



PRELIMINARY DRAFT

**“EUROMED PLUS 15: NEW PATHS OF COOPERATION ACROSS THE  
MEDITERRANEAN”**

17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Barcelona

The EuroMeSCo network and IEMed decided to co-operate by organizing jointly the 2010 Annual EuroMeSCo conference in Barcelona and devoting it to the future of Euro-Med relations at the occasion of the anniversary of the 1995 Barcelona conference. The conference picks up four themes that seem relevant to the future of the Euro-Med Relations.

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November

15.30 – 15.45      **Opening Session**

**Sénen Florensa**, Director General, IEMed, Barcelona  
**Roberto Aliboni**, IAI, Rome  
**Diego López Garrido**, Secretary of State, Spain

15.45 – 17.45h      **Session 1: The emerging Euro-Med institutional framework: how is it working? How can it be improved?**

In the 2000s, the policy framework established by the Barcelona Declaration has changed: its multilateral and bilateral components have been decoupled, giving way, respectively, to the UfM and the ENP. Furthermore, (a) while the ENP remains a EU policy, the UfM has emerged as an intergovernmental undertaking and (b) the uneasy relationship between the bilateral ENP and the multilateral EMP now UfM has remained unsolved. While the ENP, despite unsatisfactory results, is working, the UfM has yet to take off, having proved vulnerable to political differences and outstanding conflicts. In addition, while the UfM and the ENP are understood as two components of the same process - the Barcelona process – the coordination between and leadership over them, is unclear. In this context of institutional confusion, how precisely is the ENP-UfM policy framework working? What are the prospects of the Barcelona process, understood as a coherent process leading to Euro-Mediterranean cohesion? What should be done to improve the ENP, the UfM and their coordination?

**Chairman:**            **Josep Borrell**, President, European University Institute (EUI)

**Participants:**      **Timo Behr**, Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Helsinki  
**Leonello Gabrici**, Chief of Unity, Euro-Med and Regional Issues, European Commission, External Relations Directorate, Brussels  
**Vincent Peillon**, Rapporteur on the UfM, European Parliament  
**Michael Emerson**, CEPS, Brussels

**Comments:**        **Ahmed Driss**, Director, Centre d'Etudes Méditerranéennes Internationales-CEMI, Tunis  
**Erzsebet Rosza**, HIIA, Budapest  
**Osama Safa**, Lebanese Centre for Policy Studies, Beirut  
**Fatih B'chir**, MedAfrique

17.45 - 18.00 h      *Coffee Break*

18.00 - 20.00 h      **Session 2: A strengthened CFSP in the Mediterranean and the Middle East**

Thanks to the doubled role of the High Representative/Vice-president of the Commission and the establishment of the European External Action Service, the Union is expected to develop a more effective foreign policy in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. How are these institutional changes within the EU expected to impact upon the EU's foreign policy in the region? How instead are these institutional developments likely to influence the policy practice underpinning the EU's CFSP in the region? In particular, how are these changes likely to influence the EU's objectives and guidelines with regard to regional conflicts, first and foremost towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

**Chairman:**                **Fidel Sendagorta**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain

**Participants:**        **Atila Eralp**, Professor, Middle East Technical University, Ankara  
**Mohammed Selim**, Cairo University  
**Muriel Asseburg**, SWP, Berlin  
**José Luis Pardo**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain

**Comments:**            **Abdellah Saaf**, President, CERSS, Rabat  
**Diane Buttu**, Palestine  
**Nathalie Tocci**, Senior Researcher, IAI, Rome.  
**Pelayo Castro Zuzuarregui**, Advisor of Catherine Ashton's Cabinet  
**Mahdi Abdul Hadi**, Head of PASSIA, Board of Trustees - Jerusalem  
**Sharon Pardo**, Ben Gurion University  
**Erwan Lannon**, EU-ISS, Paris

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November**

9.00 - 11.00 h      **Session 3: The emerging geopolitics in the Mediterranean and the Middle East: implications for Euro-Mediterranean relations**

The geopolitics of the Mediterranean and the Middle East is being altered by important changes: the enhanced roles of Turkey and of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries in both the Mediterranean and the Middle East; the influence of Iran in the Near East; and the presence of new actors from far a field, such as China, South Korea and India. How are the EU and its Euro-Med partners reacting to these geopolitical alterations in the region? Is this geopolitical evolution having an impact on the Euro-Mediterranean concept? Is it inducing the EU to engage more actively in the Middle East or leaving the way to the growing influence of other external players? Are the EU and its Euro-Med partners likely to cooperate or conflict with other external actors in the region, and if it is likely to seek cooperation what form might this take?

**Chairman:**                **Risto Veltheim**, Coordinator for Euromed Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland

**Participants:**        **Gamal Abdel Gawad Soltan**, al Ahram, Egypt  
**Ian Lesser**, GMFUS, Washington  
**Paul Salem**, Carnegie, Beirut  
**Haizam Amirah Fernández**, Real Instituto Elcano, Madrid

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**Comments:** [Eduard Soler i Lecha](#), CIDOB, Barcelona  
[Ibrahim Kalin](#), Chief policy adviser to Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan, Ankara  
[Richard Youngs](#), Director General, FRIDE  
[Samir Al Taqi](#), OCSI, Damascus  
[Patricja Sasnal](#), Polish Institute of International Affairs, Warsaw  
[Tim Niblock](#), University of Durham

11.11 - 11.15 h: *Coffee Break*

11.15 - 13.15 h: **Session 4: The Union for Mediterranean as a “union of projects” to structure the EuroMed region**

Beside the continuation of the EU's long-standing programmes aimed at fostering development, liberalization and reforms, the UfM has launched a programme of big common projects with regard to infrastructures and key developmental sectors, such as education and the role of the SMEs in the Southern Mediterranean economies. These big projects respond to the need to increase regional cohesion but also to respond to globalization. Linked to these projects is the need for more security, especially as far as energy is concerned. Does the UfM as a “union of projects” fit with the objective of development and security set by the EU and other Mediterranean and Middle Eastern partners? Which sectors should be targeted (agriculture is curiously neglected) by this new mode of economic and development cooperation? May the UfM's big projects offer a way to cooperate with the new actors emerging in the region?

**Chairman:** [Andreu Bassols](#)

**Introduction:** [Bichara Khader](#), Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Monde Arabe Contemporain (CERMAC)  
[George Corm](#), Former Minister of Finance, Lebanon  
[Hakim Darbouche](#), Research Fellow in the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies  
[Franco Zallio](#), Writer, specialist in topics as energy resources in the relations between the EU and Gulf countries

**Comments:** [El Sayed A. Shalaby or Mohammed Shaker](#), Egyptian Council on Foreign Relations-ECFA)  
[Yahya Zoubir](#), Euro-Med Management  
[Alfred Tovias](#), Hebrew University of Jerusalem

13.15 - 13.45 h: **Closing Session**  
[Serge Telle](#), Ambassador in charge of the Barcelona Process, France  
[Saïd Hindam](#), Ambassador of the Union for the Mediterranean, Egypt  
[Josep Riera](#), Ambassador in Special Mission for Mediterranean Affairs, Spain