

EuroMeSCo General Assembly

Barcelona, 4 October 2012, 5 pm

Agenda

1. Annual Report and financial information
2. Membership: Admissions and withdrawals
3. Designation of the Steering Committee, Executive Committee, Secretariat and Chair of the Assembly
4. EuroMeSCo Work Programme 2012-2014
5. Any other business

Attending members

Effective members

- ACPSS - Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Hanaa Ebeid, Egypt
- AEI - Association des Etudes Internationales, Moussaddak Besbes, Tunisia
- CAP - Center for Applied Policy Research, Germany (delegated vote to Timo Behr, FIIA)
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Middle East Centre, Robert Naouss, Lebanon
- CEMI - Centre Etudes Méditerranéennes Internationales, Ahmed Driss, Tunisia
- Centre for Economic Research on Mediterranean Countries (CERMIC), Sükrü Erdem, Turkey
- CERMAC - Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Monde Arabe Contemporain, Bichara Khader, Belgium
- CES METU - Middle East Technical University, Özgehan Senyuva, Turkey
- Chatham House, Claire Spencer, United Kingdom
- CIDOB - Centre d'Informació i Documentació Internacionals a Barcelona, Eduard Soler, Spain
- DIIS - Danish Institute for International Studies, Helle Malmvig, Denmark
- EGMONT, The Royal Institute for International Relations, Sven Biscop, Belgium
- Real Instituto Elcano de Estudios Internacionales y Estratégicos, Haizam Amirah-Fernández, Spain
- Eliamep - Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy, Greece (delegated vote to Erzsébet Rózsa)
- EPC - European Policy Centre, Rosa Balfour, Belgium
- EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy, Lucia Najšlová, Czech Republic
- EVI - Estonian Foreign Policy Institute, Ahto Lobjakas, Estonia
- FIIA - Finnish Institute for International Affairs, Timo Behr, Finland
- FMES - Fondation Méditerranéenne d'Etudes Stratégiques, Pierre Lasserre, France
- FPI - Foreign Policy Institute Oktay Aksoy, Turkey
- FRIDE - Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior, Kristina Kausch, Spain
- GERM - Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches sur la Méditerranée, Fouad Ammor, Morocco
- GPoT - Global Political Trends Centre, Mensur Akgün, Turkey
- IIIA - Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, Erzsébet Rózsa, Hungary

IAI - Istituto Affari Internazionali, Silvia Colombo, Italy
IEMed - European Institute of the Mediterranean, Andreu Bassols, Spain
IFRI - Institut français des relations internationales, Dorothée Schmid, France
INESG - Institut national d'études de stratégie globale, Lotfi Boumghar, Algeria
INSS – Institute for National Security Studies, Gallia Lindenstrauss, Israel
Institute for European Studies, University of Malta, Roderick Pace, Malta
IPCRI - Israel / Palestine Center for Research and Information, Dan Goldenblatt, Israel
ISPI - Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, Valeria Talbot, Italy
ITES - Institut Tunisien des Etudes Stratégiques, Tarek Kahlaoui, Tunisia
Latvian Institute of International Affairs, Vargulis Martins, Latvia
LCPS - Lebanese Center for Policy Studies, Rania Abib Habib, Lebanon
Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, Alfred Tovias, Israel
OIIP - Austrian Institute for International Affairs, Cengiz Günay, Austria
PISM - The Polish Institute of International Affairs, Patrycja Sasnal, Poland
SFPA - Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Ivo Samson, Slovakia
TAPRI - Tampere Peace Research Institute, Tuomo Melasuo, Finland
TEPSA - Trans-European Policy Studies Association, Gunilla Herolf, Belgium
UJRC - Al-Urdun Al-Jadid Research Center, Hani Hourani, Jordan

With 42 of the total 61 effective member institutes present, a quorum was gathered.

Observers

AFA - Arab Forum for Alternatives, Amr El Shobaky, Egypt
Casa Árabe - International Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, Amira Kedier, Spain SPAIN
Centre de Recherche sur l'Afrique et la Méditerranée (CERAM), Ward Vloeberghs, Morocco
ECFA - Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs, Shalaby Elsayed, Egypt
Euromed Management, Yahia Zoubir, France
Euro-Mediterranean University, Laris Gaiser, Slovenia
Europees Instituut, Universiteit Gent, Erwan Lannon, Belgium
Fondazione Mediterraneo, Michele Capasso, Italy
FRS - Fondation pour la recherche stratégique, Jean-François Daguzan, France
IMRI - Institut Marocain des Relations Internationales, Jawad Kerdoudi, Morocco
TESEV - Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation, Mensur Akgün, Turkey
UNISCI – Unidad de Investigación sobre Seguridad y Cooperación Internaional, Antonio Marquina, Spain

