

**Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on the**  
Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council  
**Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa**  
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The Chamber of Deputies supports the **comprehensive strategy with Africa** and notes the exhaustive concern **to include all forms of cooperation with a view to transforming African citizens from recipients of European aid into equal partners**. It also underlines that **further efforts are needed to unlock the potential for collaboration in the field of disaster resilience and education**.

At the same time, underlines that **ensuring the access of African states to technologies** and supporting their adaptation at local level in view of the transition to a green economy and expresses its desire for **Romania to participate in in-depth cooperation with the African states**.

The Chamber of Deputies emphasises that the Union's efforts to ensure sustainable growth in Africa can benefit from the sympathy capital enjoyed by Romania in the countries on the continent, **proposes to analyse the possibility of converting historical claims, which a number of African states have towards Romania** and stresses the **need to strengthen**, as soon as possible, the **in-depth cooperation with the African states**.

The Chamber of Deputies has the following **recommendations: Enhancing mutual knowledge actions, through all available instruments and at all levels**, including local and civil society, more **strongly support the involvement of the business sector**, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises and civil society in all Member States of the European Union in collaboration with the African Union, the **extension of cooperation with the African Union** and the regional organisations of the continent in the field of education and cooperation of civil society organisations, **consultation of the business environment in African States**, in particular emerging small and medium-sized enterprises, setting up a new cooperation priority in the area of energy, targeting electric micro-networks, prosumers and emerging technologies in renewable energy, **the European Union should focus on refurbishing medical equipment or equipment being in a state of moral wear in Member States** for use in Africa.

The Chamber of Deputies also considers **non-formal education to be a useful and effective way for the EU to cooperate with Africa**, considers that the **creative industries have great potential for cooperation**, which can deliver tangible immediate results, both from an economic and social perspective, expresses its **wish to be informed of the European Commission's approach to the problem of children in the very poor parts of Africa**, and proposes that the **establishment of sanitary and phytosanitary standards and the protection of natural resources in Africa should be accompanied by an analysis of the possibilities for establishing green and certification schemes** that should be easily applicable by low income agricultural communities and that should be recognised by the African Union or regional organisations.