

Joint Declaration on the Strategic Partnership
between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic
Athens, 7 May 2025

Today, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the first meeting of the High Level Cooperation Council between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic in Athens, solemnly proclaim our commitment to strengthen and elevate the bilateral relationship of our countries to the level of a Strategic Partnership.

Our bilateral partnership is based on political, economic and cultural ties, which are deeply rooted in history and defined by our strong commitment to the values of peace and full respect of International Law, including the International Law of the Sea.

In recognition of the evolving challenges and opportunities in our region, we seek to build on our shared values and interests and to continue working together to promote security, stability, economic prosperity and sustainable development for our peoples and for the broader Mediterranean and Middle Eastern regions.

Both sides, acknowledging the current and emerging challenges into the geopolitical environment, reaffirm a strong determination to promote peace, stability and security in the Mediterranean region, based on mutual respect and in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS.

To this end, we declare our intention to forge our bilateral relationship to the Strategic Partnership level by deepening our diplomatic, military, economic, energy, trade, security and cultural ties.

Thus:

HIGHLIGHTING the historic friendship that binds both countries, through geographical and cultural closeness, reinforced by our strong and multifaceted bilateral relation and the continuous high-level exchanges on a wide scope of sectors,

SHARING the same values such as mutual respect and trust and underscoring the firm commitment to deepen our relationship based on mutual respect and shared benefit.

GUIDED by the Joint Declaration signed in March 2024 that engages both countries, as well as by other bilateral and multilateral treaties in force,

INSPIRED by the Joint Statement on the Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership between the Arab Republic of Egypt and European Union,

RECALLING the commitment to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including international law, promotion of peace, security and sustainable development, as well as the rule of law, democracy and human rights,

REITERATING our shared vision for a peaceful and sustainable future of the Mediterranean region,

DESIRING to enhance the prosperity and well-being of our peoples,

We declare our engagement to further strengthen our cooperation to the level of the Strategic Partnership.

This Strategic Partnership will aim at setting the path and ambition for the continuous enhancement and expansion of our bilateral partnership and will be regularly evaluated in its scope and implementation to consider new sectors and fields of cooperation, as well as the need to deepen existing cooperation.

On this basis, Egypt and Greece will:

1) Promote further political dialogue and cooperation:

Egypt constitutes a strategic partner for Greece and a key actor in the wider region. Greece acknowledges that Egypt is an important pillar for the stability and prosperity in the Middle East, Africa and in the region of Mediterranean. At the same time, Egypt acknowledges the role that Greece is playing as a member of the European Union and its key stabilizing role in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Middle East and South East Europe. In this vein, both sides reiterate their pledge to elevate their political dialogue to the Strategic level, which will be reflected through important initiatives and actions.

Our countries are according a priority to enhancing dialogue and cooperation in the United Nations and other international fora aiming at promoting international peace and security, inter alia, in light of Greece's membership of the UN Security Council 2025-2026.

This political dialogue would be pursued through regular political consultations on issues of common interest in the spirit of this Joint Declaration.

Furthermore, both sides underline their commitment to further promoting exchanges and visits between their Diplomatic Academies to pave the way for new schemes of collaboration, enhancing at the same time, young diplomats' awareness of the need to address global challenges in cooperation and guided by shared values and principles. This cooperation will be advanced in the framework of the Memorandum on co-operation between the Institute for Diplomatic Studies of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Diplomatic Academy, signed in 2004.

Both parties reaffirm their engagement in further coordinating their actions towards dealing with current security challenges.

2) Enhance economic, trade and investment relations:

Greece acknowledges the significant economic reforms undertaken by the Egyptian Government and stands ready to enhance cooperation towards the goals of long-term macroeconomic stability and economic growth.

Specifically within the framework of the MoU on Cooperation in the fiscal and financial sectors, signed by the Ministries of Finance in March 2023, both countries are committed to enhancing cooperation regarding structural reforms in these sectors in order to address global challenges and promote national and regional economic stability and growth.

