



unimed

Unione delle Università del Mediterraneo  
Mediterranean Universities Union  
Union des Universités de la Méditerranée  
إتحاد الجامعات المتوسطية

# Current projects & SubNetworks

**Associated universities**

**Institutional partnerships**

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## UNIMED Credits

**UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union**  
is an association of universities, based in Rome.

### Headquarter

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Tel: 06 68581430 / 68806186  
Website: [www.uni-med.net/en/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/)

### Social Media



UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union



UNIMED\_Network



UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union

### Email

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## FOREWORD

### A big Mediterranean Family

Our present day world is characterised by increasingly closer interconnections between countries in every field, more and more frequent movements of people fleeing poverty and crisis situations, as well as by other complex issues related to the conservation of the environment, growth sustainability and quality of life. In this context, universities can play a significant role in encouraging dialogue and interaction, as they are a privileged place for the research of new solutions and the training of high-profile people. UNIMED plays a crucial role as an international association of more than 100 universities from more than 20 countries, which manages research projects in different fields, ranging from environmental sustainability to the protection and restoration of seas and transports, as well as cities' liveability, from governance issues at universities to integration of refugees. Furthermore, in the age of disinformation and prejudice between peoples, UNIMED can contribute actively and in a very concrete way in the spreading of tolerance, dialogue, integration and research values. To this purpose, the current board is trying to foster exchanges of perspectives and dialogue between all members on the different issues related to the management of universities, besides the fruitful interactions that arise in the restricted groups involved in the different projects, which, little by little, make us grow into a big international family.

**Francisco Matte Bon**

*UNIMED President from 2018 to 2023*

## A common urge to reflect together

The UNIMED network is undoubtedly one of the most important academic association of the Euro-mediterranean region.

Our activities' attendees (Rectors and Presidents of Universities, Vice-Rectors and Vice-Presidents, Representatives of International Relations Offices, as well as administrative staff) show us their strong commitment to build open and pioneering universities, in tune with their environment, brilliant and innovative. Through their efforts and in the light of the steadfastness we all have in carrying out our activities, we wish, first and foremost, to pay heed to our common urge to reflect together and to share orientations and perspectives of our current and future actions.

Today, our universities face many challenges and attempt to overcome them valiantly and selflessly, ceaselessly striving to improve the quality of their educational and research programmes and to adapt them to their ever-changing social and economic environment. Their hard work aims to define the strategic orientations of their governance, engage in societal issues and actively participate in social debates. In recognising their multi-faceted roles, UNIMED intends to serve as an echo of all these major concerns by encouraging quality exchanges and in-depth reflections among the participants in the meeting.

*UNIMED's raison d'être* is to support the birth of a shared awareness and joint reflections on the concerns and challenges to tackle. Its purpose is to strengthen the active solidarity of all its members so that our mutual actions and common projects can be engraved in our histories and cultures.

Those are some of the grounds for our participation. As the UNIMED founder Prof. Franco Rizzi said: "Mediterranean is our destiny".

We, as UNIMED, are convinced that we have to live this destiny together, hand in hand, thus creating the vision of a Mediterranean region promoting a new Erasmus Mediterranean Generation for peace and prosperity. We cannot forget this because it is the very nature of our association.

**Hmaid Ben Aziza**

*UNIMED Secretary General since 2017*

## Cooperate in favor of cultural diversity

UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union is the fruit of a brilliant initiative by its founding Secretary General Franco Rizzi (1944-2017) who, together with a handful of university presidents around the Mediterranean, was able in 1991 to create a framework for universities to cooperate in favor of cultural diversity, and to work together to face the challenges of the future. Franco Rizzi and his colleagues recognized that as centers of intellectual curiosity with concentrations of youth preparing to become tomorrow's leaders, universities were ideally positioned to bring together research in all fields of human endeavor to bear on the critical issues of our times.

As our region faces unprecedented challenges today, UNIMED is on the ground, with the accumulated experience of its member universities, to assist in the restructuring of higher education institutions in Mediterranean conflict areas and to propose frameworks for the recognition of the academic credentials of regional refugees.

These timely activities complement a series of others, long-term, that promote student mobility, faculty and administrative exchanges, capacity building, and the reinforcement of research and teaching in social science.

UNIMED has developed over the past quarter century to become a major agent for North-South dialogue, working at levels frequently inaccessible to others. It is called upon today to pursue its growth, to strengthen its commitment and to continue to work for a peaceful Mediterranean, a true cradle of civilizations.

### **Wail Benjelloun**

*UNIMED Honorary President since 2019 and former UNIMED President from 2015 to 2018*

## A growing organisation working passionately

UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union was founded in 1991 by Prof. Franco Rizzi and has been active for more than 30 years.

Those years have been very intense, even difficult, but rich with activities, meetings, debates, projects and initiatives which encourage an uninterrupted dialogue while bad politics has been focusing on building walls.

In recent years, UNIMED has grown gradually but significantly: more than 100 associated universities from 24 countries and more than 30 ongoing projects involving at different levels our member universities. This is a growing team, which gets stronger every year and works passionately and attentively for the success of this network.

In addition to the projects, important collaborations with international organisations have been launched and the transparent relationship with the European Commission has been furtherly strengthened.

The ongoing collaborations with international institutions and organisations, more on this later in this booklet, are grounded on strong basis, concrete goals and well defined action plans and show the role UNIMED can and must play.

UNIMED is a network able to reinforce through its members the institutional collaboration and dialogue between Mediterranean scientific societies, but also the cultural and political dialogue. In this view, universities are certainly the best place to respond to the violence of fanaticisms and radicalisms.

The experience acquired through the ongoing projects made UNIMED a recognised and concrete speaker which we can and must consider with care, and, why not, with curiosity.

Obviously, this is not sufficient. Both shores of the Mediterranean basin are undergoing serious social, economic, political and cultural crisis.

In such difficult times for the future of the European Union and the Mediterranean region, we can and must overcome these difficulties and look in our gazes, our histories and our traditions the values that take us beyond the barbarity of bad politics.

