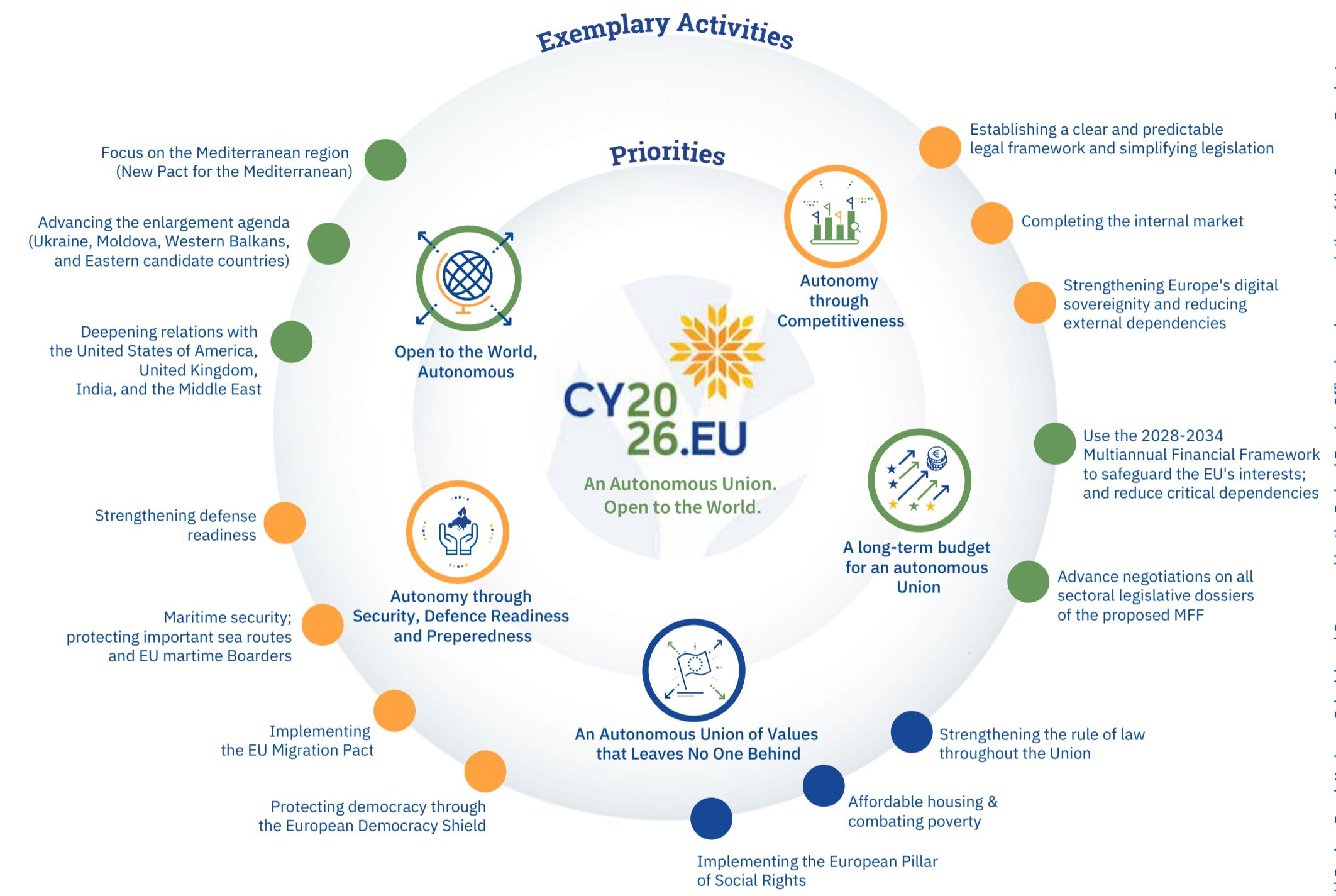


# Priorities of the Cypriot Presidency of the Council of the EU 2026/I

## Assessment from the EBD Perspective

#EBDGrafik



### (i) Important for the European Movement Germany

- Enlargement requires clear criteria; at the same time, the EU must more strongly promote and institutionally safeguard its own capacity to absorb new members.
- Advancing the EU's institutional reform agenda – towards greater capacity to act and a stronger European Parliament.
- More concrete measures are needed to specifically strengthen the liberal democratic market economy, its competitiveness, and the rule of law, democracy, and transparency.
- To become capable of acting in security policy, the expansion of European defence and security policy requires a clear reform agenda towards a European Defence Union.
- Strengthening and restoring a free Schengen area without internal border controls.
- Enhancing transparency and democratic participation in budgetary and reform processes requires concrete instruments, such as a democracy bonus in the new Multiannual Financial Framework that specifically rewards democratic accountability at the local level.

### (i) Further Information

#### Current Trio



Poland  
01/01/2025 -  
30/06/2025



Denmark  
01/07/2025 -  
31/12/2025



Cyprus  
01/01/2026 -  
30/06/2026

#### Next Trio



Ireland  
as of 01/07/2026



Lithuania  
as of 01/01/2027



Greece  
as of 01/07/2027