The two sides stressed the importance of cooperation on tax reform and the prevention of tax evasion, with the transfer of expertise aimed at improving the efficiency of the tax administration and facilitating fiscal transformation. Both sides also agree to explore opportunities for collaboration in public financial management reforms to enhance public sector efficiency and transparency.

Furthermore, the two countries are committed to strengthening their bilateral relations in related international organizations representation or other initiatives, such as the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action promoting issues of mutual benefit.

Egypt and Greece share a robust and expanding partnership in the fields of trade and investments creating significant opportunities for job creation, innovation, and sustainable growth in both countries. Greece recognizes the comprehensive economic reforms underway in Egypt and supports Egypt's ongoing efforts to enhance its business and investment environment, facilitating trade and investment flows to the available investment potential in Egypt, including the privileges provided by the Suez Canal, being the most important Commercial and Maritime corridor, and the Suez canal economic zone which would strengthen Egypt's role in EU supply chains, and has the potential to attract Greek industries to Egypt. Greece

stands ready for cooperation in the context of the Egyptian Government's Vision 2030.

Their partnership is designed to secure long-term macroeconomic stability and drive inclusive growth. Moreover, collaboration in strategic sectors - such as infrastructure, renewable energy, defense, aerospace, ICT, life sciences, waste management/environmental technologies - is already progressing. Greece is committed to increase support to Greek enterprises with longstanding regional expertise in Egypt's development projects. Furthermore, the ongoing collaboration between Egypt's General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) and Enterprise Greece is further contributing to the strengthening of bilateral ties.

Both sides agree to facilitate, wherever possible, the unlocking of the full potential of collaboration among their companies in major projects led by the Egyptian government. This cooperation will span diverse sectors, including railways, water treatment, agriculture, petrochemicals and renewable energy,

The two sides agree to broaden their economic collaboration also through joint research, innovation and technological initiatives. They welcome the organization of business-to-business fora that will foster joint research projects, boost trade and promote employment opportunities in both countries- further cementing the strong economic ties between Greece and Egypt.

3) Reiterate the Common Ground on Infrastructure and Transports:

Both sides express their desire to further strengthen their cooperation based on the Air Services Agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic signed on December 8th, 2015. They also highlight opportunities to increase sharing of best practices for advancing cooperation

in the field of road transport of goods, by a common will to negotiate an updated Road Transport of Goods Agreement.

Both sides agree to encourage Greek infrastructure and transport companies and investors to further act upon exploring investment opportunities in Egypt, taking into consideration its competitive advantage and efforts to promote a business-friendly environment thus encouraging further private sector contribution, including from small and medium enterprises.

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic recognize the importance of sustainable urban mobility planning as a tool for the development of safe, accessible, inclusive, affordable, smart, resilient and emission-free urban transport systems. In this direction, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic reiterate their intention to cooperate and exchange know-how on the institutional framework for the strategic planning of sustainable urban mobility and the promotion of corresponding measures. In this vein, they intend to develop cooperation with institutional representatives and technical experts who can contribute to the development of sustainable transport systems.

4) Take Up Actions concentrated on Digital Era:

Both sides recognize the importance of ensuring sufficient and resilient connectivity infrastructures in the South-East Mediterranean region, including interconnections between the two countries, as well as international interconnections. In this regard, they agree to cooperate to facilitate the design and development of new submarine cables and to enhance their security and operational efficiency. In particular, they will encourage the cooperation between telecommunications service providers, and facilitate the licensing and any other administrative procedures for planning, construction and maintenance works, based on the bilateral agreements as well as on the provisions of the UN. In addition, they agree to jointly explore potential sources of financing for relevant projects.

Both sides express their willingness to focus on coordination issues between satellite networks of both Administrations and initiate activities in space technologies by promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of space.