**Marcello Scalisi**

*UNIMED Director since 2008*

# UNIMED MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITIES UNION

Network founded in 1991

## Who we are – What we do

UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, founded in October 1991, is an association of Higher Education Institutions focused on academic cooperation throughout the Mediterranean (<https://www.uni-med.net/en/>). It counts more than 100 associated Universities coming from more than 20 countries.

UNIMED's aim is to develop university research and education in the Euro-Mediterranean area in order to contribute to scientific, cultural, social and economic cooperation.

The Universities in UNIMED's network operate in many different fields, and thus UNIMED operates on many different fronts. The image that best represents our association is that of a University without Walls.

UNIMED carries out the following activities in favour of the associated Universities:

- Promoting the international scope of the members;
- Promoting access to the activity of project design and fund raising: information on the calls for proposals and the opportunities provided by international organizations and institutions; finding partners; technical assistance and project design and management;
- Putting in place activities of communication and promotion of projects and scientific and cultural initiatives of the members;
- Promoting the mobility of students, researchers and teachers;
- Providing technical assistance to universities and international relations offices in the management of international projects;
- Organising a Sub-Thematic Network to encourage scientific cooperation in specific sectors;
- Organising conferences, debates, seminars and roundtables at national and international level;
- Promoting research and training projects among the members.

Through the many initiatives carried out over three decades, UNIMED has promoted collaboration between the universities of the Mediterranean, becoming a point of reference of international university cooperation.

## UNIMED SubNetworks

UNIMED has also supported the establishment of a second-level network, constituted of SubNetworks focused on specific sectors. The SubNetworks structure allows for an intensive exchange of information among the participating actors of the two Mediterranean shores for the creation of partnerships, collaborations and projects. The aim of the SubNetworks is to strengthen economic and social cohesion, in order to promote, on the one side, cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation and, on the other side, local sustainable development.

## UNIMED offices

The UNIMED headquarter is in **Rome (Italy)**. UNIMED has three other branches: one in Palestine, at the **National University "An-Najah" of Nablus**, one in Morocco at the **University Mohammed V of Rabat** and one in Portugal at the **University of Evora**.

# CURRENT PROJECTS

## HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

### **DIRASA - Définition d'un renouvellement de la gouvernance de la recherche en Tunisie**

Coordinated by University of Sfax, Tunisia

Countries involved: France, Italy, Tunisia

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (January 2023 - January 2026)



### **APPRAIS - governAnce, quality, accountability: a Piloting Reform PRocess in kurdistan region of Iraq**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy

Countries involved: Iraq, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain

More at: [www.appraisproject.eu](http://www.appraisproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2021 - January 2024)



### **DIGITAQ - Création de Capacités Digitales pour le Pilotage de l'Assurance Qualité dans l'Enseignement Supérieur Algérien**

Coordinated by University of Science and Technology of Oran (USTO) Mohamed Boudiaf, Algeria

Countries involved: Algeria, Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal

More at: [www.digitaq.eu](http://www.digitaq.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2021 - January 2024)



### **ESAGOV - L'Enseignement Supérieur Algérien à l'heure de la Gouvernance Universitaire**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Algeria, France, Italy  
More at: [www.esagovproject.eu](http://www.esagovproject.eu)  
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE  
(January 2019 - January 2023)

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### **INSPIRE - Innovative Governance Practices in the Higher Education Institutions in Iraq**

Coordinated by University of Siena, Italy  
Countries involved: Iraq, Italy, Portugal, Turkey  
More at: [www.projectinspire.eu](http://www.projectinspire.eu)  
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE  
(January 2019 - January 2023)

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## LEARNING INNOVATION



### **CLIP - Critical visual media literacy and empowerment**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Belgium, Greece, Italy, Spain  
More at: [www.clipproject.eu](http://www.clipproject.eu)  
Programme: Erasmus+ CP  
(October 2022 - March 2024)

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### **EPISODE - Enhancing Palestinian Social and Digital Entrepreneurship**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Belgium, Italy, Palestine  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/episode](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/episode)  
Programme: Erasmus+ CBVET  
(January 2023 - December 2024)

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### **FRAMES - Fostering Resilience through Accredited Mobility for European Sustainable HE innovation**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Ireland, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands  
More at: [www.frames-project.eu](http://www.frames-project.eu)  
Programme: Erasmus+ SP  
(March 2021 - February 2023)



### **ON-IT - Online Internship in Tourism**

Coordinated by Università degli Studi di Macerata, Italy  
Countries involved: Croatia, Finland, France, Italy, Spain

More at: [www.on-it.info](http://www.on-it.info)

Programme: Erasmus+ SP  
(March 2021 - February 2023)

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### **DCbox - Digital Curator Training & Tool Box**

Coordinated by Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy  
Countries involved: Cyprus, Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Spain

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/dcbox/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/dcbox/)

Programme: Erasmus+ SP  
(December 2021 - May 2024)

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### **RSMF - Remote Student Monitoring Framework for Securing Exams**

Coordinated by Politechnika Bialostocka, Poland  
Countries involved: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Poland

More at: [www.rsmf-project.eu](http://www.rsmf-project.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ SP  
(November 2021 - October 2023)

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### **VALEU-X - Virtual Albanian European Universities Exchange**

Coordinated by Technische Universitaet Dresden, Germany  
Countries involved: Albania, Germany, Italy, Slovenia

More at: [www.valeu-x.eu](http://www.valeu-x.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE  
(January 2020 - January 2023)

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### **DIGIHEALTH - Innovative Digital skills & teaching methods 4 effective health education in Lebanon & Syria**

Coordinated by Linnaeus University, Sweden

Countries involved: Italy, Lebanon, Spain, Sweden, Syria

More at: [www.digihealth-eu.aiu.edu.sy](http://www.digihealth-eu.aiu.edu.sy)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE  
(November 2018 - November 2022)

## REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

**HGRA - EnHancing manaGement and studies on migRation issues in Libya**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, Libya, Spain

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (January 2023 – January 2026)

**SAFE - foSter cooperAtion For improving access to protEction**

Coordinated by Forum Réfugiés, France

Countries involved: Canada, France, Italy

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/safe](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/safe)

