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EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT (EUR-OPA)

DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2026¹

*Document prepared by the Secretariat
of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement*

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¹ The present document includes data from the 2024-27 budget proposals submitted to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and is subject to possible adjustments following its discussion by the Committee of Ministers.

EUR-OPA MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT

Natural and technological risks affect all populations, in particular the most vulnerable groups and persons. Increased greenhouse gas emissions are raising the temperature in the atmosphere and enhancing the frequency and intensity of natural disasters. Nearly one-third of the world's population lives in areas at risk, where disasters can potentially occur. Such disasters, whether they result from natural or biological hazards linked to the internal and external dynamics of the planet, or technological risks generated by human activities may seriously disrupt the democratic functioning of institutions and subsequently prevent citizens from participating actively in democratic life.

The Council of Europe underlines "... the urgency of additional efforts to protect the environment, as well as counter the impact of the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change and loss of biodiversity on human rights, democracy and the rule of law. We therefore commit to strengthening our work on the human rights aspects of the environment and initiate the Reykjavik process of focusing and strengthening the work of the Council of Europe in this field as laid out in Appendix V "The Council of Europe and the environment".

The EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement aims to improve prevention and protection of people against major natural or technological disasters and to promote projects addressing the role of nature-based solutions in disaster risk reduction. EUR-OPA, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the European Union co-organise the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, which is a multi-stakeholder forum for policy-makers, experts and practitioners, thus contributing to the implementation of the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

EUR-OPA provides a platform for co-operation between the participating countries in the field of protection against major natural, biological and technological hazards and strengthening resilience in the face of disasters. Its field of action mainly covers knowledge of hazards, risk prevention, preparedness and risk management. At political level, the Committee of Permanent Correspondents addresses recommendations to the member States' competent authorities and guidelines for their implementation. At the scientific and technical level, the work is supported by the Network of the Specialised Scientific Centres. Its specific role is to develop projects, both at the national and regional level, aiming at increasing the awareness and resilience to major risks within the population. Methods and tools for an improved disaster management are also developed. Good practices and lessons learned are shared to propose more effective measures for prevention and protection. Lastly, EUR-OPA disseminates knowledge on the different hazards among the population through social media, smartphone applications and adequate publications.

EUR-OPA will continue to provide a platform for co-operation between its participating countries in the field of major natural, technological and biological hazards. As the vulnerability of individuals and communities is a major factor that increases exposure to disaster risks, it will focus its priority activities on the resilience of vulnerable groups and persons. Networking between the Specialised Scientific Centres will be reinforced to ensure that they provide the appropriate technical and scientific support needed to fulfil the disaster risk reduction objectives and goals set by the participating countries.

Theory of change

	Main Outputs	IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES ▮ Indicators are listed below	INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES ▮ Indicators are listed below	IMPACT ▮ Indicators are listed below
Co-operation 100%	► Intergovernmental cooperation platform in the field of major natural, biological and technological hazards ► Guidance tools on disaster risk reduction ► Scientific reports and technical tools to prevent hazards from turning into disasters	► Member States could rely on guidance and tailor-made tools to develop disaster risk reduction strategies.	► Member States change their policies, legislation and practices to contribute to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and protect related human rights ► Member States adopt strategies for disaster risk reduction by increasing resilience following EUR-OPA's recommendations and guidance tools.	► Member States fulfil their obligations to contribute to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and protect related human rights ► Persons enjoy their rights to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment ► Member States prevent risks and ensure resilience. ► Persons, in particular the most vulnerable are protected from hazard risks, allowing them to participate actively in democratic life. Impact of the Programme ▼ A culture of democracy in member States, particularly within the younger generations as an essential prerequisite of democratic security.

Members 22 members: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, North Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic and Ukraine.

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EXPECTED RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

① INDICATORS OF THE IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES ▼	TARGET 2027	MILESTONE 2025	BASELINE 2022
Immediate outcome 3 - Member States could rely on guidance and tailor-made tools to develop disaster risk reduction strategies.			
Number of new recommendations and/or guidelines on topical domains addressed to member States.	8	4	2
Number of States covered by projects on identification of potential risks and reduction of Vulnerability	≥ 10	≥ 10	≥ 10
① Indicators of the intermediate outcomes ▼			
Intermediate outcome 1 – Member States change their policies, legislation and practices to contribute to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and protect related human rights ▼			

STRUCTURES BASED ON A CONVENTION / RESOLUTION

OTHER STRUCTURES

Committee of Permanent Correspondents	Directors of Specialised Centres
SECRETARIAT 2025-2026: 2 posts (1A, 1B)	

TABLE OF 2026 CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBER STATES

MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE	% contribution	2026	2025	<i>DIFFERENCE IN %</i>
		AMOUNT PAYABLE IN €		
ALBANIA	1,1725	7 650,56	7 164,00	6,79
ARMENIA	1,1341	7 400,00	6 519,18	13,51
AZERBAIJAN	4,0687	26 548,27	24 565,76	8,07
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	1,4383	9 384,91	9 036,40	3,86
BULGARIA	4,8071	31 366,33	29 706,39	5,59
CROATIA	3,7618	24 545,75	23 164,18	5,96
CYPRUS	1,4617	9 537,59	9 152,83	4,20
GEORGIA	1,4663	9 567,61	8 488,18	12,72
GREECE	11,1467	72 732,22	71 362,37	1,92
LUXEMBOURG	4,8671	25 232,83	25 608,47	1,47
MALTA	0,9237	6 027,14	5 621,67	7,21
MOLDOVA	0,9683	6 318,16	6 073,95	4,02
MONACO	0,4155	2 711,14	2 560,08	5,90
NORTH MACEDONIA	0,8418	5 492,75	5 425,94	1,23
PORTUGAL	12,9804	84 697,10	83 444,39	1,50
ROMANIA	15,9072	103 794,47	99 003,81	4,84
SAN MARINO	0,0855	557,89	548,86	1,65
SERBIA	3,7061	24 182,30	23 141,15	4,50
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	6,0121	39 228,95	38 646,20	1,51
UKRAINE	11,9135	77 735,59	79 308,09	1,98
NON-MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE				
LEBANON	2,1051	13 735,78	18 321,65	-25,03
MOROCCO	9,8165	64 052,66	62 836,45	1,94
TOTAL	100.0000	652 500,00	639 700,00	2,00