

Report for Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament

# Europe and the Mediterranean

Propositions for building  
a major region  
with global influence

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**IPEMED**

- INSTITUT DE PROSPECTIVE ÉCONOMIQUE DU MONDE MÉDITERRANÉEN -

This discussion paper on Europe and the Mediterranean responds to a request from the President of the European Parliament. Its aim is to make propositions for devising and implementing a common future for areas made interdependent by their geography and history. This future must be built at a time when societies in Europe and South and East Mediterranean Countries (SEMCs) are, in their own ways, asking profound questions; when societies and decision-makers are becoming aware of the transformations needed to tackle huge environmental challenges; and when globalization is impelling the constitution of major regions.

This report draws from all of the research done by IPEMED, and in particular its Political Steering Committee<sup>1</sup> (PSC), the body that defines the strategic direction of its work. It also benefits from the body of studies published by IPEMED on those focal areas that condition development in the region, closely involve civil society and companies, and foster regional integration. Lastly, it is inspired by the content of 30 interviews carried out by IPEMED in 2012 on building the Mediterranean's common future<sup>2</sup>.

Five years of analysis and debate have fed into this report on the future of North-South relations in the Mediterranean. Today, there is a *sense of urgency* for producing a *level-headed report* based on respect and equality that can act as a basis for reducing the tensions over identity making progress both north and south of the Mediterranean. Europe has a responsibility to show its solidarity in the political, economic and social transformations that Arab societies in motion are aiming for.

However, urgency does not mean rushing the changes that will inevitably take time. Transition in Spain and Portugal, for example, took several years. It is therefore crucial that Europe should remain attentive to the demands of countries in the South and East, in particular in social and economic areas, since that is where the third phase of democratic transition will be played out, following on from the demand for freedom and dignity, then elections and the creation of tools for governance.

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<sup>1</sup> One of the ideas that emerged from the PSC was its premonitory call in 2007 for a *Right to the rule of law*, without which there can be no democracy or sustainable development in the Mediterranean. The question of the Mediterranean's global integration came up the following year. If it is to succeed, integration must take place on a regional basis, i.e. by developing *proximity, interdependence and solidarity*. The construction of a Mediterranean area should be based on *fair management of scarce resources*, like energy, land, water and underground resources, which should be considered as the common possessions of humankind and managed fairly for the benefit of people living North and South. The upheavals that took place in countries South and East of the region brought up the issue of political representation, along with the question of how to *involve young people* in the political arena.

<sup>2</sup> "*Méditerranée: 30 voix pour bâtir un avenir commun*", Construire la Méditerranée, Paris, IPEMED, 2012 (French only).

## 1. THE POPULAR UPSURGES IN SOUTH AND EAST MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES CHANGE EVERYTHING FOR THESE SOCIETIES AS WELL AS EUROPE

Following the outbreak of national movements that led SEMCs to independence half a century ago, most of them went through several decades of political and economic stagnation, even deadlock. The last two years have seen these societies start moving again, marking the end of the post-colonial period (except Algeria, which did not see through its transition twenty years ago for lack of international solidarity). Since 2011, with different outcomes depending on the country, people living in the South and East Mediterranean have clearly defied the elites that proved incapable of setting their societies on the post-independence road to development. The mass education achieved in the South, despite its shortcomings, coupled with new means of communication, have had an impact: young people are no longer willing to put up with a society locked in by *monolithic authoritarianism* (a non-religious version), preying fund-holders, and humiliation.

Societies in the South and East Mediterranean are discovering that they are multi-faceted and contradictory, like all other societies in the world, and that submitting to a single model is no longer necessary. They need to find their own ways to live with this diversity and work with divergence and political opposition, pacify the relationships between majorities and minorities, and respect those who contradict and criticize. On a historic scale, this is what these movements point to. Although the political forces riding on this new momentum present the characteristics of monolithic authoritarianism (this time in their religious version), in the long term they will be unable to continue locking in societies that are now more open, better informed and multi-faceted. These societies now need to accept their differences and live with their diversity.

