

## UNIMED SubNetwork on Mobility and Intercultural dialogue

The objective of the **UNIMED SubNetwork on Mobility and Intercultural dialogue**, to be launched as part of the DIRE-MED project ([www.diremedproject.eu](http://www.diremedproject.eu)), a European Union project funded under the Erasmus + Capacity Building program, is to promote academic cooperation between members on the theme of mobility and exchange of people to support and develop intercultural dialogue. DIRE-MED involves partners from Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia but the SubNetwork has a regional dimension and is open to all UNIMED country members.

The SubNetwork will act through the development of initiatives, sharing information through ongoing projects and partnerships already undertaken or in the process of definition, among university departments, research centres, NGOs, civil society organizations, International organizations.

To better respond to the challenges faced by the Mediterranean region, in particular the southern Mediterranean countries, all the actors concerned are called to mobilise and make the most of the policies implemented at all levels.

The SubNetwork is therefore aimed at strengthening Euro-Mediterranean relations to create and support a Mediterranean Generation by promoting cross-border, transnational and inter-regional mobility in favour of a sustainable local and regional development.

The specific objectives of the SubNetwork are:

- **Gathering and sharing information** directly with the main stakeholders in the sector, throughout the Mediterranean region and contribute to the creation of an academic community interested in cooperating in the framework of Mobility and Intercultural Dialogue;
- **Conducting studies**, analysis and write research papers on the above-Mentioned theme of mobility and intercultural dialogue, and insuring the innovation's development;
- **Encouraging dialogue** to create new partnerships and to develop joint projects to spread mobility and intercultural dialogue opportunities;
- **Organizing international events** (workshops, seminars and conferences, webinars, summer schools, training activities for students, researchers,

International Relations Departments) to improve the flow of knowledge and encourage mutual understanding

- **Promoting the exchange of students, professors and administrative staff** thanks to the various opportunities offered by International institutions;
- **Sharing initiatives** for strengthening university/society dialogue and cooperation, including for instance civil society organizations and enterprises. In this case, it will be made in cooperation with UNIMED subnetwork on Employability;
- **Improving the South-South mobility Scheme** to integrate as much as possible the Higher Educations Systems of Partner Countries;
- **Exploring the Virtual Exchange opportunities** as a tool to favour the physical mobility and to encourage the intercultural dialogue.

Participating in this SubNetwork means actively engaging in its activities, with the commitment to regularly participate in networking activities and events. The SubNetwork will be coordinated by UNIMED with the support of DIRE-MED partners.

If you are interested in participating in this initiative and to confirm your membership to the SubNetwork, I would be very grateful if you could fill out the [attached form](#) with information about your current activities on the subject and send it to **unimed@uni-med.net**

Please also indicate the contact person for the activities of this SubNetwork in your University.

For this phase, we will accept registrations of interest until December, **20 th, 2019.**

### **About DIRE-MED project**

DIRE-MED is a project started in 2016 with the involvement of the Universities of Algiers 1 and Setif 2 in Algeria, the universities of Abdelmalek Essaadi de Tangiers and the Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine in Morocco, the universities of Tunis El Manar and Carthage in Tunisia, the university of Catania in Italy, the university of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne in France and EUSA in Spain. INCOMA and PACA region are also partners in this project coordinated by UNIMED.



DIRE-MED seeks to establish a long-lasting relationship of mutual trust, understanding and intercultural awareness among Mediterranean countries promoting the mobility and exchange of people and in longer term, a major economic and cultural integration of the region. DIRE-MED aims at:

- Creating a framework of cooperation to facilitate the exchange of students, academic and non-academic staff of HEIs in the Mediterranean basin. The actions planned by the project will increase the competitiveness of higher education institutions (HEI) and help to strengthen cooperation between them (South-South) and between them and Europe.
- Articulating the HEI-enterprise cooperation through the promotion of intercultural dialogue and by strengthening the international and entrepreneurial spirit in the region that will boost the labor market.
- Providing capacity-building for the staff of the International Relation Offices of the HEIs from the partner countries in order to set them up as “International Opportunities Offices”. The International Opportunities Offices will act as internationalisation hubs within their institutions and throughout the region, leading to the promotion of international opportunities and mobility for education and training purposes in their areas and promoting the internationalisation of their universities.
- Influencing institutional and political policies in order to consolidate, improve and develop new programs and initiatives.

#### **Website**

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