



EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council 1417
Vienna, 30 March 2023**

**EU Statement on the International Donors' Conference
'Together for the people in Türkiye and Syria'**

1. On 20 March 2023, the international community gathered in Brussels to collect funds in support for the people in Türkiye and Syria after the devastating earthquakes of February 2023. The 'Together for the people of Türkiye and Syria' International Donors' Conference was co-hosted by the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, and by the Prime Minister of Sweden, Ulf Kristersson, for the Swedish Presidency of the Council. The purpose of the conference was to mobilise support for the people in Türkiye and Syria, coordinate response efforts in the affected areas in both countries, and turn words of condolences and solidarity into action. More than 60 delegations from the European Union, its Member States and partners, including the UN, international and European financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and other relevant stakeholders participated.
2. The total pledge of this International Donors' conference amounts to €7 billion, of which €6.05 billion in grants and loans for Türkiye and €911 million in grants for Syria. The European Union and its Member States, as well as the EIB and the EBRD represent more than 50% of this total pledge as Team Europe, with €3.6 billion. Additionally, the Council of Europe Development Bank contributed €500 million in loans and an additional €3 million in grants.
3. The funds for Türkiye will cover humanitarian needs and aid in the reconstruction of the affected regions. Preliminary damage assessments in Türkiye demonstrate a need for over USD 100 billion, with significant damage

to public infrastructure and residential buildings. Reconstruction efforts will ensure that all international standards for construction in seismic regions are taken into account and also the priorities of the Turkish Green Deal. The funds for Syria will aid in meeting humanitarian needs, supporting early recovery, and building resilience.

4. The European Union has supported the victims of the earthquakes from day one of this tragedy. EU humanitarian partners on the ground provided shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, and health services, as well as the distribution of food and in-kind assistance such as blankets, winter clothing and other essential relief items. A total of 1,750 rescuers and 111 search dogs were immediately deployed to Türkiye via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, in the largest-ever search and rescue operation of the Mechanism. EU countries also deployed six medical teams, including 5 field hospitals and a medical evacuation plane via the Mechanism, treating 15,000 people. Additionally, 21 EU countries sent assistance via the Mechanism and the EU also mobilised its rescEU stockpiles to provide shelter, beds, and medical equipment. Our search and rescue teams reached Gaziantep and the surrounding region within hours after the first earthquake, and humanitarian support started flowing within days.
5. Just as we were rapidly by the side of those affected with emergency support, we remain committed to supporting recovery and reconstruction efforts, not only with financial assistance but also with know-how. We stand ready to work with Türkiye on sustainable rebuilding efforts, including sharing our expertise and experience in constructing earthquake-resistant buildings and environmentally-friendly housing to help the people reduce energy needs in the long term, while minimising the impact on the climate.
6. We stand in solidarity with our Turkish friends and will continue to help those suffering the effects of these devastating earthquakes as needed.

The Candidate Countries NORTH MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA*, ALBANIA*, UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, and BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA*, the Potential Candidate Country GEORGIA, and the EFTA country LIECHTENSTEIN, member of the European Economic Area, as well as SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

* North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.