

LA VERTICALE AME

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THE FUTURE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN LIES IN THE SOUTH

→ THE END OF A EURO-MEDITERRANEAN CYCLE

The announcement in 2015 of the revision of the EU neighbourhood policy seemed to end a cycle initiated in 1995 by the Barcelona process. Including more and more Eastern neighbours via the ENP, the European Union marginalised the Mediterranean region.

Nevertheless, in the current unstable situation, thinking and building the Euro-Mediterranean region is crucial. This is what IPEMED, a foresight institute, kept doing over the last decade. Mediterranean countries undoubtedly have interests in common, but they also share challenges exceeding the national framework. It is the case of migration flows, ecological and climate constraints, youth unemployment and terrorist threats. The notions of proximity and complementarity also lie at the heart of this region and increasingly define the economic relations among businesses.

However, this space is no longer sufficient to face globalisation and lead development policies. Several reasons can explain this situation:

- Economic forces are at work. As mobility and e changes of goods, capitals and information are going to grow significantly in the EMA region (Europe-Mediterranean-Africa), major international companies are increasingly adopting an operational territorial division of this region;
- Political actors are also involved in large-scale cooperations and understand the importance of partnerships and cooperations with close neighbours and neighbours' neighbours.

This transformation in the behaviour of public and private actors follows a heavy trend: the regionalisation of the global economy.