

Riparte da Roma il dialogo euromediterraneo

Sponde Nord e Sud più unite di fronte a nuove sfide

Roma | 20 Febbraio 2012

Il dialogo Euro-Mediterraneo riparte da Roma, sotto la spinta propulsiva dell'Italia: a Villa Madama si è svolta la riunione del 5+5, il Foro di dialogo che

raggruppa, da una parte, Italia, Francia, Spagna, Portogallo e Malta e, dall'altra, Algeria, Tunisia, Marocco, Libia e Mauritania. La riunione è stata allargata, nella seconda parte della giornata, alla par-

tecipazione di Egitto, Grecia e Turchia nel formato Foromed.

Sicurezza regionale, flussi migratori, energia, tutela dell'ambiente, sviluppo, sono temi che i capi delle diplomazie

hanno affrontato, in un approccio "concreto ed operativo", così come ha detto il Ministro Giulio Terzi, che ha presieduto insieme al Ministro tunisino Rafik Abdesselem la riunione di dialogo "5+5".



Il Ministro Giulio Terzi in alcune immagini delle riunioni

Intervento del Ministro Terzi alla IX Conferenza dei Ministri degli Esteri del Dialogo nel Mediterraneo Occidentale (5+5)

ROMA 20 FEBBRAIO 2012

La tâche et l'honneur de coprésider cette réunion du Dialogue 5+5 avec mon collègue et ami Abdesslem me sont d'autant plus agréables à la lumière de la phase historique que traverse la Méditerranée à l'heure actuelle. Les profondes transformations en cours dans la région, issues des événements que nous avons appelés les Printemps Arabes, marquent le début d'une nouvelle époque pour la coopération méditerranéenne, pour les relations entre l'Europe et la Méditerranée, ainsi que pour le Dialogue 5+5.

L'Italie a une vision très claire de la mission du 5+5. Ce format est à notre avis un outil crucial pour renforcer – d'une manière informelle mais très concrète – le dialogue et la coopération entre les deux rives de la Méditerranée, sur la base des valeurs et des principes partagés de la liberté, de la démocratie, du respect des droits de l'homme et des minorités, de la poursuite des intérêts communs en matière de sécurité et de développement économique.

Nous avons l'intention de développer le dialogue et la coopération:

- a) De façon authentique et égalitaire avec nos partenaires de la rive Sud, sachant que nous avons devant nous une occasion historique de renforcer le rapprochement des deux rives de la Méditerranée;
- b) En nous raccordant aux autres initiatives dans un souci de complémentarité: de la Politique de Voisinage de l'Union Européenne à l'Union pour la Méditerranée et l'Union du Maghreb Arabe;
- c) De façon globale, en étendant le dialogue et la coopération à de nouveaux domaines et en veillant à développer une collaboration régulière et systématique, pour assurer le suivi des différentes initiatives.

J'ai évoqué l'Union du Maghreb Arabe, qui est présente à cette réunion. Permettez-moi de saisir cette occasion pour

me féliciter du nouvel essor de la coopération inter-maghrébine, dont témoigne la tenue de la réunion ministérielle de l'UMA à Rabat, il y a deux jours. L'intégration entre les pays du Maghreb est un élément fondamental pour le développement de la région et pour la réalisation de nos objectifs de rapprochement croissant des deux rives de la Méditerranée.

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J'aimerais passer rapidement en revue un certain nombre d'aspects de notre coopération 5+5, que nous aurons la possibilité d'approfondir ensemble aujourd'hui. Je vais m'attarder plus particulièrement sur trois d'entre eux: la sécurité, la coopération économique et culturelle, la société civile.

1. Avant tout, la sécurité. Le 5+5 vante une expérience unique dans ce domaine, s'agissant du seul format méditerranéen où les Ministres de la Défense et les Ministres de l'Intérieur se rencontrent périodiquement et mettent en place des modalités de coopération nouvelles qui, à mon sens, méritent d'être développées davantage. Par exemple, la coprésidence a suggéré un mécanisme d'alerte précoce, qu'il faudra naturellement mettre au point, notamment pour ce qui est du champ d'application.