Apologies for absence

AGREEM - Asociación Grupo de Estudios Europeos y Mediterráneos, Alejandro Lorca, Spain
CERI - Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales, Luis Martinez, France
CERSS - Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches en Sciences Sociales, Ali Bouzerda, Morocco
IIR - Institute of International Relations, Jaroslav Bureš, Czech Republic
IPA - The Institute of Public Affairs, Agnieska Lada, Poland
KYKEM - Cyprus Research Centre, Tonis Toumazis, Cyprus

PASSIA - Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs, Mahdi Abdul Hadi, Palestine
SWP - Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Isabelle Werenfels, Germany
Arab Reform Initiative, Salam Kawakibi, France
Association EUROMED-IHEDN, Jean-François Coustillère, France
CEPS - Centre for European Policy Studies, Rym Ayadi, Belgium
EUISS - EU Institute for Security Studies, Antonio Missiroli, France
EUI - European University Institute, Olivier Roy, Italy
Jean Monnet Euro-Med Centre, Università di Catania, Fulvio Attinà, Italy
Mediterranean Institute Berlin, Institute of Social Sciences, Humboldt University Berlin, Isabel Schäfer, Germany
North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Council of Europe, Emília Soares, Portugal
SIPRI - Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Pieter Wezeman, Sweden

1. Annual Report 2012 and financial information

The chair of the General Assembly, Bichara Khader, opened the session with a statement on the situation in the Euro-Mediterranean region and the role of EuroMeSCo. He passed the floor onto the Coordinator of the EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Andreu Bassols, who reviewed the activities of EuroMeSCo in 2012 on the basis of the yearly report drafted by the Secretariat and discussed at the Steering Committee. The Coordinator of the Secretariat highlighted the accomplishments of the Work Plan 2012, particularly regarding visibility of the network, the communication with its members, the research workshops, the annual conference, the publications and the network's website and newsletter.

The Coordinator also noted IEMed's financial contribution to EuroMeSCo, coming from a variety of sources (the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and the European Commission) and which amounts to at least 125.000 Euros last year. He also stated that it is the intention of the Secretariat to look for additional funding from the European Union and other sources in the years ahead.

Andreu Bassols acknowledged the success of participation at the General Assembly and Annual Conference 2012, which gathered more participants than last year. This speaks for the vitality and relevance of the network, which is also revealed by the organisation of research conferences in Brussels with the European Policy Centre (29-30 March 2012) and a workshop organised in collaboration with the Union for the Mediterranean (3 October 2012). The Coordinator also highlighted the number of publications of the network during the last year, which amounts to 9 EuroMeSCo Papers and 33 EuroMeSCo Briefs.

The Coordinator also reminded the efforts to enhance the visibility of the network and requested the participants to organise joint research activities with EuroMeSCo, to disseminate the scientific production of the network in their institutes and make visible the membership to EuroMeSCo by including its logo in the website of member institutes.

Several members expressed that membership to the network fosters the participation in research activities of other members and the joint publication of research articles.

2. Membership: Admissions and Withdrawals

Following the suggestions of the Steering Committee, the General Assembly reached an agreement regarding admissions and withdrawals of members of the EuroMeSCo network:

1. Admissions of new institutes as Full Members

Pal-Think for Strategic Studies, Palestine
The Moshe Dayan Centre for Middle Eastern Studies and African Studies, Israel
Fondation Abderrahim Bouabid, Morocco
CRESS – Centre de Recherches et Études en Sciences Sociales, Morocco
Euro-Mediterranean Forum (EMEF), Croatia

2. Change of status from Observers to Full Members

Arab Forum for Alternatives, Egypt
Euro-Med Centre Jean Monnet, University of Catania, Italy
Euromed Management, France

3. Admissions of new institutes as Observers

Amadeus, Morocco
Mitvim – The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies, Israel

4. Confirmation of the Observer status

Fondazione Mediterraneo, Italy
IMRI – Institut Marocain de Relations Internationales, Morocco

5. Withdrawal of Membership

BECSA - Bulgarian European Community Studies Association, Bulgaria *

* Pending to send a letter for confirmation of interest.

If no answer is provided its membership will be automatically removed.

3. Designation of the Steering Committee, Secretariat and Chair of the Assembly

The Coordinator of the Secretariat, Andreu Bassols, suggested renewing the mandates of the Steering Committee, Executive Committee, Secretariat and Chair of the Assembly.

1. Steering Committee

The General Assembly agreed to renew the mandate of the current Steering Committee for a second two-year term, in accordance with the Statutes of the network (Article 16).

