



# LIBYA

## Southern Neighbourhood



### Key milestones

#### FEBRUARY 2011

The EU suspends its cooperation with Libya as a reaction to the brutal crackdown by the Gadhafi regime against demonstrators. Needs based humanitarian assistance is however maintained.

#### 2014-2016

Reorientation of EU cooperation to address the most pressing needs of the Libyan population

#### NOVEMBER 2015

Launch of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa at the Valletta Summit on Migration

#### SINCE 2017

Use of yearly 'Special Measures' to implement EU's bilateral cooperation due to Libya's unstable political situation



### EU-Libya Relations

The European Union (EU) remains committed to contribute to Libya's stability, security, unity and prosperity. It considers Libya a key ally to jointly address several challenges of common interest, notably in the field of peace and security, energy and migration.

Through its cooperation, the EU supports Libya's transition towards state building, stabilisation, reconstruction and reconciliation. This includes institutional support and technical assistance in key sectors, such as democratic governance and the rule of law, human and economic development, climate resilience, energy, environment protection, water management and migration.



### Trade & investment

- The EU is Libya's main trading partner. In 2023, **44%** of Libya's imports originated from the EU, while **62.2%** of Libya's exports were directed towards the EU. The EU-Libya two-way trade in goods amounted to €34.2 billion.
- In 2022, total trade in services between EU and Libya amounted to €1 billion.
- In 2022, EU Foreign Direct Investments stocks in Libya amounted to €3.3 billion and Libya FDI stocks in the EU to €0.8 billion.



### EU-Libya Cooperation priorities



Governance



Economic development



Health



Support to civil society



Environment and climate



Migration



### EU funding

- **The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI)** is the main instrument for EU's cooperation with external partners, including Libya, for the period 2021-2027. The EU bilateral allocation to Libya amounts to **€122 million** for 2021-2024. It is completed by other NDICI thematic programmes to support **civil society organisations (€6 million)** for 2021-2024) and to promote **human rights, democracy and governance (€6.8 million)** for 2021-2024). In the previous 2014-2020 period, the EU provided bilateral assistance to Libya mainly through the **European Neighbourhood Instrument** with **€98 million**.
- The EU is making every effort to help Libyan authorities to set up a comprehensive and rights-based **migration** governance and management system. Between 2021 and 2023, the EU has adopted bilateral and regional programmes in the area of migration under **NDICI** worth **around €130 million**. Given the conditions of vulnerability that migrants and refugees in Libya face, over half of migration-related funding is dedicated to protection, humanitarian returns and evacuations. The EU also works to strengthen Libya's capacities to manage its borders, conduct Search and Rescue activities to save lives at sea and in the desert, as well as fight smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings. Libya is the main beneficiary of the North of Africa window of the **EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa** with a total of **€465 million**.