This social uprising opens up a period in which a *historical compromise* can be established between the two major currents at work: one of which demands citizenship, law and contracts, while the other seeks to establish legitimate sources in transcendental references. Neither of these two currents can durably triumph, and a stable situation cannot be built in Arab societies if one stamps out the other.

Societies are therefore *bound to compromise*, just as major founding modern movements in Europe and Asia have done, each in their own way. The compromise that South and East Mediterranean societies must invent is, with difficulty, in the process of hatching.

## North and South face the challenge of renewal

Upsurges and identity-related tensions in the North and South Mediterranean, set against a backdrop of all kinds of crises, will unsettle relations between societies and their governments on both sides of the Mediterranean.

In the South, the uprisings have opened up a new era: following the deep changes now in process it will be years before societies stabilize in a new direction. As elsewhere, major social change will involve taking forward and backward steps, by trial and error. Following over half a century of deadlock, societies have set in motion, freeing up tensions accumulated over decades – tensions that are and will continue to be expressed in violent ways. This new motion opens up marvellous opportunities, first of all for people in the South and East, who can take their destiny back into their own hands, extending their potential and fuelling the hope of successful political modernization. People in the North, too, can envisage a future with genuine partners who, although more demanding, are now autonomous, with more legitimate leaders who are more in touch with the concerns of their societies.

Can we relegate to the past European complacency and its complicity with former leaders prior to the protest movements? Countries in the South and East Mediterranean can now make different choices when it comes to cooperation. If it is to avoid being marginalised, Europe must therefore demonstrate that it can satisfy their expectations.

In the North, the future is just as uncertain, rocked by weak economic momentum, identitarian issues, democratic precariousness, and demographic decline. Yet the constraints of the economic crisis, combined with ecological concerns, can provide an opportunity to accelerate the changes needed in the economic model, and Europe's awareness that its global power has diminished. In other words, these challenges can open the way for defining Europe on new bases that are open to the world and proximity, all of which would give new momentum to societies in the North. Europe needs deep-seated reform and a redefinition that will inevitably bring up the issue of borders. These will have to be multiple and functional, and no longer simply territorial. This redefinition of Europe should take in the Mediterranean, not just as European outskirts, but as a *circle to be integrated* in a pragmatic, functional way through common objectives and policies.

When it comes to the historical redefinition of Europe, the whole Mediterranean must have its say.

## Projects devised in the North and unsuccessfully projected to the South

In the Mediterranean area, for fifty years, various political projects were drawn up and projected from the North: “Mediterranean policy”, followed by the “new Mediterranean policy”, the “Euro-Mediterranean partnership”, “Neighbourhood policy”, “Union for...”, etc. These political projects were thought up by a North looking down upon the South, with an emphasis on institutional state-by-state construction, taped up in complex procedures, applied to geographical areas resulting from diplomatic choices made by countries in the North, with little consideration for the countries or societies of the South.

These programmes had little impact on the social and political reality of countries in the South, which remained under the thumb of authoritarian regimes. The support that countries in the North granted their southern neighbours in exchange for protection against migration and terrorism, and the European Union’s double-speak regarding human rights, turned out to be short-term moves. These decisions now weigh heavily in the social imagination of the South, while democratic upsurges have occurred in all countries in the South and East since the end of 2010 (and in Algeria in 1988).

The regional approach therefore needs a complete re-think.

From this observation, one positive feature emerges: *the project-based approach*, favoured during recent years, stands out as a definite improvement that should be maintained in future joint ventures in the Mediterranean. The Union for the Mediterranean’s Secretary General, in its capacity as an operational institution, could be one of these tools if it is capable of coordinating these projects, mobilizing the required professional capacities (e.g. water, sanitation, agronomics, health, transport, finance, etc.), and implementing a new method for action.

