

FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Euromed and Middle East unit

COUNTRY	CHAIR
Morocco	Gilles PARGNEAUX (S&D, France) https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2017/04/214355/morocco-has-special-status-to-address-europes-many-challenges-european-deputy/
Algeria	Santiago FISAS AYXELA (EPP, Spain)
Tunisia	Not known to us
Palestine (largely inactive)	Not known to us
Iraq	At the D-IQ meeting of 26 October 2016, Chair Campbell Bannerman announced that a Friends of Iraq group was being set up together with MEP Javier NART (ALDE, Spain) and Lars ADAKTUSSON (EPP, Sweden) , who are co-Chairs of this friendship group.
Kurdistan	David Campbell Bannerman, Chair of the Delegation for relations with Iraq, has also travelled to northern Iraq with the Friends of Kurdistan, apparently chaired by Charles TANNOCK (ECR, UK) http://www.rudaw.net/english/world/230620161
Chaldeans-Syriacs-Assyrians Friendship Group	There appears to be also a Chaldeans-Syriacs-Assyrians Friendship Group – possibly chaired by Lars ADAKTUSSON (EPP, Sweden) – to be checked http://www.syriacsnews.com/official-inauguration-chaldeans-syriacs-assyrians-friendship-group-ep/
Yezidi Friends Group in the EP	And according to this same report: MEP Jozef WEIDENHOLZER (S&D, Austria) is the initiator for Yezidi Friends Group in the EP.
Jordan	Friends of Jordan, chaired by MEP Michael GAHLER (EPP, Germany) have visited Jordan at the same time when DMAS delegation (Green week in May 2017)
Lebanon	Ramona MANESCU (EPP, Romania)
Saudi Arabia	Not known to us
UAE	Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE (EPP, Spain) link

Qatar	Ramona MANESCU (EPP, Romania) http://eu-qatar.eu/en/eu-qatar-friendship-group-september-meeting-draft-agenda/
Bahrein	Not known to us

Asia, Australia and New Zealand Unit

COUNTRY/ Friendship group	CHAIR
Cambodia	Petras AUSTREVICIUS (ALDE, Lithuania)
China Friendship Group	Nijr DEVA (ECR, United Kingdom) http://www.chinamission.be/eng/mh/t1233880.htm
India	<i>Still active?</i> http://www.charlestannock.com/pressarticle.asp?ID=160
Indonesia	Ana GOMES (S&D, Portugal)
Friends of Kashmir	<i>Still active?</i>
Korea, Republic of Korea	Paul RÜBIG (EPP, Austria)
New Zealand	Derek VAUGHAN (S&D, United Kingdom)
Pakistan	Sajjad KARIM (ECR, United Kingdom)
Philippines, The	<i>Tentative</i>
Singapore	Sorin MOISA (S&D, Romania)
Sri Lanka	Geoffrey Van ORDEN (ECR, United Kingdom)
Taiwan, Friendship for Taiwan	Werner LANGEN (S&D, Germany) http://www.mofa.gov.tw/en/News_Content.aspx?n=1EADDCCFD4C6EC567&s=9C1733F8DA75632A
Interest Group for Tibet	Thomas MANN (EPP, Germany) http://tibet.net/2017/01/first-tibet-interest-group-meeting-of-2017-held-in-the-european-parliament/
Tajikistan	Hubert DORFMANN (EPP, Italy)
Vietnam	Jan ZAHRADIL (ECR, Czech Republic)
Friendship Groups on Kyrgyzstan and Philippines	Please also note that Friendship Groups on Kyrgyzstan and Philippines are planned but so far not yet operational.

Enlargement and European Economic Area Unit

For the Enlargement area, there are Friendship groups for all 7 countries. The Chairs of Friendship groups are as follows, according to the information available to us:

COUNTRY/ Friendship group	CHAIR
Friends of Macedonia	Marijana PETIR (EPP, Croatia)
Friends of Montenegro	Ivan JAKOVIC (ALDE, Croatia)
Friends of Serbia	Emilian PAVEL (S&D, Romania)

Friends of Albania	David SASSOLI (S&D, Italy)
Friends of BiH	Jasenko SELIMOVIC (ALDE, Sweden) and Jozo RADOS (ALDE, Croatia)
Friends of Turkey (EP-Turkey Forum)	Artis PABRIKS (EPP, Latvia) and Ismail ERTUG (S&D, Germany)
Friends of Kosovo	Ulrike LUNACEK (Greens/EFA, Austria)

Eastern Partnership and Russia Unit

COUNTRY	CHAIR
Azerbaijan	A Friendship group was reported under Notis MARIAS (ECR, Greece) a couple of years ago – but it is probably dormant if not hibernating.
Armenia	Eleni THEOCHAROUS (ECR, Cyprus)
Nagorno-Karabach	Frank ENGEL (EPP, Luxembourg)
Ukraine	Mr AUSTREVICIUS (ALDE, Lithuania)
Georgia	To be created in July: MOODY (S&D, United Kingdom)-GAHLER (EPP, Germany)

Latin America Unit

No active Intergroup on the LAC area in the current term.

Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Unit

We are no 'Friendship Groups' for the ACP countries.

Transatlantic Relations and G8 Unit

There are no 'Friendship Groups' for TAR countries