Programme: Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund - AMIF (January 2021 - January 2024)

**Ci-RES - Création de Capacités institutionnelles d'Intégration des Réfugiés dans l'Enseignement Supérieur**

Coordinated by Université Sétif 2, Algeria

Countries involved: Algeria, France, Italy, Spain

More at: [www.ciresproject.eu](http://www.ciresproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (January 2020 - January 2023)

**UNI(di)VERSITY - Socially responsible university for inclusive societies in the era of migration**

Coordinated by Sapienza University, Italy

Countries involved: Belgium, Italy, Spain

More at: [www.unidiversity.eu](http://www.unidiversity.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ SP (December 2019 - December 2022)

## CURRICULA DEVELOPMENT

**TeachersMOD - Future Elementary School Teachers Modernization in Kurdistan**

Coordinated by University of Pavia, Italy

Countries involved: Iraq, Italy, Portugal, Spain

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (January 2023 - January 2025)

### **BIOTECNO - Internationalization of didactic paths in BIOMedicine: design of a training course in cellular and molecular biotechnology**

Coordinated by University of Messina, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/biotecno](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/biotecno)

Programme: PO-FSE Sicilia 2014-2020

(June 2021 - March 2023)

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### **FoSaMed - Enhancing Food Safety in the Mediterranean**

Coordinated by University of Evora, Portugal

Countries involved: Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Spain

More at: [www.fosamed.eu](http://www.fosamed.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2021 - January 2024)

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### **PACTUM - Projecting Academic Capacities with Tunisian Universities through Master courses**

Coordinated by University of Siena, Italy

Countries involved: France, Italy, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.pactum-project.eu/](http://www.pactum-project.eu/)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2021 - January 2024)

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### **SAHA - RaiSe libyAn Higher education heAlth sector for the benefit of local society**

Coordinated by University of Pavia, Italy

Countries involved: Czech Republic, Italy, Libya, Spain

More at: [www.saha.unipv.it/home-page](http://www.saha.unipv.it/home-page)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(November 2020 - November 2023)

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### **MIGRANTS - Master Degree in Migration Studies: Governance, Policies and Cultures**

Coordinated by University of Palermo, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, United Kingdom, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.migrantsproject.eu](http://www.migrantsproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(October 2019 - October 2022)



### **PAgES - Post-Crisis Journalism in Post-Crisis Libya: A Bottom-up Approach to the Development of a Cross-Media Journalism Master Program**

Coordinated by Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione – IULM, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, Libya, Portugal, Spain

More at: [www.pages-project.ly](http://www.pages-project.ly)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2019 - January 2023)

## DOCTORAL EDUCATION

### **AnimalBIOMED - Scientific research training in the Mediterranean area: ANIMAL experimental models in BIOMEDICAL research**

Coordinated by University of Messina, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/animalbiomed](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/animalbiomed)

Programme: PO-FSE Sicilia 2014-2020

(June 2021 - March 2023)



### **RAQMYAT - Stratégies numériques pour la formation doctorale en sciences humaines et sociales en Tunisie**

Coordinated by Université Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne, France

Countries involved: Austria, France, Italy, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.raqmyat.hypotheses.org](http://www.raqmyat.hypotheses.org)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE

(January 2020 - January 2023)

## RESEARCH

### **ASMeC- Attitudini degli Studenti in un Mediterraneo che Cambia**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy

Countries involved: Italy, Lebanon, Morocco

Programme: Fund for research by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



### **IBTIKAR - Promoting research and innovation environment in the Libyan higher Education System**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Italy, Libya, Portugal, Turkey  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/ibtikar](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/ibtikar)  
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE  
(January 2021 - January 2024)



### **Mapping on family farming in the region of Europe**

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy and Portugal  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/familyfarming/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/familyfarming/)  
Contractee: Research funded by the FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation

## **MEDIA AND CULTURE**



### **EUMEPLAT - European media platforms: assessing positive and negative externalities for European culture**

Coordinated by IULM - Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione, Italy  
Countries involved: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey  
More at: [www.eumeplat.eu](http://www.eumeplat.eu)  
Programme: HORIZON 2020  
(March 2021 - February 2024)

## **INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE**

### **Lingua Franca: an experience of linguistic sharing between the shores of the Mediterranean**

Coordinated by University of Catania, Italy  
Countries involved: Italy, Jordan, Tunisia  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/linguafranca](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/linguafranca)  
Programme: PO-FSE Sicilia 2014-2020  
(May 2021 - December 2022)

## **MOBILITY**

### **SO-UNI Alliance - SOUTH-SOUTH UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE**

Coordinated by University of Palermo, Italy  
Countries involved: Algeria, Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/so-uni](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/so-uni)  
Programme: PO-FSE Sicilia 2014-2020  
(July 2021 - March 2023)



### COMMO INDIRE Sicilia FSE (2019-2020)

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Algeria, Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia  
More at: [www.commo.it](http://www.commo.it)  
Programme: PO-FSE Sicilia 2014-2020 and Erasmus+

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### COMMO - Cooperation in the Mediterranean through Mobility of students and staff

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Albania, Kosovo, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Syria  
More at: [www.commo.it](http://www.commo.it)  
Programme: Erasmus+ ICM  
(September 2022 - July 2025)

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### ForMed - Sardegna ForMed

Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy  
Countries involved: Algeria, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia  
More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/projects/formed/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/projects/formed/)  
Programme: Fondazione di Sardegna  
(September 2015 - August 2024)

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## INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

### Euro-MED Sustainable Tourism Community - STC

Coordinated by Diputació de Barcelona, Spain  
Countries involved: Albania, Belgium, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy  
Programme: Interreg MED (January 2023 – January 2029)

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### Urban Transports - UTC

Coordinated by MedCities, Spain  
Countries involved: Albania, Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Spain  
More at: [urban-transports.interreg-med.eu/](http://urban-transports.interreg-med.eu/)  
Programme: Interreg MED - Horizontal projects  
(November 2019 - December 2022)

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### Sustainable Tourism - ST