L'évolution en cours met en évidence une nouvelle dimension géographique et politique de notre coopération. Il s'agit de l'arrière-pays africain des pays du Maghreb, le Sahel, d'où viennent aujourd'hui de nouvelles menaces, y compris à cause de la crise libyenne - trafic d'armes, activités terroristes, instabilité – et où de graves phénomènes criminels risquent de se consolider, de la traite d'êtres humains à l'ouverture de nouvelles routes de la drogue. Les pays du 5+5 ont un intérêt commun à développer de nouvelles activités de coopération, y compris dans le domaine du transfert technologique, des activités de formation, de l'échange d'informations, et l'Italie est prête à intervenir

immédiatement à ce niveau.

En ce qui concerne tout particulièrement l'Italie, il faut souligner l'existence dans le pays d'une forte sensibilité en matière de migrations. Nous sommes d'avis que la question migratoire doit être abordée dans une optique globale, de grande envergure. Les problématiques impliquées sont liées aux différentiels de développement, y compris à l'intérieur de certains pays du Maghreb, et imposent une nouvelle vision de la mobilité régionale légale, axée sur lesdits "partenariats de mobilité". Ces questions sont à leur tour liées à la situation du marché du travail et à l'opportunité partagée de promouvoir des échanges accrus entre les pays des deux rives, notamment au niveau des étudiants, des chercheurs, des entrepreneurs et des hommes d'affaires. Nous pourrions, sur ces bases, construire ensemble une nouvelle approche globale, qui représenterait également un point de repère dans les relations bilatérales. Cette nouvelle approche devra bien évidemment s'inspirer des normes internationales en matière de respect des droits de l'homme.

2. En matière de coopération économique et culturelle, le rôle du 5+5 est clairement complémentaire par rapport à la Politique Européenne de Voisinage et à l'UpM. Le projet de Déclaration finale évoque un certain nombre de secteurs qui pourraient être développés: les petites et moyennes entreprises, l'environnement, le tourisme, l'éducation, la sécurité alimentaire et l'énergie. Ces secteurs sont très proches des besoins quotidiens des citoyens, et ils ont un impact sur le niveau de l'emploi et la qualité de la vie; c'est là que la coopération entre nous peut faire la différence, en contribuant à la consolidation des transitions dans les pays de la rive Sud. Il est donc crucial d'identifier ensemble des secteurs très concrets qui feraient l'objet d'une "coopération renforcée" entre les pays des deux rives.

3. Enfin, la société civile. Les Printemps Arabes ont révélé l'existence de sociétés civiles vivantes et vibrantes, qui

peuvent jouer un rôle important dans la construction de "ponts humains" entre les deux rives de la Méditerranée. Il nous faut donc intégrer la vitalité de la société civile à notre cadre de coopération. D'où l'idée de créer un Forum Méditerranéen. Je crois que nous devrions ajouter une dimension parlementaire. Nous nous réjouissons d'avoir parmi nous des représentants de l'APM, qui travaillent depuis longtemps à la réalisation de cet objectif.

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Il est essentiel d'assurer la pérennité de ces différentes formes de coopération. Il faut prévoir un mécanisme "léger" de coordination et de suivi des réunions ministérielles. Je suis favorable à l'idée d'un réseau des points focaux du 5+5, qui pourrait fonctionner de facto comme une Commission Permanente, et se raccorder aux organismes existants: l'UE, l'UMA et l'UpM.

En conclusion, je remercie tous les participants, y compris les observateurs de l'UpM, de l'UMA et de l'APM. Votre contribution pourra servir à élargir les perspectives de notre débat. Je tiens à remercier également les représentants de la Ligue Arabe, qui participent pour la première fois à titre d'acteurs essentiels de la politique extérieure.

Je terminerai en exprimant mes plus vifs remerciements à mon collègue et ami Abdesslem pour l'excellente contribution, constructive comme toujours, à la préparation de notre rencontre. Voici un excellent exemple de la manière dont le principe de la coprésidence, introduit par l'Espagne lors du 5+5 de Cordoue, peut être géré avec succès, en stimulant un esprit de partenariat égalitaire chez tous les pays présents.

