

UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union



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

Marco Di Donato, UNIMED Research Unit

ILHAM-EC Kick off Meeting

UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union: Foundation & offices



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1991: Establishment of the Mediterranean Universities Union, formed of 24 Universities.

2015: Network of **83** Universities of **20 countries** in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Head Office: Palazzo Baleani, Rome, Italy

Regional Offices:

Muhammad V University, Rabat, Morocco (Presidency office)

An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine

University of Salento, Lecce, Italy

Opening Soon: Cairo and Algiers

ALBANIA - ALGERIA - CYPRUS - EGYPT- UNITED ARAB
EMIRATES - FINLAND - JORDAN - GREECE - ITALY -
LEBANON - LIBYA - MOROCCO - MONTENEGRO -
OMAN - PALESTINE - PORTUGAL - SYRIA - SPAIN -
TUNISIA - TURKEY

UNIMED main objective



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UNIMED aims at promoting,
in a multidisciplinary perspective,
interuniversity research and education...

**...in order to contribute to the integration
process between the two Mediterranean
shores.**

UNIMED carries out the following activities in favor of its members:



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- Improving **intercultural dialogue** between the two shores of the Mediterranean basin;
- Promoting the **international dimension of universities**;
- **Planning and fund raising activity**;
- Promoting **mobility in the Euro-Mediterranean region for students, researchers and academic staff**;
- Organising **meetings, discussions, seminars and round tables both at a national and international level**;

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- Providing technical assistance for the **enhancement of quality assurance in university education**;
- Providing **training for academic and administrative staff of Universities**, particularly for the personnel of **International Relations Offices**;
- Creating **thematic Sub-Networks** to foster the scientific cooperation within specific fields;
- Conducting **strategic analysis of Mediterranean Region**;
- Widening **participation in Open Education**;
- Supporting to **boost youth employability and society development** of the partners of the network.

UNIMED thematic subnetworks



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Currently UNIMED has the following sub-networks:

- Transports, Logistics, Intermodality
- Renewable Energies and Environment
- Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Mediterranean **Tourism**
- Mediterranean Diet
- Aerospace Technology
- Sport
- Desertification
- Water

UNIMED CURRENT PROJECTS



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- **FP7-INCO-2012-1, INCO-NET MEDSPRING** Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research & INnovation Gateway (Regional Project). Led by the IAM of Bari
- **FP7- 2013, Viajeo PLUS**, International Coordination for implementation of innovative and efficient urban mobility solutions (Interregional Project). Led by ERTICO – ITS Europe
- **ENPI 2013– MEDMOBIL** : Supportive international approach to increase and improve the mobility and exchange (Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan) – Led by the Chamber of Commerce of Seville
- **ENPI 2013 – FOP** : Future of the past (Lebanon, Palestine) – Led by the Italian Geographical Society

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- **TEMPUS: eMEDia** : a bottom-up approach for the design and pilot of a joint Master Course in Cross-Media Journalism – (Tunisia) – Led by UNIMED
- **TEMPUS: PRO-GREEN**: Joint/Dual Professional Graduate Diploma and Professional Degree in Green Technologies (Lebanon and Egypt) – Led By the American University of Beirut
- **TEMPUS: INFOBC**: L'INNOVATION DANS LA FORMATION POUR LES BIENS CULTURELS : un nouveau curriculum euro-méditerranéen pour la préservation de biens culturels – Led by the University of Urbino (Italy)
- **LLP –2013 – PRIDE**: Professionals in Doctoral Education: Supporting skills development to better contribute to an European knowledge society – Led by the University of Vienna

UNIMED Erasmus+ 2015 projects



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- **COMMO (KA1-HE):** Cooperation through Mobility in the Mediterranean and Western Balkans- Led by UNIMED

Contributing to the improvement of the international dimension of higher education and training between HEI in Italy (21) and HEI in Southern Mediterranean and Balkans countries, primarily through the promotion of cooperation and through staff and students mobility experiences

- **OpenMED (KA2-CBHE-JP):** Opening-up education in South Mediterranean countries- Led by UNIMED

Fostering the adoption and pilot of open educational practices (OEP), and open educational resources (OER) in South-Mediterranean countries as a bottom-up approach to support the modernisation, accessibility and internationalization of HEIs.