## 2. WHAT SHOULD THE NEW METHOD BE FOR BUILDING A COMMON FUTURE?

We propose a method based on four factors.

The first is to establish all common construction *in liaison with societies*, so that it comes from them rather than being imposed from up high. Rather than construction that starts in institutions, the region needs *projects that can be understood by its inhabitants*. Today, the democratic upsurges in SEMCs increase the potential for initiating an approach that involves societies. It will be long and complex, but it is worth taking the time for society-based construction. In the long term, it will be *time well saved*: the Mediterranean will not be made without its people.

The second factor is that the boundaries of action, the relevant ensembles, cannot be decided in advance by countries on their own, but should be determined *based on concrete activities that take place on the field*, with social, cultural, economic and political activities. Instead of pre-determined geographical divisions, projects should start by creating variable geographical areas made up of countries and societies that have voluntarily signed up to these programmes. In the place of heavy, opaque procedures that pre-date projects, each project should generate *ad hoc* operating methods, with its own targets and social accountability. It is important to accept that projects come in multiple shapes in order to respond to the multiple identities that cut across not just societies, but the individuals that make up those societies. This, once more, underlines the pertinence of a *project-based approach with variable perimeters*.

The third is that the time when the *North looked down upon the South* is over. Future constructions can only be long lasting and produce peace and prosperity if they are built on truly balanced foundations in which countries and societies are recognized as equals. Responsibilities are shared: rebalancing North-South relations also involves developing exchanges and coordination between people living in the South, which the democratic upsurges in SEMCs should allow and encourage.

Lastly, a “project-based Mediterranean area” should be at the heart of this method, since projects involve working together, which helps build trust.

We insist on the absolute coherence of these four factors: it is this coherence that lends substance to a new approach for building a socially responsible, long-lasting region together.

### 3. CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO PREPARE THE FUTURE

This paper proposes key measures for preparing the future together. This proposition-based approach is divided into *two time slices*:

**Concrete projects for the short term:** work together to devise projects that are understandable for societies and implement them quickly. Themes to put forward to get the work started: build common production channels; create the conditions for closer standardization; set up a Euro-Mediterranean Energy Community; establish a regional development bank; jointly prioritize and tackle environmental emergencies.

**Long-term visions to build together:** establish a dialogue tool, a permanent forum for joint work on themes of common interest, with no exceptions: the “Conference on Solidarity and Cooperation in the Mediterranean”. This conference will link in with civil society initiatives on the themes it addresses.

#### 3.1. Concrete projects for the short term

##### Make general security the basis of a pact of trust

Several sectors that involve a significant “security” component could give the region an aim for *general security* that goes well beyond the meaning of security as is currently understood: security for investments (international arbitration, standardized legal framework for e.g. public-private partnerships) and exports; energy supply security; food security to deal with the surge in international food prices affecting inhabitants in the South, with Europeans helping to develop territory-based channels in fruit and vegetables, milk, cereals and oilseed; secure access to drinking water and sanitation; secure medication and universal health care; physical and insurance security for people and possessions faced with natural and technological risks (civil protection).

This new philosophy of action in sensitive domains where regulation cannot be left to the market alone could be the basis of a pact of trust that the region has so far been unable to find. It would be a way of creating a very concrete link between societies and the progress of regional construction, and involving each of us more closely.

##### Create the conditions for normative convergence

Turkey is a particularly interesting case because, with a view to becoming a member of the European Union, it undertook a vast programme of economic and political reform and structural transformation. The country’s success, starting from 2001, appears to be the result of these structural reforms, by which it established the institutional and legal foundations of a competitive, modern market economy.

One suggestion is that, like Turkey, SEMCs that agree to integrate the *acquis communautaire* into their legislation, could be supported by the European Union.