5) Undertake Initiatives focused on Development and the Agriculture sector

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic are committed to facilitating potential investors in strategic economic fields, such as Industry, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and Quality Infrastructure. In this sense, Egyptian investors will be able to make full use of the Development Law and of the Strategic Investments of the Hellenic Republic, which offer strong incentives like tax breaks and fast track licensing.

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic are already cooperating on 15 funded projects addressing critical challenges, such as water management and food security in the Mediterranean region. The two sides are committed to continuing their ongoing cooperation in the fields of Standardization and Conformity Assessment based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2006 and further extending their cooperation on Accreditation, Certification and Metrology, with the aim to facilitate bilateral trade.

Both sides expressed their interest to further develop bilateral trade of agricultural products through efforts to increase the volume and to expand the range of products.

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic reaffirm their commitment to ongoing cooperation on water and food security, emphasizing the critical importance of transboundary water cooperation in accordance with International Law. Recognizing Egypt's heavy reliance on the Nile River in a context of its water scarcity, Greece reiterates its support to Egypt's water

security and the compliance with international law, while recalling that the 'do no harm' principle serves as a guiding principle in the European Green Deal.

6) Heighten partnership in the field of energy security and climate change:

The two countries share the commitment to fostering cooperation and dialogue on the protection and management of the environment and in particular, on climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

The two sides reaffirm their commitment to further enhancing and deepen ongoing cooperation by sharing expertise and best practices and through cooperation and dialogue in the field of climate change and support ambitious action in various international fora and within regional institutional frameworks, in particular in the context of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Mediterranean Sea - UNEP/MAP system. Moreover, the two countries commit to increasing efforts to monitor and address the marine litter challenge.

Both sides acknowledge the critical importance of energy as a catalyst for deepening their bilateral strategic cooperation that constitutes a pillar of regional stability and economic prosperity. In this context, the two sides recall their role as founding members of the region's first intergovernmental energy organization, the East Med Gas Forum, which is headquartered in Cairo. Both countries will continue cooperating to support the work of the EMGF helping it to better adapt to the needs of a faster European decarbonization strategy without prejudice to its core mission as a natural gas focused organization.

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic consider Egyptian LNG export facilities as part of the core network of North African gas exports to EU markets.

Both countries are endowed with enormous renewable energy potential that they have respectively developed in isolation to each other. They

recognized the important potential for cooperation across the entire value chain of the green energy transition as both countries are committed to promoting the interconnectivity of their respective energy markets, starting with electricity as it exemplified by their support for the PCI/PMI approved project GREGY electricity interconnector, which will transfer green energy to Europe via Greece, in line with Egypt's Renewable Energy Sources objectives.

7) Deepen collaboration in security and defense:

The two sides emphasize the importance of dialogue and cooperation in addressing issues that may affect the security interests of each Party. In this spirit, the two sides reaffirm their commitment to further enhancing their cooperation in the defense and security fields, among others by implementing common military training, integration, capability development and expertise exchange, in order to achieve high common standards.

The two sides also agree to cooperate on counterterrorism with an emphasis on regular joint training programs between Egyptian and Greek Special Forces, focusing on counterterrorism tactics.

8) Encourage new opportunities in cultural and educational cooperation:

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic, countries of rich and cultural heritage, share a long history of cultural interactions and exchanges. In order to further deepen their cultural cooperation, agree to exchange know-how with regard to documentation, conservation, restoration, archaeological legislation and promotion of cultural heritage. Furthermore, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic declare their commitment to enhancing cooperation in the museum sector, sharing expertise in museum management, exhibition organization and educational and outreach activities, as well as developing thematic exhibitions, including digital ones, showcasing artifacts from both Egyptian and Greek museums.

Both countries also agreed to work together for the protection of cultural heritage from the effects of Climate Change and strengthen their collaboration within international organizations, such as UNESCO. Moreover, they are committed to expediting the signing of the Memoranda of Understanding for Cooperation in the field of Culture, as well as the Prohibition of Theft, Illegal Excavation and Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and on the promotion, restitution and return of cultural property to its countries of origin.