Coordinated by Diputació de Barcelona, Spain  
Countries involved: Belgium, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Spain  
More at: [sustainable-tourism.interreg-med.eu/](http://sustainable-tourism.interreg-med.eu/)  
Programme: Interreg MED - Horizontal projects  
(November 2019 - December 2022)

# PREVIOUS KEY PROJECTS

coordinated by UNIMED



## SAGESSE - Amélioration de la Gouvernance dans le système de l'Enseignement Supérieur en Tunisie

Countries involved: France, Italy, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.sagesseproject.eu](http://www.sagesseproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (2017-2021)



## DIRE-MED - Dialogue Interculturel, Réseaux et Mobilité en Méditerranée

Countries involved: Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.diremedproject.eu](http://www.diremedproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (2016-2020)



## RESCUE - Refugees Education Support in MENA Countries

Countries involved: Germany, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Spain, Turkey

More at: [www.rescuerefugees.eu](http://www.rescuerefugees.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (2016-2019)



## inHERE - Higher Education supporting Refugees in Europe

Countries involved: Italy, Spain, France, Belgium

More at: [www.inhereproject.eu](http://www.inhereproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ SP (2016-2018)



## RESUME - RESeaU Méditerranéen pour l'Employabilité

Countries involved: Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, France, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.resumeproject.eu](http://www.resumeproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (2015-2018)



**OpenMed - Opening-up education in South Mediterranean countries**

Countries involved: Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine, Spain, United Kingdom

More at: [www.openmedproject.eu](http://www.openmedproject.eu)

Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE (2015-2018)

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**eMEDia, A bottom-up approach for the design and pilot of a joint Master Course in Cross-Media Journalism**

Countries involved: Finland, Italy, Spain, Tunisia

More at: [www.emediaproject.eu](http://www.emediaproject.eu)

Programme: Tempus (2013-2016)

# UNIMED EVENTS

## Annual Events

### **UNIMED General Assembly**

The UNIMED General Assembly represents an important yearly event where rectors, presidents and representatives of UNIMED associated universities meet to exchange views and to determine policy for UNIMED, setting the stage for a full and rich year of initiatives, activities and conferences that shape the academic calendar around the Mediterranean.

The Assembly is an opportunity not only for celebration and balance but for reflection to consolidate the work done and discuss the founding values of UNIMED. At the same time, it is an opportunity to meet and to host representatives of international organisations, government officials, students, influential contributors to the cultural and political spheres and representatives of NGOS.

### **UNIMED Week in Brussels**

The UNIMED Week in Brussels is an annual event providing the Euro-Mediterranean academic community with an opportunity to reflect on the relationships between European Institutions and the Mediterranean region. It is a common chance for an evaluation and revaluation of regional policies.

Concurrently, this event allows to improve the knowledge and use of EU-supported programmes in this field, facilitating the identification of further support needs.

The UNIMED Week in Brussels is an occasion to reinforce a common platform for dialogue, raise questions, develop skills and ability to deal with issues of common concern, and identify steps for future cooperation in a constructive and positive atmosphere.

The activities undertaken by the Euro-Mediterranean academic community show the value of encouraging and supporting this work, while also seeking more synergies in the light of the current multifaceted dynamics and challenges. UNIMED is strongly committed to playing a major role in the region, integrating and synergising key initiatives in research, education, and innovation, as well as in supporting the political dialogue.

## UNIMED Students Events

### **Mediterranean Students Summit**

UNIMED and the Erasmus Student Network (ESN), with the support of the University of Barcelona and the patronage of the Union for the Mediterranean, joined forces to organise the first Mediterranean student event, which will take place on 2nd and 3rd November 2022 at the University of Barcelona. The initiative seeks to bring together Higher Education students from both shores of the Mediterranean to foster intercultural dialogue and work together on common challenges.

In a time of disruption, both UNIMED and ESN are completely convinced that people to people dialogue and international collaboration are crucial. Students and young people are normally asked to be the leaders of tomorrow, but not enough opportunities are given to them so they acquire the competencies and get access to the spaces they need to be able to turn the desire for change into the capacity to do so.

This initiative will pave the way for the establishment of an annual project focusing on student engagement and intercultural dialogue and will gather 24 students from UNIMED member Universities, with a balanced representation of students from Europe and from the South Mediterranean, and facilitators that will guide the discussions. The general objective of the event is to increase mutual awareness and understanding among students from the Mediterranean region and to support the development of competencies that help them to work together on societal challenges and to establish meaningful connections.

### **Start Cup Competition**

The “Start Cup Competition - Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean” is a contest aiming at encouraging student teams from universities on both shores of the Mediterranean to present innovative ideas in the field of entrepreneurship.

The initiative was launched in 2018 in the framework of the Erasmus plus Capacity Building project RESUME ([www.resumeproject.eu](http://www.resumeproject.eu)) and is part of the activities of UNIMED SubNetwork on Employability, whose aim is to strengthen economic and social cohesion by promoting, on the one hand, cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation, and on the other, sustainable local development.

The initiative is jointly organized by UNIMED and the Lebanese University and by the Lebanese University, coordinator of the UNIMED SubNetwork on Employability, with the collaboration of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie - Moyen Orient and the European Training Foundation (ETF).

### **UNIMED Award at the Venice International Film Festival**

The UNIMED Award, collateral prize of the Venice International Film Festival, results from the collaboration between UNIMED, la Biennale of Venice and the

University of International Studies of Rome – UNINT.

This annual award, launched in 2017, is assigned by a jury of international students coming from UNIMED associated universities to the competing movie that best reflects the value of cultural diversity, promotes freedom of artistic expression and cultural exchanges.

The award was established in memory of Prof. Franco Rizzi, former Secretary General and founder of UNIMED, for his lifelong and career commitment to improve cooperation between Euro-Mediterranean universities.

Indeed, since its foundation, UNIMED has always been committed to use education as a global force and a mutual understanding vehicle. For that purpose, the UNIMED Award promotes the understanding between peoples of different cultures and religious beliefs, it fights racism and discrimination, revealing the complex causes of violence and demonstrating the successful mastering of conflicts.