Apart from energy and other industrial channels, several measures could help interconnect the region and give greater Euro-Mediterranean visibility to financial perspectives, i.e. seeking greater convergence of laws and regulations between countries of the North and of the South, encouraging administrative twinings and exchanges of experience, and including SEMC research teams in responses to European Commission calls for tender.

### **Tackle together the issue of ‘ill-gotten gains’**

It is not sufficient to make the “right to the rule of law” the absolute norm and grant similar status to all areas of legislation (i.e. financial, educational and social). We need to move into the terrain of *illegal acquisition*, by ensuring the traceability of money resulting from corruption and drug trafficking, even when funds pass through offshore money laundering zones in Asia, America and Europe. It is clear that the beneficiaries of these “ill-gotten gains” have only one aim in mind: to secure their assets, particularly in developed economies. Any acceptance of this type of financial or real-estate investment should be the equivalent of receiving stolen goods and punished by law if applicable, or by new, international laws to be created.

### **Set up common production channels to build regional integration**

The economic dimension of regional construction involves *increasing the region’s competitiveness* in the face of the North American and Asian blocks, which means deploying value chains and production on the scale of a major region comprising Europe and South and East Mediterranean Countries. By making the region a springboard towards the global market, this strategy could be built up by working with the complementary factors of demography, techniques, energy and finance, as Japan did with the countries in its neighbourhood (which went on to become the *Asian Tigers*), and Germany continues to do with Central and East European Countries. This set-up should go beyond sub-contracting and take new forms, like the widespread practice of joint companies with co-contracted, crossover investments, and *coproduction* that mobilizes human resources through circular migration from South to North and North to South.

These channels remain to be identified, but they could, for example, be based on what has been started in the aeronautical, car and food industries. The service sector offers numerous opportunities, such as computer services, bearing in mind that the digital revolution brings minds together more than any technological revolution in the past, and that *digital natives* on both sides of the Mediterranean are probably closer now than any other generation before them. Coproduction is the best way to integrate a region.

### **Create a “Euro-Mediterranean Energy Community”**

The region holds all the trumps in the energy sector, not just to make supplies secure over the long term, but to carry out the *energy transition* and make it one of the bases of new growth. This is why as early as 2003, Euro-Mediterranean ministers started working on a project to integrate the regional gas and electricity markets. Several achievements bear witness to the beginnings of deep-seated regional integration: the construction of the Mediterranean electricity ring, cooperation on regulations with Med-reg, an alliance for



energy efficiency with Medener, and the launch of the Mediterranean Solar Plan with the UfM.

Energy can become a major trans-Mediterranean channel for several reasons. The first is that Europe and SEMCs need to make their supplies secure: Europe's energy independence is set to drop from 66% (2000) to 53% (2020); in the South, electricity consumption will triple by 2030 – more than other developing countries in the world – which will entail investment in energy infrastructure of between 310 and 350 billion US dollars.

The second reason is that countries in the South, both consumers and producers, want to be actively involved in the energy transition. Thirdly, North-South relations in the Mediterranean are characterized by common issues and complementary assets: in the North, expertise in renewable energy and energy-efficient transportation, buildings and industry; in the South, hydrocarbon reserves, enormous solar potential and the development of solar-gas power plants. A historic opportunity therefore exists for both sides to build a community of interest between *complementary* countries (producers and consumers) that are not in competition.

The European External Action Service recognized this historic opportunity when it mentioned the “Euro-Mediterranean Energy Community” (EMEC) in its Communication of 8 March 2011.

### **Create the development bank that the region is waiting for**

All of the world's major regions possess their own development bank, except the Mediterranean. Yet this region lacks coordination between donors, does not sufficiently mobilize private savings, and needs support in financial engineering, particularly for SMEs and infrastructure projects. Mediterranean countries' investment needs are considerable when it comes to infrastructure and job creation. For the next ten years, the EIB estimates SEMCs' requirements to be 100 billion euro in the energy field, 100 billion for urban development (i.e. water, sanitation, waste treatment, urban transport), 20 billion for logistics (i.e. ports, airports, motorways) and 20 billion for supporting business development.