- **RESUME (KA2-CBHE-SP):** RESeaU Méditerranéen pour l'Employabilité- countries- Led by UNIMED

Enhancing and reinforcing the role and potential of HEIs in the development of employability in the Mediterranean countries by adopting a transversal entrepreneurial mind-set at the HEIs and by opening and structuring the dialogue between the universities, the enterprises and the policy makers

UNIMED Erasmus+ 2015 projects



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- **ENROL (KA2-CBHE-JP):** Empowering and Networking the International Relationships Offices of the Libyan University System – Led by Università della Calabria (Italy)

Bringing Libyan HEI closer to their European HEI in order to strengthen the cooperation and the exchange of mutual benefits: enhancing the internationalisation capabilities of the Libyan IRO, maximising networking and synergies among Libyan HEI, and strengthening QA and financial management at Libyan IRO level

- **MIMIR (KA2-CBHE-JP):** Modernisation of Institutional Management of Innovation and Research in South Neighbouring Countries– Led by University of Barcelona (Spain)

Creating an effective institutional structure for the management of research and innovation in universities in South Neighbouring Countries in order to bridge the gap with European good practices; developing a management model in partner institutions to provide appropriate knowledge and means to improve research and innovation actions and activities that contribute to the sustainability of the research dimension of partner institutions in South Neighbouring Countries

UNIMED Erasmus+ 2015 projects



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- **EDIPUS (KA2 – Strategic Partnership), European Digital Portfolio for University Students, leaded by the European Association of Erasmus Coordinators (EAEC), Cyprus**

The goal of the project is to develop a tool in order to support the better understanding of qualifications and skills, in addition to better documentation of learning outcomes (including non-formal and informal learning experiences), while bringing closer to the end users (students, young professionals, education providers, employers, etc) a more integrated method to present and assess their professional profiles so as to achieve higher employability rates.

- **5TOI 4EWAS (H2020), Quintuple Helix Approach to Targeted Open Innovation in Energy, Water, Agriculture in the South Mediterranean Neighborhood, leaded by Unversidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain**

The project will focus on Targeted Open Innovation in energy, water and agriculture societal challenges through a balanced innovation-friendly ecosystem in the Southern Mediterranean Neighbourhood (SMN) based on quintuple helix and NEXUS approach.

UNIMED institutional cooperation



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- **UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (UfM):** In 2013, UNIMED signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Union for the Mediterranean aimed at establishing cooperation to further develop areas of common interest, particularly in higher education and research
- **AGREEMENT WITH THE EIB:** In May 2007, the European Investment Bank and UNIMED signed a “Memorandum of Understanding, within the framework of the “EIB University Networks”, aimed at fostering Euro-Mediterranean regional integration as well as integration and cooperation between the countries of eastern and southern Mediterranean partners of the EU
- **PROVENCE-ALPES-COTE D’AZUR REGION:** In October 2015, UNIMED signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Regional Council of Provence-Alpes-Cote d’Azur to contribute to the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean Higher Education and Research Area, through international mobility activities targeting students and researchers
- **ASSOCIATION OF ARAB UNIVERSITIES (AArU):** In 2014, UNIMED signed a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Arab Universities Association for the realization of joint activities and in particular: Projects and activities; Consultations; Seminars and Workshops’ Organisation; Visits of Staff and experts; Information exchange.

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- **UN ACADEMIC IMPACT**

UNIMED is one of the founder members of Academic Impact, a programme of the Outreach Division of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations, established in 2009 and dedicated to international higher education institutes and research centers.

- **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS (IAUP)**

In May 2010 UNIMED signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IAUP, an Association founded in 1964 at Oxford, United Kingdom, gathering university's presidents and representatives of higher education institutions all over the world.

- **CMI-Center for the Mediterranean Integration:** In 2016, UNIMED has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the CMI based in Marseille to collaborate on the following topics of cooperation:

- (i) Higher Education
- (ii) Vocational Training
- (iii) Quality Assurance
- (iv) University Governance
- (v) Employability/Entrepreneurship
- (vi) Youth Inclusion.