The aim of the UNIMED Award is to encourage cultural exchanges among students and highlight the value of cultural diversity in art.

# UNIMED PUBLICATIONS

## **Lebanon, confessionalism, protests: challenging the ancient regime (2022)**

*“Irhah means: Leave! It is one of the most widespread slogans in the language of the so-called Arab uprisings and this simple word represents very well the cry of protesters’ demands in the popular uprisings arose across almost all the Arab world, the popular quest for a political and social change against the repressive, ineffective, corrupt policies by authoritarian, neo-patrimonial regimes”. – Patrizia Manduchi, University of Cagliari.*

In the framework of the IRHAL project, funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation, the Italian University of Cagliari and three Lebanese universities members of the UNIMED network (Lebanese University, Lebanese International University, USEK – Holy Spirit of Kaslik) have joined efforts to carry out a research with the aim to analyse the participation of the youth community (and within it, specifically students) in the protest movements that took place in Lebanon in 2019.

In the final report, titled “Lebanon: between aspiration of changes and the ancient regime” and edited by Marco Di Donato and Patrizia Manduchi, thanks to the collaboration with Lebanese academicians and a well-structured field research performed in the country, authors have been able to present an unusual point of view with respect to some crucial issues that are affecting nowadays Lebanon, with the aim of providing “food for thought” and contribute to the debate related to the immediate future of the country and the role that youth can eventually play.

## **The Internationalisation of Higher Education in the Mediterranean, Current and Prospective Trends (2021)**

Addressing regional needs of Higher Education Institutions and with the aim of paving the way for a change of scale in the support mechanisms for Higher Education sectors in the Mediterranean, the Union for the Mediterranean launched a study, conducted by UNIMED, aimed at being an effective tool for policymakers and other stakeholders. The study aimed to investigate the internationalisation

of higher education, to identify obstacles and challenges, to outline transferable inspiring practices and finally to make a series of recommendations for the Union for the Mediterranean to foster regional integration. The study investigated the internationalisation of higher education in 10 countries – Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia – focusing especially on resources and opportunities available at the national and regional levels.

As a result, this report presents a detailed national context analysis for each of the 10 target countries, a focus on mobility flows in the region, complemented by a wide range of inspiring and scalable practices, as well as an overview of the role played by regional organisations in providing opportunities, creating synergies and making resources available for the higher education institutions in the Mediterranean. Country-specific recommendations were designed in order to address national challenges. At the end of the research and consultative process, a number of common themes for the Euro-Mediterranean region were also identified, in relation to which additional regional recommendations were drafted, with the aim of enhancing the internationalisation of higher education in the region. In this sense, the Union for the Mediterranean has a pivotal role for the construction of a political and dialogue space in the Mediterranean, while UNIMED, as an independent network, has played the role of the connector between universities, institutional players and regional organizations.

## Scenarios for the integration of Virtual Exchange in Higher Education (2021)

The report was created by the FRAMES consortium and it presents scenarios of integration and accreditation of Virtual Exchange (VE) in Higher Education, including challenges and opportunities, and cases illustrating how VE has been implemented within the educational offerings of HEIs.

The report is essential reading for anyone interested in exploring the opportunities VE can offer to innovate mobility in higher education. It is the first major output of the FRAMES project, which aims to foster a harmonised implementation of blended mobility among European Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), making the European Higher Education Area more innovative and resilient and helping universities to move from the COVID-19 emergency to sustainable innovation.

The report begins by delineating the key concepts and definitions associated with Virtual Exchange, providing a clear and succinct introduction for those new to the area. It then presents twelve case studies of integration and accreditation of Virtual Exchange in Higher Education across Europe, aggregated into four categories of VE scenarios, namely VE as a preparatory or follow-up activity to physical mobility (blended mobility); VE as an intertwined component of physical mobility (blended

mobility); VE as a stand-alone learning activity; VE as a component of a course (traditional or online).

Moreover, the report shows how VE can offer a more inclusive approach to internationalisation by allowing students who would not take part in a physical mobility programme the opportunity to have an international experience as part of their university studies, and acquire essential transversal skills, such as the ability to work in culturally diverse settings.

## **UNIMED Occasional Paper: The perceived impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education in the Southern Mediterranean (2021)**

The South-Mediterranean region has been strongly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has aggravated pre-existing socioeconomic challenges such as youth employment, especially of university graduates, and social inequalities. To mitigate the impact of universities closures due to the pandemic, learning in the Southern Mediterranean has gone virtual, moving online where connectivity allows it and using television, radio, and paper-based approaches where internet access is limited. While the transition succeeded throughout the region and was able to ensure the continuity of education, the capabilities of the universities varied, with some of them seeming more knowledgeable and experienced with online learning compared to others who actually ended up providing distance learning with limited interactivity and students' support.

The Occasional Paper presents the results of a survey launched in May 2020 among Presidents/Rectors, Vice Presidents/Vice Rectors and Offices of International Relations of UNIMED member universities in the Southern Mediterranean, aiming to better understand how universities have been reacting to the pandemic and which innovative solutions have been put in place.

The survey results have been updated and enriched by the members of the UNIMED SubNetwork on eLearning and Open Education, and have been enriched with a selection of the inputs collected by UNIMED through the online platform "Online Resilience – A collection of Online Learning Stories during COVID-19".

## **Libya Restart – A journey analysis (2020)**

Universities are an essential element for a country's reconstruction, for its future, the starting point for civil society, a place for discussing and proposing solutions. This consideration has been the base for the initiative Libya Restart, culminated in a report which was presented during the UNIMED General Assembly in 2019 and which contains the final results of almost two years of work.

UNIMED started the collaboration with Libyan HEIs in 2015 for common participation in projects co-funded in the framework of the Erasmus+ programme.

