

EuroMeSCo General Assembly

Barcelona, 6 October 2011, 9.30 am

Agenda

1. Ordinary Assembly

Statement of the Secretariat on the state of the network, its activities and perspectives
Changes in the Secretariat and Coordinator
Work programme 2012
Membership: Update
Membership: Possible admissions and withdrawals
Minutes of the last meeting
Any other business

2. Extraordinary Assembly

New article of the statutes on the Internal Evaluation of the Network's activities

Attending members

Effective members

ACPSS – Al Ahram Centre for Political and Strategic Studies, Egypt, Hanaa Ebeid
AEI – Association des Études Internationales, Tunisia, Khaled Bouzguenda
CAP – Centre for Applied Policy Research, Germany (delegated vote to FIIA, Timo Behr)
CEMI – Centre Études Méditerranéennes Internationales, Tunisia, Ahmed Driss
CERI – Centre d'Études et de Recherches Internationales, Sciences Po, France, Ward Vloeberghs
CERMAC – Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Monde Arabe Contemporain, Belgium, Bichara Khader
CERSS - Centre d'Études et de Recherches en Sciences Sociales, Morocco, Ali Bouzerda
CES – METU Middle East Technical University, Turkey, Atila Eralp
CIDOB – Centre d'Informació i Documentació Internacionals a Barcelona, Spain, Eduard Soler
CSS – Centre for Strategic Studies, Jordan, Musa Shteivi
DGAP – German Council on Foreign Relations, Germany, Claire Desmemay / Katrin Sold
DIIS – Danish Institute for International Studies, Denmark, Helle Malmvig
ELCANO – Real Instituto Elcano de Estudios Internacionales y Estratégicos, Spain, Haizam Amirah-Fernández
ELIAMEP – Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, Greece, (delegated vote to HIIA, Erzsébet N. Rozsa)
ERCMC – Economic Research Centre on Mediterranean Countries, Turkey, Sükrü Erdem
European Institute, Poland (delegated vote to TEPSA, Gunilla Herolf)
EVI – Estonian Foreign Policy Institute, Estonia, Erkki Bahovski

FIIA – Finnish Institute for International Affairs, Finland, Timo Behr
 FIS – Foundation for International Studies, Malta, Roderick Pace
 FMES - Fondation Méditerranéenne d'Études Stratégiques, France, Pierre Lasserre
 FPI – Foreign Policy Institute, Turkey, Aksoy Oktay
 FRIDE – Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior, Spain, Kristina Kausch
 GERM – Groupement d'Études et de Recherches sur la Méditerranée, Morocco, Fouad M. Ammor
 GPoT – Global Political Trends Centre, Turkey, Mensur Akgün
 HIIA – Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, Hungary, Erzsébet N. Rozsa
 IEMed – European Institute of the Mediterranean, Spain, Senén Florensa / Andreu Bassols
 IIR – Institute for International Relations, Czech Republic, Jaroslav Bureš
 INESG – Institut National d'Études de Stratégie Globale, Algeria, Lotfi Boumghar
 INSS – Institute for National Security Studies, Israel, Gallia Lindenstrauss
 IPA – Institute of Public Affairs, Poland, Jacek Kucharczyk
 ISPI – Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, Italy, Valeria Talbot
 ITES – Institut Tunisien des Études Stratégiques, Tunisia, Foued Ben Amara
 KYKEM – Cyprus Research Centre (delegated vote to HIIA, Erzsébet N. Rozsa)
 LDI – Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, Israel, Alfred Tovias
 LIIA – Latvian Institute of International Affairs, Latvia, Karlis Bukovskis
 MEDAC – Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, Malta (delegated vote to FRIDE, Kristina Kausch)
 SFFPA – Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Slovakia, Ivo Samson
 SWP – Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Germany (delegated vote to TEPSA, Gunilla Herolf)
 TAPRI – Tampere Peace Research Institute, Finland, Tytti Erästö
 TEPSA – Trans-European Policy Studies Association, Belgium, Gunilla Herolf

With 40 of the total 59 effective member institutes present, a quorum was thus gathered.

