Current projects & SubNetworks
Associated universities
Institutional partnerships
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 to play 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
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
UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union is the fruit of a brilliant initiative by its founding Secretary General Franco Rizzi 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
UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union was founded in 1991 by Prof. Franco Rizzi and has been active for almost 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 23 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
Who we are – What we do

UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, founded in October 1991, is an association of Universities from the Mediterranean basin countries (www.uni-med.net). It counts 133 associated Universities coming from 23 countries of both shores of the Mediterranean (data updated in December 2020). 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 a University without Walls. UNIMED carries out the following activities in favour of the associated Universities:

• Promoting the international dimension of universities;
• Encouraging the participation of its members in international projects;
• Planning and fundraising activities;
• Promoting mobility in the Euro-Mediterranean region, for students, researchers and academic and administrative staff;
• Creating thematic SubNetworks to foster scientific cooperation within specific fields;
• Organising meetings, discussions, seminars and roundtables both at a national and international level.

Through the many initiatives carried out over three decades, UNIMED has promoted collaboration between the universities of the Mediterranean, becoming a point of reference for 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 “Franco Rizzi” Study Center

Created in 2017, the UNIMED “Franco Rizzi” Study Center produces analyses on the Mediterranean Region using primary sources, as well as original and in-depth studies written directly by researchers of the UNIMED Study Center or by university professors, and specialists who are part of the UNIMED network. The main activities of the UNIMED Study Center are publications of e-book monographs on topics of particular relevance to the Mediterranean region from a socio–political and academic perspective and the organisation of seminars, events and roundtables. The UNIMED Study Center is dedicated to the memory of prof. Franco Rizzi, Secretary General and Founder of UNIMED (1944-2017).

UNIMED offices

The UNIMED headquarter is in Rome (Italy). UNIMED has four other branches: one in Palestine, at the An-Najah National University, one in Morocco at the University Mohammed V of Rabat, one in Portugal at the University of Évora, one in France at the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.
CURRENT PROJECTS & SUBNETWORKS

HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

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
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2019 - January 2022)

INsPIRE - Innovative Governance Practices in the Higher Education Institutions in Iraq
Coordinated by Università degli Studi di Siena, Italy
Countries involved: Iraq, Italy, Portugal, Turkey
More at: www.projectinspire.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2019 - January 2023)

SAGESSE - Amélioration de la Gouvernance dans le système de l’Enseignement Supérieur en Tunisie
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: France, Italy, Spain, Tunisia
More at: www.sagesseproject.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2017 - April 2021)

StEER-Leb - Student Empowerment, Engagement and Representation in Lebanese Universities
Coordinated by Université Saint-Esprit de Kaslik, Lebanon
Countries involved: France, Italy, Lebanon, Spain
More at: www.steer-leb.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2017 - October 2021)
APPRAIS - governAnce, quality, accountability: a Piloting Reform PRroces in kurdistAn reigon of Iraq
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: Iraq, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/apprais
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2021 - January 2024)

LEARNING INNOVATION

Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange
Coordinated by Search for Common Ground, Belgium
Countries involved: Europe and South Mediterranean countries
More at: europa.eu/youth/erasmusvirtual/
Programme: Tender by DG EAC, European Commission
(January 2018 - December 2020)

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
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2020 - January 2022)

UNI-ECO - Practical and Collaborative Tools for Sustainability Innovation in the University
Coordinated by University of Montpellier, France
Countries involved: Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/projects/uni-eco
Programme: Erasmus+ SP
(October 2019 - August 2022)

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
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(November 2018 - November 2021)
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**JOVITAL - Jordan Opportunity for Virtual Innovative Teaching and Learning**
Coordinated by Technische Universitaet Dresden, Germany
Countries involved: Germany, Italy, Jordan, Slovenia, United Kingdom
More at: www.jovital.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2017 - April 2021)

**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 Mohamed Boudiaf, Algeria
Countries involved: Algeria, Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/digitaq/
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(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
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
Programme: Erasmus+ SP
(December 2019 - December 2021)

**NEXUS - PromotiNg thE neXus of migrants throUgh active citizenShip**
Coordinated by UNED - Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Spain
Countries involved: Belgium, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Sweden
More at: www.nexus4civics.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ SP
(September 2019 - August 2022)
RAISD - Reshaping Attention and Inclusion Strategies for Distinctively vulnerable people among the forcibly displaced
Coordinated by Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
Countries involved: Finland, Jordan, Hungary, Italy, Lebanon, Spain, Turkey
More at: www.raisd-h2020.eu
Programme: HORIZON 2020
(February 2019 - January 2022)

UPGRADE - Upskilling Refugees and Adult Educators
Coordinated by University of Piraeus Research Center, Greece
Countries involved: Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Italy
More at: www.upgrade-erasmus.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ SP
(September 2018 - June 2021)

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

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
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
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2019 - January 2022)
EduBioMed - Capacity building for education and applied research on Mediterranean UNESCO’s biosphere reserves
Coordinated by Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain
Countries involved: France, Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, Spain
More at: www.edubiomed.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(November 2018 - November 2021)

Enbrain - Building capacity in renewable and sustainable energy for Libya
Coordinated by Politecnico di Torino, Italy
Countries involved: Italy, Libya, Portugal, Spain
More at: www.enbrain-project.com
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2017 - October 2020)

MAYA - Master in Agricultural and Hydrological Approaches to a better sustainable development
Coordinated by Desertification Research Center - Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy
Countries involved: Greece, Italy, Spain, Tunisia
More at: www.maya-project.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2017 - April 2021)

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.uni-med.net/en/projects/saha
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2020 - October 2023)