Several reasons argue in favour of urgently launching a Mediterranean development bank:

- > The current financial instruments are insufficient to support development on the south side of the Mediterranean. The EIB intervenes in SEMCs via the FEMIP, but these countries do not sit on its board. SEMCs should be fully involved in the administration of this bank: it would show political volition for convergence, bringing economic players from the South up to the same level, and pooling production experience; although the EBRD's field of action has been extended to some SEMCs, they are only given a limited role in strategy;
- > A development bank for SEMCs, including experts capable of helping these countries set up projects and evaluate risks, would help make up the shortfall of expertise in the region;

- > It would ensure rationalization and visibility of the Gulf States' financial involvement in the triangular situation set out below;
- > The bank could help make use of excess liquidity when it occurs in the South, and usefully direct a share of the thirty billion US dollars that go through the Mediterranean each year in the form of remittances by migrants;
- > It would help restore the confidence of investors and industrials in the region. It would help improve the security conditions of savings flows and investments by: adopting an approach based on long-term regional integration (e.g. funding electricity and road interconnections); facilitating the transformation of idle balances into long-term resources; carrying out essential tasks like funding SMEs and the private sector; supporting the activation of financial markets; and fostering conditions for stability and currency pegging.

Most of the bank's capital should come from public and international institutions, mainly so as to ensure "AAA" grading, while remaining open to other sources of funding, such as sovereign funds, particularly those of the Gulf States, and the private sector. An initial estimate of the capital needed to launch this institution's activities would be between 10 and 15 billion euro.

### **Triangulation: associate projects from SEMCs, technology from Europe and financial resources from the Gulf**

Specific operations could associate the Gulf States to this new Euro-Mediterranean production partnership. We know that they supply over a fifth of FDI coming into SEMCs and that they play an increasing role in funding Arab countries that have undergone protest movements.

However, their role is currently restricted to production modernization in these countries. On the one hand, these investments often take the form of income operations (real estate or tourism) or one-off investments (privatisations); on the other hand, the Gulf States are exporting less to Europe and SEMCs and more to Southern and Eastern Asia, which now buy two-thirds of their hydrocarbons: oil from the Gulf is clearly moving its target towards Asia.

The idea would therefore be to include Gulf States, in an institutional manner including via a development bank, in longer-lasting, more productive partnerships with advantages for all parties, including the Gulf States, which could move away from a rent-based economy.

### **Draw from an integrated knowledge area**

To support this redeployment of production on a scale taking in Europe and the South and East Mediterranean countries, thus making it into a high production zone to stand up to the rest of the world, an *integrated knowledge area* could be created. This would support joint research programmes and the mobility of scientific teams from North and South. A priority

approach could involve an Erasmus-style exchange system between the South and North, an upgrade of educational institutions, twin university projects, and scientific and normative joint management, all of which would be easy to set up, with a low level of investment for significant mid- and long-term impact.

### **Reflect serenely on the issue of mobility**

It will be impossible to build anything solid and mutually advantageous in the region without a total rethink of the *migration* issue, which will necessarily involve mobilizing societies, with all the inevitable difficulties of such a sensitive subject.

Europe cannot remain an armoured fortress forever: the South's labour force matched with the North's ageing population brings a genuine opportunity for mutual benefits. But how can this opportunity be exploited? Solutions exist that aim to spread companies' production over the whole region, including the South and East Mediterranean. Migrants' energy can also be mobilized to help develop their countries of origin.

On the question of the movement of people, we need to prepare for a less-restrictive policy on working visas. In the short term, it should be easier for Mediterranean inhabitants to obtain visas for short stays in Europe for academic, artistic or professional reasons.

The solution is therefore to move from an administrative approach to migration to an economic approach to mobility. In any case, the question of respecting people and their rights should be at the heart of these approaches. This applies to the common values to be built and to the common interests of societies of South and North, as well as those of migrants.

