

The Mediterranean priority: what are our partners concerned about?

Foreign Policy Dialogues

Barcelona, 28 April 2023

CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

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The Mediterranean has always been one of Spain's priorities when it has assumed the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. The aim has been to raise awareness about the centrality of this region, strengthen the dynamics of partnership, mobilise resources to meet the challenges and propose an agenda of transformative proposals. This spirit can be revived in 2023. For this to happen, it is of utmost importance to listen to the priorities, concerns and hopes of our partners and neighbouring countries. This dialogue will be a platform to listen to them and to generate a Mediterranean agenda adapted to the new global geopolitical context and to the needs of the region's citizens.

- 9.30 – 9.35 **Welcome speech and objective of the Foreign Policy Dialogue**
Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- 9.35 – 11.00 **2023: A new context in the region. Implications for the Euro-Mediterranean agenda**
Initial inputs **Moussa Bourekba**, Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
Julien Barnes-Dacey, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR); Associate Senior Researcher, CIDOB
- 11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**
- 11.30 – 13.30 **The priorities of our partners**
Initial inputs **Senén Florensa**, Executive President, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
Rachid El Houdaigui, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South
Yahia Zoubir, Professor of International Relations, KEDGE Business School
Hamza Meddeb, Fellow, Carnegie Middle East Center
Nadine Sika, Professor of Comparative Politics, American University in Cairo
Nimrod Goren, President and Founder of Mitvim - The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies; Senior Fellow for Israeli Affairs, Middle East Institute
- 13.30 – 14.30 **Lunch**
- 14.30 – 16.00 **What initiatives can be promoted in the framework of the Spanish Presidency of the EU Council?**
Initial inputs **Haizam Amirah Fernández**, Senior Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute
Irene Fernández-Molina, Professor of international relations, University of Exeter
Roger Albinyana, Director, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- 16.00 – 16.30 **Wrap-up and next steps**

List of participants

- **Abadi, Almotaz**, Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)
- **Albinyana, Roger**, Director, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- **Amirah Fernández, Haizam**, Senior Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute
- **Barnes-Dacey, Julien**, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR); Associate Senior Researcher, CIDOB
- **Bourekba, Moussa**, Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- **Cohen-Hadria, Emmanuel**, Director of the Euro-Mediterranean Policies Department, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- **Clec'h, Julian**, Director of Cabinet of the Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)
- **El Houdaigui, Rachid**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South
- **Fernández-Molina, Irene**, Professor of International Relations, University of Exeter
- **Florensa, Senén**, Executive President, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- **Goren, Nimrod**, President and Founder of Mitvim - The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies; Senior Fellow for Israeli Affairs, Middle East Institute
- **Meddeb, Hamza**, Fellow, Carnegie Middle East Center, Lebanon/Tunis
- **Morillas, Pol**, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- **Pérez, Alba**, Research assistant, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- **Sika, Nadine**, Professor of Comparative Politics, American University in Cairo
- **Vidal, Lurdes**, Professor of International Relations, CEI International Affairs, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) and Blanquerna-Ramon Llull University
- **Zoubir, Yahia**, Professor of International Relations, KEDGE Business School

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