Observers

AFA – Arab Forum for Alternative Studies, Egypt, Georges Fahmi Sarwat
 AGREEM – Asociación Grupo de Estudios Europeos y Mediterráneos, Spain, Alejandro Lorca
 CERMAC – Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Monde Arabe Contemporain, Belgium, Amine Ait-Chaalal / Vincent Legrand
 CSEPS – Centre for the Study of European Politics and Society - Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, represented by Alfred Tovias
 Euromed Management, France, Yahia Zoubir
 Europees Institut, Universiteit Gent, Belgium, Erwan Lannon
 Fondazione Mediterraneo, Italy, Michele Capasso and Pia Molinari
 IMRI - Institut Marocain des Relations Internationales, Morocco, Jawad Kerdoudi
 IPCRI - Israel / Palestine Centre for Research and Information, Israel, Gershon Baskin
 Jean Monnet Euro-Med Centre, Università di Catania, Italy, Stefania Panebianco
 TESEV – Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation, Turkey, Mensur Akgün

Apologies for absence

CEPS – Centre for European Policy Studies, Belgium, Rym Ayadi
Chatham House, United Kingdom, Claire Spencer
CIR – Centre of International Relations, Lithuania, Ana Bojinovic Fenko
Clingendael – Netherlands Institute for International Relations, the Netherlands, Peter Van Ham
COE – Centro Norte Sul, Portugal, Denis Huber
Egmont – The Royal Institute for International Relations, Belgium, Sven Biscop
EUI – European University Institute, Italy, Mia Saugman
EU ISS – European Union Institute for Security Studies, France, Álvaro de Vasconcelos
FRS – Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, France, Jean-François Daguzan
GIGA – German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany, Henner Fürtig
IAI - Istituto Affari Internazionali, Italy, Nathalie Tocci
IEE – Institut d'Études Européennes, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Marianne Dony
IFRI – Institut Français des Relations Internationales, France, Dorothée Schmid
LCPS – Lebanese Centre for Policy Studies, Lebanon, Sami Attalah
MEDEA – European Institute for Research on Euro-Arab Cooperation, Belgium, Nicolaas Vlaeminck
MIB – Mediterranean Institute Berlin, Germany, Isabel Schäfer
OIIP – Austrian Institute for International Affairs, Austria, Cengiz Günay
PASSIA – Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs, Palestine, Mahdi Abdul
Adi
SIIA – Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Sweden, Anna Jardfelt
SIPRI – Stockholm International Peace Research institute, Sweden, Pieter Wezeman
UJRC – Al-Urdun Al-Jadid Research Centre, Jordan, Hani Hourani
UNISCI, Spain, Antonio Marquina
ZEI – Centre for European Integration Studies, Germany, Ludger Kühnhardt

1. Ordinary Assembly

The chair of the General Assembly, Bichara Khader, opened the session with a general statement on the historic importance of current developments in the region and EuroMeSCo's role in providing relevant research and analysis and in accompanying Arab democratic transitions.

a. Statement of the Secretariat on the state of the network, its activities and perspectives

The Coordinator of the Secretariat, Senén Florensa, expressed his condolences on behalf of EuroMeSCo for the recent loss of Alvaro de Vasconcelos' wife, Maria do Rosário de Moraes Vaz. Maria do Rosário was an active member of EuroMeSCo and Director of Programmes at the IEEI (Lisbon), and had been involved in Euro-Mediterranean research since the founding of the network.

Senén Florensa acknowledged EuroMeSCo's role as a provider of research excellence and a militant body contributing to the democratisation of the Arab world. Mr. Florensa reviewed the activities of EuroMeSCo in 2011 on the basis of the yearly report drafted by the Secretariat and presented to the Steering Committee. Among other pieces of information, the Coordinator of the Secretariat highlighted the work done on publications, research workshops, the annual conference, the network's website and the newsletter.

Senén Florensa also noted IEMed's financial commitment with EuroMeSCo, which amounts to at least 300.000 euros per year. He also stated that it is not likely to obtain resources by the European Commission to fund the network's activities in the near future.

The Chair of the General Assembly, Bichara Khader, transmitted to the Assembly the debates held in the Steering Committee regarding the scientific publications, the dissemination of the network's publications -also in international press- and the launch of another call for papers in the future. He underlined that EuroMeSCo will maintain previous practice to request academic papers to relevant researchers ahead of the Annual Conference.

The Chair also invited all members to jointly organise a conference or workshop with EuroMeSCo in order to strengthen the visibility of the network and to include EuroMeSCo's logo in the website of all member institutes.

b. Changes in the Secretariat and Coordinator

Senén Florensa introduced the new Coordinator of the Secretariat to the Assembly, following his appointment as Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Generalitat de Catalunya. The new coordinator is Andreu Bassols, appointed Director General of IEMed in June 2011.

c. Work programme 2012

Andreu Bassols underlined the relevance of the EuroMeSCo network in light of political developments in the region. The democratisation processes require the analytical expertise and research excellence that EuroMeSCo provides. The network must also exercise major influence in policy-making in Europe and the Mediterranean region.

The work plan 2012 aims to consolidate the work done so far, in particular regarding research outputs and lines of publication. In 2012, the Secretariat plans to organise 3 research workshops in Brussels, Morocco and Egypt and would be pleased to count on institutes and analysts of southern Mediterranean countries for their organisation.