### **Promote universal social security in the South as for the North**

The transition in the South calls for original propositions on social care, and the right to housing, healthcare, education and employment. People are particularly sensitive to improvements in their living conditions, as well as to their place as a citizen and new modes of social integration, on a terrain where parties calling for a politicized Islam have benefited from a long period of inadequate state presence. Europe could propose an ambitious partnership in terms of education, research, housing, international mobility, socially responsible economics, and health.

In the latter domain, the partnership should foster industrial, technological and commercial cooperation in the field of medication (e.g. in a North African Marketing Authorization), and promote universal healthcare to counteract the increasingly common two-tier health system in SEMCs – each of which would naturally retain the right to choose its own methods of implementation.

### **Tackle environmental challenges together**

Finally, tremendous environmental challenges are shared by the whole Mediterranean and need to be tackled together: desertification, climate change, food security, and excessive consumption of non-renewable natural resources (e.g. water, hydrocarbons, land). These challenges provide an occasion to build *public assets on a regional scale* and support

common constructions on institutional and economic levels, as well as in terms of research, and so create jobs in both North and South.

This list is not exhaustive and other projects, such as decentralised cooperation and the organization of socio-professional networks, would merit being clearly identified and developed.

### **3.2 FOR THE LONG TERM, JOINTLY BUILD A COMMON VISION: CREATE A PERMANENT DIALOGUE FORUM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN**

A message of friendship needs to be addressed to people in the South and East Mediterranean. A clear, strong message on the need for reconciliation and living together respectfully is an indispensable first step in our region. An excess of accumulated suffering, injustice and scorn have led Arab-Muslim populations to take refuge, not in religion, but in a religious ideology that has become the weapon of cultural isolationism. Excessive ignorance and fear have led European inhabitants to confuse Islam with fundamentalism, and to be blind to the efforts of those who would like to reform Islam and those who would like to set up the rule of law, to be content with short-sighted ideas about the South, to turn in on themselves by mistrusting people in the South and increasing trade protection for their farm produce. We need to talk about the issue if we are to overcome it.

Yet talking will not be sufficient if we do not equip ourselves with the tools of a dialogue for construction.

Taking inspiration from the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which ran from 1970-1974 and was devised as a tool to help heal the wounds that had divided Europe, IPEMED's Political Steering Committee suggests creating a *Conference for Solidarity and Cooperation in the Mediterranean*.

This would involve, in the long term, setting up a *permanent space for debate* between European countries and SEMCs that want it, thus giving sensitive subjects the time to mature and blow over. Any subject could be dealt with and reconsidered: history, culture, economics, human rights, the state of law, religion, mobility, industrialization, the energy transition, protection of the environment, etc. with the aim of tackling all themes interesting states and civil societies and ultimately creating region-wide *convergences of interest*.

Each theme would have its own "Thematic Convention" responsible for coming up with *concrete propositions*. In the space of one, two, three, four years or more, representatives from civil society in all their diversity – young people, universities, religious people, artists, politicians, members of parliament, trade unionists, industrials, etc. would discuss on an equal footing with a balance between both sides, to purge the past and prepare the future.

Several capitals could be suitable to host this permanent convention: Geneva, as was the case for the CSCE in 1970; Istanbul, which bridges the European Union, SEMCs and the Gulf States; Tunis, the starting point of the transition in the South; Algiers, to discuss the energy future; Lisbon and Rabat to open out to sub-Saharan Africa; Strasbourg, to make the European Parliament an important player in this vision.

These processes could be punctuated by major get-togethers of citizens from both sides of the Mediterranean, creating an opportunity for debate, mutual activities, celebrations, events, sports competitions, and exchanges, so that people can see others as they really are, rather than as they would like them to be. We could thus move away from rigid representations, envisage cooperation founded on common values, and jointly elaborate projects. In all of these areas, citizens' imagination is a vital ingredient to feed into propositions for joint initiatives.

