

Date: November 28, 2025

Mediterranean Forum of Local Governments and Business - 2025 Edition

On **28 November 2025**, the Mediterranean Forum of Local Governments and Business convened its sixth edition within the distinguished institutional setting of **the Italian Parliament, at Sala Salvadori**. The choice of such a venue underscores the Forum's consolidated role as a platform for structured dialogue among governments, diplomatic representatives, industrial stakeholders, and strategic actors engaged in Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

This edition of the forum is honored by the participation of leading institutional and sectoral representatives, including **Her Excellency Carla Jazzar, Ambassador of Lebanon to Italy; On.le Simone Billi, Member of the Foreign Affairs and Community Committee; On.le Lorenzo Cesa, President of the Italian Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly; On.le Alessandro Cattaneo, Member of the Transport Committee; Avv. Rossella Vitali, Chairperson of MD Lions 108 Italy; Gen. (Ret.) Antonio Bettelli, former UNIFIL Sector West Commander and former Defence Attaché in Beirut; On.le Lorenzo Dattoli, President of Confindustria Abruzzo Medio Adriatico; Dr. Massimiliano Iocco of Confindustria Abruzzo Medio Adriatico and Confindustria Innovazione; Dr. Ibrahim Foz of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tripoli; Mr. Dany Abboud, Board Member of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI); Dr. Raymond Mitri of the Lebanese Anti-Corruption Task Force; Dr. Francesca Alicata of SIMEST; and Dr. Marina Scognamiglio, Director of the Italian Trade Agency in Beirut.**

Central to the 2025 edition is the strengthening of **economic diplomacy grounded in industrial and trade collaborations**, a theme reflected in the involvement of key institutions such as **Confindustria Abruzzo Medio Adriatico, SIMEST, the Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI), and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tripoli CCIAT**. In a period characterised by profound geopolitical transitions and heightened uncertainty in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Forum reaffirms the importance of coordinated institutional engagement and pragmatic economic partnerships as essential instruments for promoting stability, resilience, and mutually beneficial development between Italy, Europe, and the East Med region.

Held under the **patronage of Confindustria Abruzzo Medio Adriatico, the Province of Pescara, the city of Forlì - Assessorato alle Politiche Internazionali, and the City of Montesilvano**, the Mediterranean Forum continues to align its objectives with the principles of the Civil Economy and the 2030 Agenda. As a Mediterranean think tank dedicated to operational cooperation among local authorities, enterprises, professional bodies, and civil society organisations, the Forum stands as an important initiative in an age of transformation, offering a structured response to the growing need for stability, strategic dialogue, and long-term economic collaboration in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Participants and stakeholders are invited to **consult the full programme** below for the detailed schedule and institutional interventions.

Program of the Event:

Location: Sala Salvadori – Chamber of Deputies, Rome

Date: Friday, 28 November 2025

Time: 09:00 – 12:00

Key Moments***Opening Session***

Led by the Founders and Partners of the Mediterranean Forum.

Institutional Greetings and Reflections

- H.E. **Carla Jazzar** – Ambassador of Lebanon to Italy
- Hon. **Lorenzo Cesa** – President of the Italian Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (*Connected*)
- Hon. **Simone Billi** – Member, Foreign Affairs Committee
- Hon. **Alessandro Cattaneo** – Member, Transport, Post & Telecommunications Commission (*Recorded*)
- Avv. **Rossella Vitali** – Chairperson, Board of Governors MD Lions 108 Italy
- Gen. **Antonio Bettelli** – Lieutenant General (Ret.), UNIFIL Sector West Commander (Shaama, Lebanon)
- Dr. **Marina Scognamiglio** – Director, Italian Trade Agency (Lebanon, Syria, Cyprus) (*Connected from Beirut*)

Roundtable: Italy–Lebanon Economic Collaboration

Featuring leaders from industry, commerce, investment, and public institutions:

- Mr. **Lorenzo Dattoli** – President, Confindustria Abruzzo Medio Adriatico
- Mr. **Massimiliano Iocco** – President, Mechatronics Department
- Mr. **Ibrahim Foz** – Vice President, Tripoli Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Lebanon)
- Mr. **Dany Abboud** – Industrialist; Board Member, Lebanese Industrialists Association (*Connected from Paris*)

- Mr. **Raymond Mitri** – Vice President, Lebanese Anti-Corruption Task Force
- Ms. **Patricia Issa** – Director for the East Mediterranean Region, Mediterranean Forum
- Dr. **Francesca Alicata** – Head of External Relations, SIMEST SpA

Final Conclusions

Closing remarks and presentation of upcoming initiatives.