The Steering Committee is formed by the following members:

INESG - Institut national d'études de stratégie globale, Algeria
TEPSA - Trans-European Policy Studies Association Belgium

ACPSS - Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Egypt
FIIA - Finnish Institute for International Affairs, Finland
HIIA - Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, Hungary
CSEPS - Centre for the Study of European Politics, Israel
IAI - Istituto Affari Internazionali, Italy
CSS - Center for Strategic Studies, Jordan
GERM - Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches, Morocco
IEMed - European Institute of the Mediterranean, Spain
CEMI - Centre Etudes Méditerranéennes Internationales, Tunisia
GPoT - Global Political Trends Centre, Turkey
Chatham House, United Kingdom

The Steering Committee is chaired by Senén Florensa, President of the Executive Committee, IEMed.

The Secretariat was requested to send official letters to the representatives of CSEPS (Israel) and CSS (Jordan) in order to confirm their interest in being members of the Steering Committee, taking into account the lack of participation in the activities of the network and the meeting of the Steering Committee.

The Secretariat also informed the General Assembly that the mandate of the Executive Committee was renewed by the Steering Committee for a second two-year term. The Executive Committee is formed by the following members:

ACPSS - Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Egypt
IAI - Istituto Affari Internazionali, Italy
IEMed - European Institute of the Mediterranean, Spain
CEMI - Centre Etudes Méditerranéennes Internationales, Tunisia
Chatham House, United Kingdom

2. Secretariat of the network

Following the agreement of the Steering Committee, the mandate of the current Secretariat was renewed for two years, in accordance with the Statutes of the network (Article 19). The Secretariat is held by IEMed - European Institute of the Mediterranean, Spain. Its Coordinator is Andreu Bassols, Director General and the Focal Point is Pol Morillas, Coordinator of Euromed Policies.

3. Chair of the General Assembly

Following the agreement of the Steering Committee, the mandate of the current Chair of the General Assembly was renewed for a second two-year term, in accordance with the Statutes of the network (Article 10). The Chair of the General Assembly is Professor Bichara Khader from CERMAC - Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Monde Arabe Contemporain, Belgium

4. EuroMeSCo Work Programme 2012-2014

The Coordinator of the Secretariat presented the main objectives of the network for 2012-2014. He underlined the relevance of the EuroMeSCo network in light of political developments in the region and the need for analytical expertise and research excellence in view of the democratisation processes of the region.

The Coordinator highlighted the set up of a joint research initiative on “The Arab Spring in a Comparative Perspective” and the organisation of a series of capacity-building activities and seminars in Madrid, Egypt and Morocco throughout 2013 to strengthen the role of civil society in transitions to democracy. He also underlined the publication of new Papers and Briefs in line with the research programme and the results of EuroMeSCo activities, including the Annual Conference.

The Coordinator of the Secretariat also reminded of the importance of fund-raising to accomplish the objectives of the Work Plan. He requested the participation of the members of the network in jointly organising research activities in collaboration with EuroMeSCo and identified the efforts of the Secretariat in pursuing a successful fund-raising strategy.

Funding issues will be particularly relevant if the network decides to organise the Annual Conference 2013 in a city other than Barcelona. The organising institute, which could be based in Croatia, Brussels, Egypt or another country affected by the Arab Spring, should be able to assume part of the organisation costs of the conference. The Chair of the Assembly, Bichara Khader, also suggested that member institutes present their latest publications in a “book fair” on the occasion of the next Annual Conference.

The Coordinator of the Secretariat suggested associating the events organised by the network with the meetings of the Senior Officials of the Union for the Mediterranean in order to enhance the visibility and impact of EuroMeSCo activities. On a similar vein, a few members reminded the need to organise short workshops in Brussels on regional developments and policy implications.

The need to improve EuroMeSCo branding was also mentioned. This could be developed in the form of collaborative activities between EuroMeSCo and members of the network, the participation of researchers in activities organised by member institutes and the display of the EuroMeSCo logo in the websites and publications of the institutes. The publication of original research papers in Arabic in the EuroMeSCo website was also considered as an essential tool to reach to wider audiences in the South Mediterranean, provided that sufficient resources are available.

5. Any other business

The Coordinator presented to the General Assembly the draft of a EuroMeSCo Declaration previously discussed at the Steering Committee. The General Assembly adopted the declaration and approved its dissemination.

The adoption of this declaration should enhance the visibility of the network via its distribution to a wide audience of experts and policy-makers in the EU and UfM. The Declaration should be posted in the

EuroMeSCo website as well as the websites of member institutes.

No other business being raised, the meeting was closed at 8pm on 4 October 2012.

Annexes:

Annual Report 2012

Work Plan 2012-2014

EuroMeSCo Declaration adopted by the General Assembly