identifying conclusions from the MED FORUM 2016.** Capacity to gather the representatives of the youth sector in the region, along with the decision makers and to facilitate the discussion between them around the issues related to their common interests.

In line with the programme of the MedForum 2016, the following five topics will be addressed:

- Youth beyond Extremist Discourse
- Mobility and Exchange
- Migration and Intercultural Cities
- Education and Intercultural Learning
- Culture and Innovative Enterprises
- Dialogue with the Media

Transversal Theme: the role of Women

The Agenda of the / 5+5 Civil Society:

1st Session (from 9:30am to 3pm) –Discussion among ALF participants: Young leaders and Civil Society representatives will be discussing crucial Euro-Med issues based on the outcomes of the Med Forum 2016 and good practices proposals that will be presented to the Ministers.

2nd Session – Discussion with Ministers of Foreign Affairs: The participants will bring the recommendations to the attention of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and engage in an open discussion with them.