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.uni-med.net/en/projects/pactum
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2021 - January 2024)

FOSAMED - Enhancing Food Safety in the Mediterranean
Coordinated by University of Evora, Portugal
Countries involved: Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Spain
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/fosamed
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2021 - January 2024)
RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATION

PELIARQ - Promoting European-Levantine Internationalisation and Automatic Recognition of Qualifications
Coordinated by University of Naric, United Kingdom
Countries involved: Italy, Malta, United Kingdom
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/peliarq
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(September 2020 - September 2022)

DOCTORAL EDUCATION

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

RESEARCH

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
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(January 2021 - January 2024)

IRHAL - For an analysis of the Lebanese protests and the role of the youth beyond the paradigm of confessionalism
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: Italy, Lebanon
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/irhal
Programme: Fund for research by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(October 2020 - October 2021)
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.uni-med.net/en/projects/eumeplat
Programme: HORIZON 2020
(March 2021 - February 2024)

MOBILITY

DIRE-MED - Dialogue Interculturel, Reseaux et Mobilité en Méditerranée
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia
More at www.diremedproject.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2016 - October 2020)

COMMO - Cooperation in the Mediterranean through Mobility of students and staff
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: Albania, Italy, Montenegro, Tunisia
More at www.commo.it
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(June 2016 - July 2023)

ForMed - Sardegna ForMed
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
Countries involved: Algeria, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia
More at www.uni-med.net/en/projects/formed/
Programme: Fondazione di Sardegna
(September 2015 - August 2021)

INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

Urban Transports - UTC
Coordinated by MedCities, Spain
Countries involved: Albania, Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Spain
More at urban-transports.interreg-med.eu/
Programme: Interreg MED - Horizontal projects
(November 2019 – June 2022)
**UNIMED SUBNETWORKS**

**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/
Programme: Interreg MED - Horizontal projects
(October 2015 - October 2018)

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**SubNetwork Food and Water**
Coordinator: University of Evora, ICAAM Center, Portugal
More at: 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/

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**SubNetwork Employability**
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
Scientific Coordinator: Lebanese University, Lebanon
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-employability/
Background project: RESUME - RESeaU Méditerranéen pour l’Employabilité
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
More at: www.resumeproject.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2015 - October 2018)
SubNetwork Mediterranean Tourism
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mediterranean-tourism/

SubNetwork eLearning and Open Education
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-elearning-and-open-education/
Background project: OpenMed - Opening-up education in South Mediterranean countries
Coordinated by UNIMED, Italy
More at: www.openmedproject.eu
Programme: Erasmus+ CBHE
(October 2015 - October 2018)

SubNetwork BlueMed
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-on-bluemed/

SubNetwork Sport & Physical Activity
Coordinator: “Foro Italico” University of Rome, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/subnetwork-sport/

SubNetwork Journalism
Coordinator: Tampere University, Finland
More at: http://www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-journalism/
SubNetwork Migration
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/unimed-subnetwork-on-migration/

SubNetwork Mobility & Intercultural Dialogue
Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
More at: www.uni-med.net/en/subnetwork-mobility-dialogue/

SubNetwork on Safety and Security of Critical Infrastructures
Coordinator: University of Salento, Italy

SubNetwork Climate and Environmental Change
Coordinator: University of Girona, Spain

This document has been updated in January 2021
ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES

UNIMED represents 133 members from 23 countries

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

ALGERIA
University of Algiers 1
University of Bouira
University of El Oued
University of Mohamed Khider Biskra
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
University of Alexandria
University of Cairo
University of Dammanhour
University of Sadat City

ITALY
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
Libera Università Mediterranea
Link Campus University
Marche Polytechnic University
Mercatorum University
Pegaso Telematic University
Polytechnic of Turin
Sapienza University of Rome
University Cà Foscari

UNIMED • Mediterranean Universities Union
University of Bari
University of Bologna
University of Cagliari
University of Calabria
University of Catania
University for Foreigners of Perugia
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

University of Aljufra
University of Elmergib
University of Gharyan
University of Sabratha
University of Sirte
University of Tripoli
University of Zawia

MOROCCO
Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine
Mohammed V University
University Ibn Tofail of Kenitra
University of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah of Fès

OMAN
Middle East College

PALESTINE
Al-Aqsa University
Al-Quds Open University
An-Najah National University
Arab American University
Islamic University of Gaza
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

JORDAN
Al-Ahliyya Amman University
Amman Arab University
Aqaba University of Technology
Isra University
Princess Sumaya University for Technology
University of Jordan
University of Petra
University of Yarmouk
Zarqa University

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

LIBYAN
Azzaytuna University
Libyan Academy Misurata
Libyan International Medical University
Sebha University
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
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 Aydin University
Manisa Celal Bayar University
Suleyman Demirel University

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Gulf Medical University

YEMEN
University of Aden
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. In particular, cooperation allows to work jointly on intercultural issues using several tools, such as an online courses, a media platform and an observatory of research, but also various initiatives and courses on intercultural issues as well as cross-cultural reporting. The Anna Lindh Foundation and UNIMED are also jointly involved in the strategic programming of youth-led dialogues and exchanges (Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange), enabling youth in Europe and the Southern Mediterranean to engage in meaningful intercultural experiences online, as part of their formal or non-formal education.

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.

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. UNIMED assists particularly in academic research and dissemination activities on socio-economic issues related to the Mediterranean region and supporting the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

**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.

**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.

Lifelong Learning Platform – LLLP (Belgium)
The Lifelong Learning Platform (LLLP) 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. L LLP 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.

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 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.
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