As natural consequence, in 2018 UNIMED decided to launch Libya Restart, an institutional initiative aimed at gaining a deeper understanding of the Libyan Higher Education System, through a research activity performed jointly by UNIMED staff and Libyan University academic and technical staff. Together, we spent more than one year collecting and analysing data and documentation, discussing results, sharing ideas, making mistakes, finding alternative primary sources. Between 2018 and 2019 an assessment work on the Higher Education system in Libya, its main priorities, needs and challenges was conducted through the submission of a quantitative survey and a series of qualitative interviews. In this process, UNIMED has cooperated with the Presidencies and International Relations Offices of 16 Libyan universities.

# SUBNETWORKS



## SubNetwork Food and Water

Coordinator: MED-Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, University of Evora, Portugal

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-food-and-water/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-food-and-water/)

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## SubNetwork Transports and Logistics

Coordinator: University of Catania, Italy

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/transports-logistics/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/transports-logistics/)

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## SubNetwork Employability

Coordinators: UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, Lebanese University, Lebanon

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-employability/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-employability/)

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## SubNetwork Mediterranean Tourism

Coordinators: University of Jordan, University of Girona, Spain

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mediterranean-tourism/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mediterranean-tourism/)



### SubNetwork eLearning and Open Education

Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-elearning-and-open-education/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-elearning-and-open-education/)

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### SubNetwork BlueMed

Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-on-bluedmed/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-on-bluedmed/)

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### SubNetwork Sport & Physical Activity

Coordinators: "Foro Italico" University of Rome, Italy & University of Jordan

More at: [www.uni-med.net/subnetwork-sport/](http://www.uni-med.net/subnetwork-sport/)

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### SubNetwork Journalism

Coordinators: Tampere University, Finland & Alexandria University, Egypt

More at: <http://www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-journalism/>

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### SubNetwork Migration

Coordinators: Mohammed V University, Morocco & University of Bologna, Italy

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-migration/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-migration/)



### SubNetwork Mobility & Intercultural Dialogue

Coordinators: UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, DIRE-MED partners

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mobility-dialogue/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mobility-dialogue/)

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### SubNetwork on Safety and Security of Critical Infrastructures

Coordinators: University of Salento, Italy & University of Jordan

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-safety-and-security-of-critical-infrastructures/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-safety-and-security-of-critical-infrastructures/)

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### SubNetwork Climate and Environmental Change

Coordinators: University of Girona, Spain & Abdelmalek Essaâdi University, Morocco

More at: [www.uni-med.net/en/climate-and-environmental-change-2/](http://www.uni-med.net/en/climate-and-environmental-change-2/)

# ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES

UNIMED represents **150** members from **24** countries

## ALBANIA

European University of Tirana  
Metropolitan University of Tirana  
University of Aleksandër Moisiu Durrës

## ALGERIA

University of Algiers 1  
University of Algiers 2  
University of Bouira  
University of Sétif 2

## CYPRUS

Cyprus University of Technology  
Girne American University  
Neapolis University Pafos  
University of Cyprus

## EGYPT

Arab Academy for Science and  
Technology and Maritime Transport  
Matrouh University  
University of Alexandria  
University of Cairo  
University of Sadat City

## FINLAND

Tampere University

## FRANCE

Aix-Marseille University  
University of Montpellier  
University of Rouen  
University of Strasbourg  
University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

## GREECE

National and Kapodistrian University  
of Athens

## IRAQ

Duhok Polytechnic University  
Middle Technical University  
University of Duhok  
University of Zakho

## ITALY

Academy of Fine Arts of Rome  
CEFPAS  
Foro Italico University of Rome  
Gabriele D'Annunzio University of  
Chieti-Pescara  
International Telematic University  
UNINETTUNO  
International University of Language  
and Media-IULM  
International University of Rome-  
UNINT  
Iuav University of Venice  
Libera Università Mediterranea  
Link Campus University  
Marche Polytechnic University  
Mercatorum University  
Pegaso Telematic University  
Polytechnic of Turin  
Sapienza University of Rome  
Tuscia University  
University Cà Foscari  
University of Bari  
University of Bologna

University of Cagliari  
University of Calabria  
University of Catania  
University for Foreigners of Perugia  
University of Macerata  
University of Messina  
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia  
University of Padova  
University of Palermo  
University of Pavia  
University of Perugia  
University of Pisa  
University of Salento  
University of Sassari  
University of Siena  
University of Teramo  
University of Urbino

#### **JORDAN**

Al-Ahliyya Amman University  
Al al-Bayt University  
Amman Arab University  
Applied Science Private University  
Aqaba University of Technology  
Isra University  
Middle East University  
Princess Sumaya University for Technology  
University of Jordan  
University of Petra  
University of Yarmouk  
Zarqa University

#### **KOSOVO**

University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"

#### **LEBANON**

Antonine University  
Holy Spirit University of Kaslik  
International University of Beirut  
Lebanese International University  
Lebanese University

#### **LIBYA**

Azzaytuna University  
Bani Waleed University  
Gulf of Sidra University  
Libyan Academy Misurata  
Libyan International Medical University  
Misurata University  
Nalut University  
Omar Al-Mukhtar University  
Sabratha University  
Sebha University  
University of Aljufra  
University of Benghazi  
University of Derna  
University of Elmergib  
University of Gharyan  
University of Sirte  
University of Tobruk  
University of Tripoli  
University of Zawia

#### **MAURITANIA**

University of Nouakchott Al Aasriya

#### **MOROCCO**

Abdelmalek Essaâdi University  
Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine  
Mohammed V University  
University Ibn Tofail of Kenitra

#### **OMAN**

Middle East College

#### **PALESTINE**

Al-Quds Open University  
An-Najah National University  
Arab American University  
Islamic University of Gaza  
Palestine Polytechnic University  
Palestine Technical University  
University of Bethlehem

University of Birzeit  
University College of Applied Sciences

**PORTUGAL**

University of Evora  
University of Tras-os-Montes and Alto Douro

**QATAR**

Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

**SPAIN**

University of Barcelona  
University of Girona  
University of Granada  
University of Murcia

**SYRIA**

Academy of Health Sciences  
Al-Baath University  
Al-Furat University  
Al-Hawash Private University  
Al-Sham Private University  
Arab International University  
Arab University of Science and Technology  
Idlib University

Manara University  
Tishreen University  
University of Al Andalus  
University of Aleppo  
University of Damascus  
University of Hama

**TUNISIA**

University of Carthage  
University of Kairouan  
University of La Manouba  
University of Monastir  
University of Sfax  
University of Sousse  
University of Tunis  
University of Tunis El Manar  
Virtual University of Tunis

**TURKEY**

Boğaziçi University  
Istanbul Aydın University  
Manisa Celal Bayar University  
Suleyman Demirel University

**YEMEN**

University of Aden

# INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



## Al Fanar Media – AFM (UK)

**Al Fanar Media (AFM)** – a project of the Alexandria Trust – is an independent nonprofit news organization focusing on education, research and culture in the Arab region. All AFM stories, commentary and resources are published in both Arabic and English.

