



THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ARMENIA

May 2026



The EU is Armenia's **largest donor** and a key political and economic partner. EU-Armenia relations are based on the **Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**, in force since March 2021.

In December 2025, the two sides adopted the **Strategic Agenda for the EU-Armenia Partnership**, which sets ambitious priorities across good governance, security, economic development, and connectivity, including transport, energy and digital links. This new Agenda is underpinned by the **€270 million Resilience and Growth Plan** (2024-2027), centred around **three priorities**:

- Investing in connectivity and business
- Bringing Armenia closer to the EU
- Fostering a resilient and inclusive Armenian society

In May 2026, the first-ever **EU-Armenia Summit** in Yerevan marked a milestone in bilateral relations, highlighting a shared commitment to deepening cooperation.



TIMELINE

March 2021
Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

April 2024
Resilience and Growth Plan

December 2025
Strategic Agenda for the EU-Armenia Partnership

May 2026
First-ever EU-Armenia Summit in Yerevan

Humanitarian assistance

The EU allocated over **€78 million** to address the needs of **Karabakh Armenians**, including €21 million in humanitarian aid and €40 million in budget support to facilitate their socio-economic inclusion.

Civil society

The EU is committed to supporting civil society in Armenia, with a focus on strengthening democratic governance and policy dialogue. Assistance is channelled through projects under the **EU Country Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society in Armenia (2021–2027)**, whose priorities were defined in consultation with civil society organisations. For **2026**, the EU has announced a further **€9.6 million** to support inclusive communities, disability rights, youth- and women-led development, and visa liberalisation reforms.

Connectivity

A **Connectivity Partnership** between the EU and Armenia was launched following the EU-Armenia Summit in May 2026. This Partnership will be anchored in an EU-Armenia **High-Level Dialogue on Connectivity** and will focus on key projects in transport, energy and digital connectivity – strengthening security and resilience while unlocking Armenia’s tech potential, especially in AI and advanced technologies.

Visa liberalisation dialogue

This dialogue was launched in September 2024, and it steers reforms in substantial areas including the **security of travel documents, border management, migration and asylum, public order, external relations, and fundamental rights**. Once all the conditions outlined in the visa liberalisation action plan are met, Armenia will achieve a visa-free regime for short-stays in the EU.

Cooperation in the field of security and defence

Since February 2023, the **EU Mission in Armenia** has been present in Armenia to observe and report on the security situation along the Armenian side of the international border with Azerbaijan. The civilian mission contributes to human security in conflict-affected areas and supports confidence building. Its current mandate runs until February 2027.

In April 2026, the EU established the **EU Partnership Mission in Armenia**. This new civilian mission aims to enhance Armenia’s resilience, notably in countering foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), as well as in cybersecurity, and information integrity. The EU Partnership Mission in Armenia and the EU Mission in Armenia will operate alongside each other in the country, each with its distinct mandate and function.

The European Union has also allocated **€30 million** in non-lethal assistance to the **Armenian Armed Forces** through the **European Peace Facility**, €10 million in 2024 and €20 million in 2026. This funding aims to enhance logistical capabilities, improve civilian protection during crises, and strengthen Armenia’s resilience, while also promoting interoperability for potential future participation in EU-led missions. The assistance underscores the EU’s commitment to deepening its security partnership with Armenia.

Regional peace and stability

The EU works with the countries in the South Caucasus to promote regional **stability, peace, and prosperity**. The EU strongly supports the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The EU also supports the normalisation of relations between Armenia and Türkiye.

The recent momentum in the peace process offers important opportunities for Armenia, the wider region, and the EU, including through enhanced regional cooperation and the development of new transport, energy, and digital connectivity links. The EU supports closer cooperation in and with the South Caucasus through its **Strategic Approach to the Black Sea region** and a dedicated **Cross-Regional Connectivity Agenda**, fostering stronger regional integration and bringing economies and people closer together.



INSTITUTIONS

The EU provides substantial assistance for the implementation of key reforms on justice, police, fight against corruption and anti-discrimination, including through budget support and technical assistance. Support to democratic institutions is also provided through regional projects, such as the **Partnership for Good Governance** together with the **Council of Europe**.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESSES

In **2024**, the EU supported 11,853 SMEs through **40 projects**, generating over 27,300 new jobs, €232 million in additional income, and a 17.2% increase in SME turnover. In 2025, new EBRD-financed projects were signed, advancing trade diversification through the **Yerevan Customs and Logistics Centre** and expanding business opportunities for local communities.

In **2026**, following the EU-Armenia Summit in 2026, a **Call for Expression of Interest** was launched inviting EU companies to develop strategic investment projects in Armenia aligned with key EU priorities, including sustainable energy, transport, digital infrastructure, education and research, healthcare, and high value-added industry. This was complemented by the signature of **several Letters of Intent** with leading private companies, providing an initial indication of the types of investments the initiative aims to mobilise, and sending a clear message that Armenia is not only a partner to support, but also a partner that brings value to Europe through its talent, creativity, and knowledge.

These **Letters of Intent** cover:

- Private Equity Investment for Connectivity and Growth in Armenia
- Strategic Digital and Energy Connectivity
- Semiconductor design skills and education
- Digital, Creative and AI-Enabled Skills Development
- Creative Industries and Cultural Entrepreneurship
- Knowledge transfer, entrepreneurship, and investment

EDUCATION

The EU is providing **€32 million** in budget support and technical assistance for the education sector (2023-2025), with a focus on secondary education and improving access to quality education in rural areas. In 2025, the construction/renovation of 13 schools was initiated, 95% in all schools of Armenia introduced professional orientation clubs, half of the schools of the marzes (provinces) of Ararat, Kotayk, and Gegharkunik were equipped with at least 3 modern STEM labs, and over 90% of STEM teachers in grades 6, 8 and 11 were trained.

GREEN

The EU supports Armenia's green transition, including the renovation of around 47 kindergartens and six polyclinics in line with the most up-to-date energy efficiency standards and their installation with renewable energy systems. This also extends to Armenia's broader green agenda, notably in the context of its hosting of COP17.

DIGITAL

The EU is supporting Armenia's dynamic digital ecosystem, with a strong focus on developing digital talent and innovation. In this context, the **EU-TUMO Convergence Centre** is helping to build Armenia's next generation of digital skills. TUMO Labs has enrolled over 2,000 students, implemented 55 R&D projects with local tech companies, and deployed 30 student-developed connected devices nationwide. Its incubation programmes have supported 24 startups, with 30% progressing to international accelerators. Construction of the Centre's flagship building, backed by a €12.5 million EU grant, officially began in February 2026.



GLOBAL GATEWAY IN ARMENIA

Since 2021, through Global Gateway, the EU has been supporting SMEs' access to finance, energy efficiency solutions, the rehabilitation of education infrastructure and improved water management, among other sectors. Under the Global Gateway strategy, EU investments in Armenia are expected to reach **€2.5 billion**, partly thanks to progress on large-scale connectivity projects such as the **Sisian Kajaran road**, and the **Caucasus Transmission Network**. Further investments will be also guided by the EU-AM Connectivity Partnership.



The **Resilient Syunik Team Europe Initiative**, formally launched in January 2023, is a joint effort of the EU, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, ten EU Member States (Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden), and Switzerland as an external partner. It brings together more than 40 projects worth **€200 million** supporting social and economic development, municipal services, local infrastructure, and environmental and energy resilience.



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