In addition, the Secretariat must reinforce the visibility of EuroMeSCo by improving the website and use of social media. Member institutes should include the EuroMeSCo logo in their own websites and EuroMeSCo institutes and researchers should be invited to participate in seminars and conferences organised by members of the network.

In 2012, EuroMeSCo will improve its work and mobilisation capacity, as well as its visibility and influence in policy-making, in order to become a leading forum for research on politics and security in the Mediterranean.

During the debate following the presentation of the work plan, several institutes underlined the need to work with youth organisations, to promote EuroMeSCo in national constituencies, to provide sound advice to policy-makers via short papers, direct interaction and meetings, to strengthen the EuroMeSCo communication tools and the website and to foster participation in international studies associations and foresee the organisation of graduate students' conferences or summer schools.

d. and e. Membership: Update and possible admissions and withdrawals

The focal point of the EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Pol Morillas, reviewed the state of play regarding demands for adhesion that have reached the Secretariat and suggestions for removal of member institutes on the basis of the measures foreseen in the statutes of the network (Article 4) and the failure to respond to calls of the Secretariat to fill in the EuroMeSCo membership form.

Such methodology was previously discussed and agreed at the Executive Committee meeting in April 2011 in Tunisia. The Steering Committee discussed and suggested the adoption of the following decision at the General Assembly following its meeting at IEMed on 5th October 2011.

Admissions as full members of EuroMeSCo

- Carnegie Middle East Centre (Lebanon)
- Polish Institute for International Affairs (Poland)
- European Policy Centre (Belgium)
- Europeum Institute for European Policy (Czech Republic)
- European Documentation and Research Centre – EDRC (Malta)
- Hellenic Centre for European Studies – EKEM (Greece)

Admissions as observers of EuroMeSCo

- Arab Reform Initiative (Jordan)
- EUROMED-IHEDN (France)
- Institut de la Méditerranée – CMCI (France)
- Centre for the Study and Research of Africa and the Mediterranean – CERAM (Morocco)
- Euro-Mediterranean University – EMUNI (Slovenia)

Upgrades to full membership of EuroMeSCo

- Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information – IPCRI (Israel)
- Asociación Grupo de Estudios Europeos Mediterráneos – AGREEM (Spain)
- Centre for the Study of European Politics and Society - CSEPS, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)

Removals from EuroMeSCo

- Institut d'Études Européennes – IEE/ULB (Belgium) *
- Center for European Studies – Faculty of Economics and Political Science (Egypt)
- Institute of International and European Affairs – IIEA (Ireland)
- Moshe Dayan Centre for Middle Eastern Studies and African Studies (Israel)
- Centre Marocain d'Études Stratégiques – CMES (Morocco)
- National Institute for Strategic Studies – NISS (Palestine)
- Orient Centre for International Studies – OCIS (Syria)
- Politics and International Studies – PAIS, University of Warwick (United Kingdom)
- Centre for Euro-Mediterranean Studies – CEMS (United Kingdom)
- International Institute for Strategic Studies – IISS (United Kingdom)
- Foundation for International Studies – FIS (Malta)

Following a debate, the suggested decision was unanimously adopted at the General Assembly.

In addition, the General Assembly suggested that following the expression of interest by Fondazione Mediterraneo and Euromed Management to upgrade their status to full members of the network, this decision should be taken at the next General Assembly, when a formal letter of request by both institutes is sent to the Secretariat and subsequently discussed in the Steering Committee.

f. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous General Assembly held in Barcelona on 19 November 2010 were approved.

2. Extraordinary Assembly

New article of the statutes on the Internal Evaluation of the Network's activities

The General Assembly, upon suggestion of the Steering Committee, agreed to introduce the following amendment to the statutes of the network (Article 17 on the functions of the Steering Committee).

Old version

Article 17

Steering Committee meetings are convened by the Secretariat. The main functions of the Steering Committee are the following:

- to establish the annual work and financial plans of EuroMeSCo and submit them to the General Assembly
 - to submit to the General Assembly member or observer applications, based on reports on applications provided by a member of the network
 - to appoint an Executive Committee and, if necessary, provide it with mandates
- Suggested Amendment of Article 17

New version

Article 17

Steering Committee meetings are convened by the Secretariat. The main functions of the Steering Committee are the following:

- **to submit to the General Assembly a yearly report of the network's activities, drafted by the Secretariat, with a view to reflecting the activities of the network and cooperation among members and to taking credit with respect to the sponsors of EuroMeSCo's activities**
- to establish the annual work and financial plans of EuroMeSCo and submit them to the General Assembly
- to submit to the General Assembly member or observer applications, based on reports on applications provided by a member of the network
- to appoint an Executive Committee and, if necessary, provide it with mandates.

No other business being raised, the meeting was closed at 12.30pm on 6 October 2011.

Annexes:

- Report of activities 2011
- Annual Work Plan 2012