In the field of education, the two sides will promote the exploration of partnerships between universities, with a focus on potential joint undergraduate and postgraduate programs of mutual interest and the mobility both of students and academics between the two countries. Furthermore, they will undertake to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices in educational policies, encouraging the cooperation between schools to participate in competitions and joint programs through information technologies, activities, exhibitions, and other initiatives, which could be of added value in our partnership. Equally, the two sides express their readiness to advance cooperation in the area of technical and vocational education, training, apprenticeship schemes, and lifelong learning, by promoting the exchange of best practices, information, materials, and experts as well as encouraging the development of peer learning activities and the design of joint projects.

9) Upgrade Maritime Collaboration

Both Countries expressed their intention to develop their ongoing cooperation in the field of Maritime Transport in the areas of mutual benefit and within the framework of national laws and regulations, International law and conventions ratified by both countries, as follows:

- Further promote discussions within the framework of the Joint Maritime Committee (JMC) established in 2024, and to establish a joint maritime dialogue aimed at cooperating on issues of common interest with regard to ports and the shipping sector of the Joint Maritime Committee to be held on a regular basis.
- Finalize current negotiations on the Memorandums of Understanding on Mutual recognition of seafarers' certificates in accordance to the STCW convention, and to enhance collaboration between training institutions of both countries.
- Support common objectives at international maritime fora, especially in the context of IMO.
- Cooperate within the frame of international standards with regard to sustainable maritime transport, decarbonization and green ports, marine environmental protection and the human element.

10) Migration Management

The two sides agree on cooperation on migration management, in particular through operational coordination and exchange of information for tackling migrant smuggling activities at sea between the two countries in accordance with international law.

11) Advance cooperation in the tourism sector

Both sides agree to further enhance cooperation in the field of tourism through exchanging information on the latest developments in their tourism industries and respective policies to support the green and digital transition in the tourism sector.

Both sides agree to promote the sharing of best practices in the field of tourism product development related to thematic products and special interest tourism, as well as, in the field of tourism promotion.

Both sides express their readiness to support each other's marketing campaigns to raise awareness about Greece as a tourism destination in Egypt, and Egypt as a tourism destination in Greece, providing contact persons, suitable to reach targeted audiences and liaising their respective focal points with key travel agencies specializing in the Egyptian and Greek markets, respectively.

➤ **Institutional Framework of the Strategic Partnership:**

In order to foster the strategic character of their cooperation, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Hellenic Republic agree on the necessity of regular political consultations as a mechanism within the Strategic Partnership. The participants commit to convening the political consultations at the level of Deputy Minister/Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs focused on the above areas and on further sectors of cooperation mutually agreed. The participants look forward to advancing progress in all the aforementioned areas of this Strategic Partnership and undertake to review and expand them through regular high-level meetings with a structured Strategic Dialogue based on the bilateral high-level political consultations that they hereby established.

At the conclusion of our First High Level Cooperation Council

We, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, reaffirm our strong commitment to the success and further development of the advanced Strategic Cooperation Mechanism.

We recognize that achieving our shared goals of peace, prosperity, and security requires continuous collaboration and coordinated efforts to address the challenges facing our common region.

We reaffirm that the convening of the first High Level Cooperation Council between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Hellenic Republic

underscores the commitment of our nations to sustaining long-term cooperation, contributing to attaining our shared goals.

We renew our pledge to further strengthen our bilateral cooperation mechanisms, develop new economic and investment partnerships, and to intensify joint actions to tackle regional and global challenges in pursuit of a brighter and more stable future for our peoples.

Signed on 7 May 2025, in Athens.

**President of the Arab Republic of
Egypt**

**Prime Minister of the Hellenic
Republic**

Abdel Fattah Al Sisi

Kyriakos Mitsotakis