Through their agreement, UNIMED and Al Fanar Media aim at fostering the cooperation between the academia and the media sector, the universities and the journalists, by developing joint initiatives and actions in areas of mutual interests such as journalism, migration, employability, digitalization, climate change, education for all.

Al Fanar Media is the media partner of UNIMED in the dissemination of studies, reports, stories, news etc. in the areas above-mentioned.

A set of initiatives are jointly developed, among others: the production of editorial contents, the organisation of trainings, workshops, seminars, roundtables and conferences, the collaboration in fundraising initiatives for research, the exchange of information and publications.



## Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation – ALF (Egypt)

The **Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures (ALF)** is an international organisation composed of forty-two Euro-Mediterranean countries. Its aim is to bring people together as a way to promote dialogue between cultures and respect for diversity.

Through their agreement, UNIMED and the Anna Lindh Foundation express their shared strategic intent to deepen their cooperation at Euro-Mediterranean level by strengthening research cooperation among members of their own networks, civil society organisations and universities.



### Association of Arab Universities – AARU (Jordan)

The **Association of Arab Universities (AARU)** is an organisation working within the framework of the Arab League. It is based in Amman, Jordan. The objective of the organisation is to support and connect universities in the Arab world, and to enhance cooperation among them.

The UNIMED-AARU cooperation aims to collaborate in areas of mutual interest such as in the fields of higher education and research in order to better understand the Euro-Mediterranean region cooperation and to strengthen this partnership. The cooperation between UNIMED and AARU will mainly focus on holding joint seminars and conferences on specific topics, visits of staff and experts and the participation in international and EU projects strengthening universities' capacities.

European  
Network of  
Living Labs

### European Networks of Living Labs - ENOLL (Belgium)

The **European Network of Living Labs (ENOLL)** is both an open community and a non-profit legal association for Living Labs in Europe and worldwide. The association, as the legal European representative entity of the network, is based in Brussels, the heart of Europe, and was established in 2010. It is composed of adherent members, full members, and innovation Living Labs partners (previously labelled as associate members). In 14 years, the ENOLL network has recognized over 480 Living Labs. Today it has 155 active members, present in 18 of the 26 EU Member States and with 20% of its members based outside the EU. ENOLL offers frameworks for co-creation, user involvement, testing, and experimentation of innovations in many areas by facilitating and encouraging knowledge exchange, joint actions, and project partnerships among its members. The network aims to promote the concept of Living Labs in order to influence EU policies and disseminate the model globally.



### Erasmus Student Network – ESN (Belgium)

The **Erasmus Student Network (ESN)** is the biggest volunteer-based student organisation active in the field of student mobility and internationalisation of higher education.

The agreement aims to promote and foster the cooperation between the two parties, through mutual promotion, events, exchange of expertise in favour of the youth community involved in the activities of ESN or UNIMED. Pursuing the common goal of intensifying the academic exchange of people across all banks of the Mediterranean Sea implies the promotion, communication and dissemination of the partner's activities, a common effort to engage students and youth as active contributors in the parties' projects, such as conferences and research tasks. It also includes the exchange of expertise, which means inviting the other party or suggesting competent speakers, moderators and stakeholders in the shared field of interest but also encouraging shared publications and research studies.



### European Investment Bank – EIB (Luxembourg)

The **European Investment Bank (EIB)** is the lending arm of the European Union. It is the biggest multilateral financial institution in the world and one of the largest providers of climate finance.

The EIB helps the economy, creates jobs, promotes equality and improves lives for EU citizens and for people in developing countries.

The cooperation agreement is established within the framework of the "EIB University Networks", a system of partnerships of the EIB Group with University networks showing characteristics that are of particular relevance to support its objectives as the policy bank of the European Union.

Within this agreement, UNIMED represents one of the preferred vehicles of the EIB to channel its Universities Action Programme, framing the cooperation between the Bank and the academic world.



### European Training Foundation – ETF (Italy)

The **European Training Foundation (ETF)** is the EU agency supporting countries surrounding the European Union to reform their education, training and labour market systems.

The purpose of the cooperation UNIMED - ETF is to strengthen institutional capacities in delivering quality education and training in the Mediterranean region, enhancing information and knowledge exchanges on themes linked to entrepreneurship and employability, entrepreneurial learning, career guidance, vocational training, promoting policy dialogue and mutual exchanges between schools and academia and other stakeholders, including enterprises, labour market stakeholders and national, regional and international labour authorities, in order to contribute to improve social cohesion and achieve more sustainable economic growth through the reform of education, training, and labour market systems. The cooperation will be at the country, regional and global levels as mutually agreed. It also includes possibilities of synergies and activities within the framework of the UNIMED Subnetwork on Employability.



### Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme – FMSH (France)

The **Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH)**, founded in 1963 by Fernand Braudel in Paris, is both a national and international crossroad which contributes to the development, vibrancy and attractiveness of social sciences and humanities. The agreement aims at developing joint programmes of research, study, exchange and cooperation in the areas of Social Sciences and Humanities. In particular and due to their common interest in strengthening Social Sciences research at a regional level, the FMSH and UNIMED organise joint mobility programmes for postdoctoral and senior researchers from Europe and the Euro-Mediterranean area. This agreement also allows for common actions aimed at supporting French- Euro-Mediterranean networks of young researchers by implementing a short-term mobility fellowship programme called “FMSH-UNIMED short-term postdoctoral mobility fellowship”.



