



After seventy-seven years: an economic approach to a political conflict

Since 1947, hundreds of legal and diplomatic initiatives by UN Secretaries General and US Presidents, by NGOs and IGOs tried to bring Peace to the Middle East.

Now, in the beginning of 2025, three of the countries, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria, need an entire reconstruction. Egypt and Jordan suffer by the burden of refugees and interrupted economic relations to their neighbours. Israel's focus on military expenditures hinders the investment in sustainable development.

The opportunity cost for maintaining the conflicts in the region with 163.2 million inhabitants (2022) reach billions.

Meanwhile, endless opportunities for tourism, trade, green energy and water supply wait to be explored.

The Mediterranean Peace Railway Initiative

The *Mediterranean Peace Railway* addresses both: Peace and prosperity.

Organized by the Basel Institute of Commons and Economics in Basel, Switzerland, stakeholders will meet to implement the project in all dimensions:

- Involve the six states that directly benefit from the project
- Identify and motivate the multilateral MDBs, IGOs and investors to buy in the project
- Offering a step-by-step process starting with the invitation to join the Mediterranean Peace Railway Initiative by an Expression of Interest
- Balancing the different interests of donors and stakeholders by a process of full transparency
- Bundling the different investment approaches and instruments in a multilateral perspective
-

An all-in-one solution

Facing all challenges reclaimed by the UN Sustainable Development Goals at the same time, means:

- Regarding the Railway as an infrastructure supplier for energy, water and cooling logistics
- Regarding the Railway as an opportunity to explore sustainable tourism along the coastline between Egypt and Syria
- Regarding the Railway as an accelerator for local businesses offering their services and products to the stations
- Regarding the Railway as a common good to enhance a sustainable cross-country stability

Contact: Dr. Alexander Dill
Basel Institute of Commons and Economics
phone: ++41 61 261 35 21, dill@commons.ch

<https://commons.ch/mediterranean-peace-railway>