

PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY

**HOW REGIONAL INTEGRATION LEADS TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

Thursday, 20 July 2017

Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

(Pere Duran Farell, 11 - Barcelona)

The objective of this conference is to present the results and conclusions of the study co-led by IEMed- EMEA and with the collaboration of the EMNES network entitled “Youth employment and regional integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region”. This study examines how regional integration can provide both short-term and long-term solutions to the employment crisis in the Euro-Mediterranean region. First, the current state of affairs, challenges and policies as regards to youth unemployment and regional integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region are described. Second, the impact on youth employment creation through regional integration of Mediterranean countries is quantified. Finally, qualitative scenarios on job creation, long-term challenges are devised and policy recommendations to foster youth employment and employability in the region are formulated in light of the alternative scenarios devised and drafted with a specific focus on the role of the Union for the Mediterranean

13.00-14.00 Cocktail lunch

14.00-15.00 Welcome address

Fathallah Sijilmassi, Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean

Senén Florensa, Executive President, European Institute of the Mediterranean

Jaloul Ayad, Former Minister of Finance, Tunisia and President of Med-Confederation

Jordi Curell, Director, Labour Mobility, DG Employment, European Commission

15.00-17.00 Presentation and discussion of the study “Youth employment and regional integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region”

Moderated by: **Javier Albarracín**, Director of Department, Socio-economic Department, European Institute of the Mediterranean

Presentation of the study:

Rym Ayadi, Professor, HEC Montreal, President and Founder of EMEA and Coordinator of EMNES

Raül Ramos, Expert on employment policies, University of Barcelona

Leonidas Paroussos, E3 -Modelling and EMEA

Carlo Sessa, ISINOVA and EMEA

Discussants:

Sherif Younis, Financial and Trade Adviser, Secretariat of the UfM

Mounir Baati, Specialist, Policy Unit Operations Department, European Training Foundation

Patricia Augier, President of the Scientific Committee, FEMISE

Brahim El Mouaatamid, Migration Officer, Euromed Migration IV, Inter. Centre for Migration Policy Development

Cinzia Alcidi, Senior Fellow, Centre For European Policy Studies, EMNES

Jamel Trabelssi, Professor, University of Strasbourg, EMNES

Najet El Makaoui, Professor, Paris Dauphine University, EMNES

17.00 Closing remarks by Roger Albinyana, Director, Department of Euro-Mediterranean Policies and Regional Programmes, European Institute of the Mediterranean

About IEMed - The European Institute of the Mediterranean, founded in 1989, is a consortium comprising the Government of Catalonia, the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Barcelona City Council. It incorporates civil society through its Board of Trustees and its Advisory Council formed by Mediterranean universities, companies, organisations and personalities of renowned prestige. In accordance with the principles of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership's Barcelona Process, and today with the objectives of the Union for the Mediterranean the aim of the IEMed is to foster actions and projects which contribute to mutual understanding, exchange and cooperation between the different Mediterranean countries, societies and cultures as well as to promote the progressive construction of a space of peace and stability, shared prosperity and dialogue between cultures and civilisations in the Mediterranean. Adopting a clear role as a think tank specialised in Mediterranean relations based on a multidisciplinary and networking approach, the IEMed encourages analysis, understanding and cooperation through the organisation of seminars, research projects, debates, conferences and publications, in addition to a broad cultural programme.

About EMEA - The Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association is an independent forum that provides forward-looking thinking and political and socio-economic integrated analyses on the Euro-Mediterranean region in an emerging multipolar world. It strives to contribute decisively to the transition process in the Mediterranean region amidst an unprecedented global financial and economic crisis and geopolitical uncertainties and conflicts. More about EMEA: www.euromed-economists.org

About EMNES - The Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies - EMNES is a network of partners and associates research institutions and think tanks working on the Mediterranean region. EMNES aims to provide a renewed vision for socio-economic development in the Mediterranean region, mainly focusing on employment creation, social inclusion, and sustainable development. EMNES areas of research include the role of institutions and institutional reforms, macro-economic policies, private sector and micro, small and medium sized enterprises and employment creation, role of education, innovation, skill mismatch and migration, finance, regulation and the real economy and regional integration. EMNES will produce books, studies, scientific and policy papers and will disseminate through the organization of annual conferences, and workshop meetings in the region bringing together leading senior and junior researchers, academics, policy makers and representatives of the civil society to discuss and debate optimal policies for the future of the region. EMNES is built on four core principles: independence, excellence, policy relevance and deep knowledge on Euro-Mediterranean affairs.

More about EMNES: www.emnes.org