

# Re-launching a strategic partnership: EU and African Union



also a unique opportunity for the participants to engage the above mentioned issues and other considerations in a round table discussion with political representatives from Northern and Western Africa. Thus, young people from Europe and Africa had the chance to be involved and contribute their opinions to the policy makers. The

findings and conclusions of the seminar were disseminated throughout the LYMEC network

## Context/short summary:

After more than eleven years of implementation, the outcome of the Barcelona Process for a deeper dialogue between both shores of the Mediterranean Sea has shown contradiction, excessive bureaucracy and budgetary constraints. Following the LYMEC resolution of the 2007 Congress in Berlin, this seminar tried to tackle the same subject matter with participants from both shores of the Mediterranean. The seminar provided the perfect environment for the exchange of ideas between participants and experts on how strengthen the Euro-Mediterranean relationship, in light of the stagnant implementation phase of the partnership launched in Barcelona caused by factors such as the crisis in South East Europe and the instability in some Islamic countries due to the waves of religious fanaticism or the increasing violence in the Middle East. Amidst various working groups and panel discussions, the seminar provided

## Partners:

- LYMEC
- Partit Liberal Seccio Jove Andorra
- Joventut Nacionalista de Catalunya (JNC)
- Juventud Liberales del Siglo XXI
- European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party (ELDR)
- Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

## Objectives:

The main objective of this initiative was to critically assess the progress of the Barcelona Process. By involving young people from both continents and hosting the event in Barcelona, LYMEC aimed to avoid the typical theoretical jargon, but instead to give a real depth to the discussions on the Barcelona Process by those who are primarily affected. The seminar

## Europe: Barcelona, Spain

was a perfect ground for the exchange of ideas between participants and policy makers with the hope that they both take on board suggestions and considerations from each other.



## Target group:

The target group for this seminar was in the form of young liberals in Europe and Africa.

## Final beneficiaries:

Aside from the participants and invited guests, the final beneficiaries of this seminar included all those connected to the LYMEC network (including several MEPs) and all the recipients of our newsletter.

## Funding:

The funding was provided by the ELDR Party (<http://www.eldr.org>) and the ALDE Group in the European Parliament (<http://www.alde.eu>).

## Expected results:

The end results of the seminar was focused on having a more informed and involved youth both in Europe and Africa on how to strengthen the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and benefit both continents. The other important result was to have the voice of young people from both heard and considered by the current policy makers.

## Activities:

The activities for the seminar were mainly composed of work groups, open debates amongst participants and invited guests (experts on the subject matter) as well as a round table discussion.



## ENoP MEMBER FOUNDATION:

**LYMEC**