## ANNEX

# IPEMED's Political Steering Committee Members

### CO-PRESIDENTS

**Abderrahmane HADJ NACER:** Former governor, Bank of Algeria

**Carmen Romero LOPEZ:** European Member of Parliament, Spain

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### MEMBERS

**André AZOULAY:** Advisor to the King of Morocco, President, Anna Lindh Foundation

**Yadh BEN ACHOUR:** Former dean, Member of the International Law Institute, Tunisia

**Georges CORM:** Former minister, Lebanon

**Kemal DERVIS:** Former minister, Former UNDP administrator, Turkey

**Iqbal GHARBI:** Academic, Tunisia

**Günter GLOSER:** Bundestag member, Germany

**Elisabeth GUIGOU:** Former minister, France

**Mouloud HAMROUCHE:** Former Prime Minister, Algeria

**Alain JUPPE:** Former Prime Minister, France

**Denis MACSHANE:** Former minister, United Kingdom

**Miguel Angel MORATINOS:** Former minister, Spain

**Fathallah OUALALOU:** Former minister, Morocco

**Josep PIQUE:** Former minister, Spain

**Jean-Pierre RAFFARIN:** Former Prime Minister, France

**Panagiotis ROUMELIOTIS:** Former minister, Deputy executive director IMF, Greece

**Javier SOLANA:** Former high representative of the E.U. for common foreign and security policy, Spain

**Hubert VEDRINE:** Former minister, France

**Le Comité d'Orientation Politique**  
**Carmen Romero & Abderrahmane Hadj Nacer, Co-présidents**

Monsieur Martin Schulz  
Président du Parlement Européen  
Parlement Européen  
BP 1047 - Rue Wiertz  
Bruxelles

Paris, le 27 mars 2013

Vos Réf. : votre courrier 301950 du 12 février 2013  
Nos Réf. : CR/AHN/AL/2013/41

**Objet** : Remise du rapport du Comité d'Orientation Politique d'IPEMED

Monsieur le Président,

Par lettre du 12 février dernier, vous nous avez confié la rédaction d'une note prospective sur les relations Europe-Méditerranée-Afrique du Nord. Nous vous remercions de cette mission et avons l'honneur de vous transmettre, sous ce pli, les résultats d'un travail collectif, réalisé par des personnalités du Nord, du Sud et de l'Est de la Méditerranée, exerçant des responsabilités privées ou publiques, membres du Comité d'Orientation Politique d'IPEMED.

Nous nous sommes appuyés sur les travaux menés par IPEMED depuis de nombreuses années. Notre constat est que les pays du Sud et de l'Est de la Méditerranée sont confrontés à des mouvements profonds et irréversibles, qui sont destinés à durer. Mais dès à présent, l'Europe doit agir dans l'urgence avec des projets utiles aux populations, s'inscrivant dans une stratégie globale et une vision politique de l'avenir.

Comment l'Europe peut-elle agir ?

- A court terme, il convient de mettre en place des projets concrets sur les terrains économique et social, car c'est là que se joue une part essentielle de la transition démocratique. Et ceci dans un esprit de partenariat égalitaire entre le Nord et le Sud.
- Sur le long terme, nous proposons de construire une vision stratégique de l'avenir de la région euro-méditerranéenne. Nous proposons qu'entre l'Europe et les Pays du Sud et de l'Est de la Méditerranée, un dialogue permanent des sociétés civiles soit créé, qui se tiendrait au sein d'une « Conférence pour la Solidarité et la Coopération en Méditerranée », CSCM (cf p12 du rapport).

