

COUNCIL OF EUROPE OFFICE IN TUNIS

RESULTS IN 2025



The Council of Europe Office in Tunis, has been operating since July 2021 as a regional hub, co-ordinating the implementation of regional initiatives, including the flagship **South Programme – a joint endeavour co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe**.

Through the **Council of Europe Neighbourhood Partnership with Tunisia**, this long-term cooperation strengthens human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, by fostering structured and continuous dialogue with Tunisian authorities and national partners. The partnership also works to expand the common legal space between Europe and the Southern Mediterranean, grounded in Council of Europe conventions and standards that promote good governance, protect human rights, and build public trust.

BY THE NUMBERS: A PLATFORM FOR ACTION | AS OF JANUARY 2026



15 DEDICATED STAFF MEMBERS
INCLUDING 9 PROJECT STAFF.



1 REGIONAL AND 8 COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

- 1 JOINT EU AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT (IMPROVING ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE BY FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN TUNISIA - AGELA).
- 7 PROJECTS FUNDED THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.
- 1 PROJECT PART OF THE EU AND COUNCIL OF EUROPE JOINT PROGRAMME "SOUTH PROGRAMME".

WHY YOUR INVOLVEMENT MATTERS

The Southern Mediterranean is consolidating democratic progress through reform grounded in shared European values. Continued donor engagement will amplify these reforms, deepening the rule of law, protecting rights, and securing regional stability through multilateral co-operation.

IMPACT OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE WORK IN TUNISIA



BUILDING A COMMON LEGAL SPACE

Tunisia strengthens its place in the common legal space. Since 2012, Tunisia and four other countries in the region have completed 22 accessions to 15 Council of Europe Conventions, a milestone in regional integration. In 2024, Tunisia acceded to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) and signed the Council of Europe Convention on the counterfeiting of medical products (MEDICRIME Convention).

ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW REFORM

Legal frameworks align with international standards. Through targeted legal support and expertise, including the Quick Response Mechanism, the Council of Europe has helped authorities in Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, and Morocco modernise laws and strengthen institutions. Rapid expert input has guided reforms on data protection, anti-trafficking measures, and constitutional justice, ensuring that progress in the beneficiary countries is anchored in human rights and rule-of-law principles.

Professionals apply human rights standards in practice. Training, mentorship, and access to Arabic-language resources, have expanded the practical application of Council of Europe standards across courts, universities, and civil society. Legal professionals use the Council of Europe HELP (Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals) platform to train on topics from judicial independence to data privacy, while more than 300 Tunisian young people and civil society representatives have enhanced their advocacy skills through the Human Rights Education for Youth (HEY) programme, developed by the Council of Europe North-South Centre and the support to the Tunisian School of Political Studies.

COMBATING ORGANISED CRIME AND PROTECTING VICTIMS

Criminal justice actors take joint action against trafficking and smuggling. Through sub-regional training, prosecutors and investigators from Tunisia and Algeria strengthened their ability to detect, investigate, and prosecute human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases. Sharing of regional practices and victim-centred approaches has enhanced co-operation, while partner countries such as Lebanon adopted new secondary legislation that consolidates operational practice on the detection, identification, and referral of human trafficking victims in line with international standards, demonstrating the practical impact of Council of Europe guidance.