This conference will analyse the relations between the EU and the Southern Mediterranean partner countries in the current unstable regional order. It will examine the dynamics that have been determining success and failure over the past 20 years of Euro-Mediterranean relations and speculate on the challenges lying ahead, including internal and transnational conflicts, terrorism, migration, refugees crisis and economic and social issues. The conference will also address the current developments in three main dimensions of cooperation: politics and security, socio-economic and social, human and cultural, and reason on means for greater cooperation in these three areas.

The main purpose of the conference will be, on the one hand, to reflect on the perspectives for Euro-Mediterranean relations and, on the other hand, to examine to what extent and through which policy and instruments the EU could respond effectively to the changing geopolitical framework and foster effective cooperation with the Mediterranean Partner Countries.
Thursday 8th October

15.00 – 15.30 Opening Session

Welcome Remarks
Senén Florensa, Executive President, IEMed and President of EuroMeSCo Steering Committee
Giancarlo Aragona, President, ISPI

Official address by
Paolo Gentiloni, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy

15.30 – 17.30 Plenary Session: Objectives and Challenges behind the Process of Reviewing the Euro-Mediterranean Relations

Chair: Christian Berger, Director for North Africa, Middle East, Arabian Peninsula, Iran and Iraq, European External Action Service

Speakers: Miguel Angel Moratinos, former Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, former EU Special Representative for Middle East Peace Process
Michael Koehler, Director Neighbourhood South, DG NEAR, European Commission
Youssef Amrani, former SG of the Union for the Mediterranean, Special Adviser to the Royal Cabinet

Discussants: Nicolas Galey, Ambassador, Inter-Ministerial delegate to the Mediterranean, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France
Kristina Kausch, Head of the Middle East Programme, FRIDE

Debate with participants

19.30 Buffet at Expo Milano 2015
FRIDAY

Friday 9th October

09.00 – 11.00 Plenary Session: 20 Years of Euro-Mediterranean Relations. What Went Wrong?

Chair: Stefan Füle, former European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy

Speakers: Barah Mikail, Senior Researcher, FRIDE
Mohamed AlAgati, Executive Director, Arab Forum for Alternatives
Marc Franco, Senior Associate Fellow, EGMONT Royal Institute for International Relations
Marc Pierini, Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Europe

Discussants: Gabriel Busquets, Ambassador, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
Richard Youngs, Senior Associate in the Democracy and Rule of Law Programme, Carnegie Europe

Debate with participants

11.00 – 11.30 Special Session: Official Launch of the New EuroMeSCo ENI Project

Michael Koehler, Director Neighbourhood South, DG NEAR, European Commission
Senén Florensa, Executive President, IEMed and President of EuroMeSCo Steering Committee

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee Break

11.45 – 13.45 Parallel Working Sessions
11.45 – 13.45 Parallel Working Sessions

Working Session 1: Political and Security Dimension of Euro-Mediterranean Relations
The internal and external factors behind success and failures of cooperation on political and security issues between the EU and the Southern Mediterranean partner countries.

Chair: Denis Bauchard, former Ambassador, Adviser on the Middle East, IFRI

Paper Presenters:
• The EU and Conflict Resolution in the Mediterranean Neighbourhood: Tackling New Realities through Old Means?, Silvia Colombo, Senior Fellow, IAI
• The Rise of IS in North Africa and Middle East: Assessing the EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy, Paolo Maggiolini, Research Fellow, Stefano Torelli, Research Fellow, ISPI
• Towards a Stronger EU-NATO Partnership in the MENA Region? Challenges, Opportunities and Future Prospects, Andrea Frontini, Policy Analyst, Tania Marocchi, Programme Executive, EPC

Discussants:
Erzsébet Rózné, Senior Research Fellow, IFAT
Roberto Aliboni, Scientific Advisor, IAI

Debate with participants

Working Session 2: Socio-Economic Dimension of Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation
Motivations and disincentives of the EU and Mediterranean partner countries behind a greater cooperation on socio-economic aspects, including employment, socio-economic rights, mobility and migrations. Special attention will be also paid to the refugees’ crisis.

Chair: Anis Salem, Ambassador, Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs

Paper Presenters:
• Avant la catastrophe ! : réinventer les outils de l’action dans l’Euro méditerranée, Jean-François Daguزال, Deputy Director, FRS
• Mare Nostrum and Triton. Europe’s Approach towards Humanitarian Rescue Operations and the ‘New Migration’ Issues, Fulvio Attinà, Professor, University of Catania
• The Mediterranean Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas: Lesson-drawing from the Eastern Experience, Guillaume Van der Loo, Researcher, CEPS

Discussants:
Roderick Pace, Director and Jean Monnet Chair. Institute for European Studies University of Malta
Rym Ayadi, Professor HEC Montreal. Director of Internatioanl Research Institute on Cooperatives. President Euro-Med Economists Association

Debate with participants

Working Session 3: Social, Human and Cultural Aspects of Euro-Mediterranean Relations
The (in) effectiveness of tools and instruments to foster participation of women, youth and ethnic and religious minorities in the state-building process in the Southern Mediterranean countries.

Chair: Marc Otte, Director General, EGMONT Royal Institute for International Relations, former EU Special Representative to the Middle East Peace Process

Paper Presenters:
• Les minorités: un vrai/faux débat, Salam Kawakibi, Deputy Director and Research Director, ARI
• The EU’s Democracy Assistance Policy in the South of the Mediterranean: Egypt as a Case Study, Nadine Abdalla, Research Associate, AFA
• Reality Check: Why the EU Needs to Re-think its Neighbourhood Policy, Cengiz Günay, Senior Researcher, OIIP

Discussants:
Ahmed Driss, Director, CEMI
Eduard Soler i Lecha, Research Coordinator, CIDOB

Debate with participants
REVIEWING THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN RELATIONS

13.45 – 14.45 Lunch


Chair:  Bichara Khader, Professor, Université Catholique de Louvain and Chair of the EuroMeSCo General Assembly

Speakers:  Armando Sanguini, Scientific Advisor, ISPI
          Erwan Lannon, Professor, Ghent University
          Anas El Gomati, Director General, Sadeq Institute

Discussants:  Enrico Granara, Minister Plenipotentiary, Coordinator for Multilateral Affairs in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
              Claire Spencer, Senior Research Fellow, Middle East and North Africa Programme and Second Century Initiative, Chatham House

Debate with participants

16.45 – 17.15 Closing Plenary Session

Special address by:

Fathallah Sijilmassi, Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean

Closing remarks by:

Senén Florensa, Executive President, IEMed and President of EuroMeSCo Steering Committee
Paolo Magri, Director, ISPI

Notes:

The working languages of the conference and working sessions will be English and French, without translation