Pour compléter cette note prospective, IPEMED pourrait, si cette idée vous agréée, vous remettre dans les prochains mois, un inventaire de quelques propositions concrètes, dans ses domaines d'expertise, tels que l'eau, l'énergie, la banque, la sécurité alimentaire, la santé, le changement climatique, mais également la constitution de réseaux professionnels, la



coopération décentralisée entre collectivités et institutions locales et régionales, la mobilité professionnelle, etc., qui viendraient alimenter les réflexions en cours ou à venir, et permettraient, tout en répondant aux besoins avérés des populations du Nord et du Sud, de faire de l'Euro-Méditerranée une grande région économique intégrée, durable et solidaire.

Nous sommes très heureux et honorés que, sur votre proposition, les grandes lignes de ce rapport soient présentées devant la Commission Politique, de Sécurité et des Droits de l'homme de l'Assemblée Parlementaire Euro-méditerranéenne, présidée par Madame Tokia Saïfi, le 11 avril prochain.

Nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de notre haute considération.

Abderrahmane Hadj Nacer

Carmen Romero





ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ ПАРЛАМЕНТ    PARLAMENTO EUROPEO    EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT    EUROPA-PARLAMENTET  
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Le Président

301950    12.02.2013

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Madame la Co-présidente, chère collègue,  
Monsieur le Co-président,

Permettez-moi tout d'abord de vous faire part du plaisir que j'ai eu à participer, le 6 décembre dernier à Paris, aux rencontres de l'IPEMED consacrées aux enjeux de la co-localisation.

Je garde le souvenir précis d'interventions pertinentes, visionnaires et encourageantes sur les potentialités de développement économique et de construction d'un destin politique commun entre nos sociétés méditerranéennes.

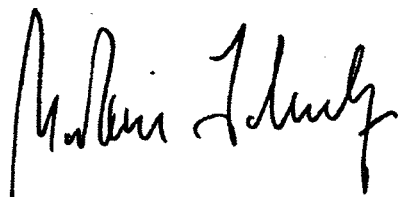
Les travaux de l'IPEMED restent en effet une source d'inspiration permanente pour les hommes et femmes politiques dont je fais partie, profondément convaincus que l'avenir prospère de l'Europe passe également par celui de la Méditerranée.

C'est donc avec intérêt que j'ai pris connaissance de votre aimable invitation à participer à la réunion annuelle du Comité d'orientation politique de l'IPEMED, le 22 février prochain, à Paris. Je regrette hélas de ne pas pouvoir être des vôtres en raison d'un autre engagement. Toutefois, mon conseiller diplomatique, Alexandre Stutzmann, y prendra part en mon nom. Soyez assuré de l'attention que je porterai aux conclusions de vos réflexions.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous soumettre une proposition. Je crois qu'il serait opportun et bénéfique à plusieurs égards, si le Comité d'orientation politique pouvait rédiger une courte note prospective sur les relations Europe-Méditerranée-Afrique du

Nord. Ce rapport pourrait ensuite faire l'objet d'une communication à l'Assemblée parlementaire de l'Union pour la Méditerranée. Notre prochaine session plénière se tiendra à Bruxelles, sous ma présidence, les 11 et 12 avril 2013.

Vous souhaitant une réunion des plus fructueuses, je vous prie, Madame et Monsieur les Co-présidents, de croire à l'assurance de ma parfaite considération.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Schulz', written in a cursive style.

**Martin Schulz**

Copie: Monsieur Jean-Louis Guigou, Délégué général, IPEMED



**IPEMED**

- INSTITUT DE PROSPECTIVE ÉCONOMIQUE DU MONDE MÉDITERRANÉEN -

IPEMED, the Mediterranean world Economic Foresight Institute, is a non-profit organisation whose aim is to integrate the countries to the North and South of the Mediterranean via economic means. IPEMED raises awareness of the common future and interests of the Northern and Southern countries of the Mediterranean. Financed through private funds, IPEMED adheres to the principles of political independence and North-South parity in its governance and operations. IPEMED accords priority to the economy, favours an operational approach to projects, and works to a long-term perspective. Radhi Meddeb is its president and Jean –Louis Guigou its Delegate general.