

# European Parliament delegation to visit Tunisia

Press Releases

7-04-2022

**Members of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee will travel to Tunis for consultations on Tunisia's path towards political reforms and return to institutional stability.**

During the visit, from 11-13 April, a high-level delegation of the European Parliament will meet the Tunisian President, representatives of the government, political parties as well as civil society to discuss how the EU can continue to support Tunisia in the process of political reforms and democratic consolidation.

Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) will seek to reaffirm the need for an inclusive political dialogue, respect for the rule of law, civil liberties and human rights, as well as a political system based on democratic principles, especially the separation of powers guaranteed through institutional checks and balances. This ad-hoc delegation will also provide the opportunity to discuss with relevant interlocutors if and how the European Parliament can support Tunisia in preparing for the foreseen elections at the end of 2022.

In addition, the delegation will pay special attention to the economic situation in Tunisia and on how the EU can best support Tunisian authorities in the implementation of economic reforms for the benefit of all Tunisians in light of the economic and food security crisis, the global pandemic and the effects of the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

## **Composition of the delegation**

The delegation will be composed of the following Members:

- Michael Gahler (EPP) - Chair of the Delegation
- Javier Nart (Renew)
- Jakop Dalunde (Greens/ALE)
- Andrea Cozzolino (S&D)

## **Background**

Tunisia is a close partner of the European Union, with significant political, economic and cultural ties to its Member States. In the framework of the privileged partnership, the EU has supported Tunisia in

various ways, including substantial financial assistance . These past years have seen Tunisia subjected to unstable regional dynamics, a protracted economic downturn as well as challenges in upholding its democratic achievements since the fall of the Ben Ali dictatorship in 2011.

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