### Fondazione di Sardegna (Italy)

**Fondazione di Sardegna** is a private foundation having as a main goal the promotion of Sardinia Region socio-economic development.

Since 2014, UNIMED has been managing, in cooperation with the University of Cagliari and the University of Sassari, the ForMed project. The project is funded by Fondazione di Sardegna and involves the universities Algiers 1 (Algeria) Mohammed V (Morocco), Tunis, Tunis El Manar, Sfax and Sousse (Tunisia). UNIMED

has coordinated the activities of the universities involved, playing an important role as a liaison but also in supporting the students' career path. This project has produced excellence in university courses, created solid collaboration programmes that will last over time and heightened the international profile of Sardinia on the university level and beyond.



### Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations – FAO (Italy)

The **Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** is a specialised agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.

The agreement provides a framework for cooperation between FAO and UNIMED by joining technical and academic efforts on matters of mutual interest for both parties. In particular, it aims to enhance UNIMED member universities' technical knowledge and expertise through FAO's e-learning courses and the Research4Life programme as well as to foster expertise exchange on food security, sustainable water management, fight against desertification and other SDGs. It also includes possibilities of synergies with the activities of UNIMED SubNetworks and the commitment for a greater awareness in support of the UN Decade of Family Farming. Another remarkable purpose is to expand student participation in the Internships, Volunteers and Fellow programme offered by FAO.



### Fundación Tres Culturas del Mediterráneo (Spain)

The **Fundación Tres Culturas** works every day to promote dialogue, peace and tolerance between peoples and cultures of the Mediterranean through a wide training and cultural offer.

The goal of the agreement with UNIMED is to develop joint initiatives and actions in areas of shared interests such as intercultural dialogue, mobility and migration, employability, and heritage. It also aims to encourage the cooperation between universities and civil society actors, particularly in collaboration with the UNIMED SubNetwork for Mobility and intercultural dialogue, which was born in the framework of the Erasmus+ project DIRE-MED.



### International Training Centre of the ILO– ITCILO

The **International Training Centre** is an advanced technical and vocational training institution in the heart of a riverside park in Turin, Italy. Founded in 1964 by the International Labour Organization and the Government of Italy, the Centre’s mission is to achieve decent work for all women and men.

The Centre is dedicated to the pursuit of learning and training to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8: “Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, and decent work for all.”

The partnership with the ITC-ILO aims at offering learning, knowledge-sharing, and institutional capacity-building programmes within the UNIMED network and with the ILO-ITC partners. In particular, in the framework of the SubNetwork on Employability, it aims to set up a forum where development intersects with all forms of knowledge in the world of work, from tripartism to technology.



### South Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region – PACA (France)

The **South Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (PACA)** is a French territorial community.

The Memorandum of Understanding seeks to develop cooperation on Mediterranean issues based on exchange of information and contributions, mainly for strengthening Mediterranean youth academic and non-academic mobility.



Union pour la Méditerranée  
Union for the Mediterranean  
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط

### Union for the Mediterranean – UfM (Spain)

The **Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)** is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organisation which brings together all 28 countries of the European Union and 15 countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. The UfM’s mission is to enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of projects and initiatives with tangible impact on civil society, with an emphasis on young people and women, in order to address the three strategic objectives of the

region: stability, human development and integration. The cooperation agreement UfM-UNIMED is strictly related to enhance the higher education and research opportunities in the Southern Mediterranean countries, with particular attention to some crucial themes for this region: environment, climate change, blue economy, energy, transports, employability, international mobility, migration. It also includes possibilities of synergies within the framework of the UNIMED SubNetwork on Employability.

# INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS



Philanthropy Europe Association

## Philanthropy Europe Association – Philea, Belgium

The Philanthropy Europe Association (Philea) – former European Foundation Centre (EFC) – is an independent international non profit association whose mission is to strengthen the philanthropic sector through cooperation between partners. Founded in 1989 by 7 foundations, today Philea has 236 members – predominantly foundations – from 40 different countries. As a leading platform for philanthropy in Europe, Philea works to strengthen the sector and make the case for institutional philanthropy as a formidable means of effecting change. Within this partnership, UNIMED and Philea gain skills and share expertise, insights and knowledge, connect people and amplify ideas for a stronger institutional philanthropy able to face current challenges.



## International Association of Universities – IAU (France)

The **International Association of Universities (IAU)** is an independent organisation with over 650 Member universities and organisations in 120 countries. Created under the auspices of UNESCO in 1950, IAU serves the global higher education community by offering opportunities for exchange and collaboration, advisory services and training, trends analysis and specialized portals. Through its established partnerships with international organisations, IAU promotes collaboration among its Members by articulating the fundamental values and principles that underpin the pursuit, dissemination and application of knowledge. The Association advocates for higher education policies and practices that respect diverse perspectives and promote social responsibility.



### Lifelong Learning Platform – LLLP (Belgium)

The **Lifelong Learning Platform (LLL)** is an umbrella organisation that gathers 42 European organisations active in the field of education, training and youth, representing more than 50.000 educational institutions and associations. LLLP deals with innovative practices exchange and with supporting dialogue between civil society organisations and public authorities (mostly the European Commission) through advocacy.

The partnership with LLLP has the objective of being continuously updated on the European Commission policy developments in the field of LLL and to be able to reach the members of the LLLP platform with our news. This partnership was developed within the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange project but is useful also for other UNIMED activities.



### Migrants dans l'Enseignement Supérieur – MEnS (France)

The network **Migrants dans l'Enseignement Supérieur (MEnS)** was founded in September 2017 with the support of the Conference of University Presidents (CPU). It brings together and coordinates higher education institutions (universities, schools, institutes) and associations, committed to the reception and integration of students and researchers in exile in France. The objective of this network is to take political action with the public authorities in order to alert them on the situation of migrants, and to develop actions aimed at improving their integration (access to studies, recognition of diplomas, French courses, and coordination actions at local and national level). Working groups have been organized around key questions and thus allow national actors to meet, exchange information and share good practices.

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Marcello Scalisi

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