Nos réunions 5+5 ne prévoient pas d'ordre du jour formel. Je vous invite en tout cas à formuler vos remarques sur l'organisation des travaux qui vous a été proposée. Si vous n'en avez pas, j'invite le coprésident Abdesslem à présenter les deux premiers points à l'ordre du jour.



Intervento introduttivo del Ministro Terzi alla XVI sessione del Foro del Mediterraneo

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I am delighted to open and chair the 16th session of the Mediterranean Forum. We felt a strong need for the FOROMED to meet. Indeed, our last meeting took place in Algiers in 2008, when the discussion focused on the birth of the UpM. After the Arab Spring and the central role the Mediterranean has regained in the European agenda, we need to revitalise this informal forum, which also enjoys the participation of Egypt, Turkey and Greece. It is an ideal brainstorming opportunity, one that I would like to see us exploit to fullest effect by engaging in a free and open discussion.

Before opening our talks, I would like to highlight an innovative aspect of our meeting: the presence of the Arab League. A presence that confirms the growing role played by this organisation in the regional context.

The Mediterranean is once again bathed in the spotlights of the international stage, after years when globalisation mainly concerned the regions of the Pacific,

Latin America and Africa. Today, we are acting in a regional framework that is undergoing rapid transformations that require concrete and immediate responses.

I would ask you, therefore, to focus in our reflections on the priority objectives posed by the transitions taking place, and on the financial instruments available to us to achieve them. I hope that part of the discussion will be devoted to the challenges of consolidating the region's security framework.

Goals and financial instruments

As I see it, our priority goal is to respond to the need for the transition countries to achieve democratic and economic consolidation. A goal that is shared by both shores of the Mediterranean. The level of stability and prosperity of the northern shore depends on that of the southern shore. It is the result of our close interdependence: we are connected and interconnected by intense historical and geographical bonds, as well as by political, economic and social ties.

In several countries of the southern Mediterranean we have seen orderly, free and transparent elections. Others are embarking on the electoral process in a spirit of renewed pride. We are gladdened by these developments. We cannot, however, delude ourselves into believing that there are shortcuts to democracy. Democracy is a system that must be built slowly and comprehensively, by tackling the snares and transitions that lie in wait and pose risks and potential perils.

Without wishing to hand down a lesson, but in the light of our own experience, we think that in this criti-

cal period we should aim to foster employment and social inclusion, to damp down the sources of resentment and to support reconciliation. These tasks cannot be imposed from the outside. They are the tasks solely and exclusively of the Arab countries. But we Europeans can help, as indeed we ourselves were helped when we rebuilt our continent from the moral and material ruins of the Second World War.

So we must ask ourselves if the financial and development cooperation instruments at our disposal are sufficient. We fully intend, naturally, to keep the promises we made with the Deauville Partnership. Italy will do everything in its power to ensure that there are no failings in that respect. That would be unacceptable in both political and the moral terms. Today, our discussion could start with the European Neighbourhood Policy – on the possible strengthening of which we would be interested to hear Commissioner Fuhle's thoughts – and then continue with participating countries' observations and proposals on other instruments also.

These are difficult times. Not just in the regional context, but in view also of the serious global economic and financial crisis. The question, therefore, is how to increase the resources available to us and how to use them to best and most rapid effect. More specifically, the question is: how to deliver funds more quickly and maximise their impact. We most definitely cannot afford waste and inefficiency in any form.

Europe's Mediterranean countries are ready to voice our southern partners' needs in European and multilateral fora. But we expect the countries of the southern short to provide a political, legislative and regulatory environment that is favourable to inward investment and capable of absorbing funding. Note, however, that I am not using the word "con-

ditionality" here. I have replaced it with the principle of on-going open dialogue by all parties concerned. In other words, as I said during my visits to Libya, Egypt and Tunisia, I want to reassure – and be reassured by – the new leaderships.

Political and security dimension

I would like to propose security as our second topic for discussion. I am referring here to the possibility of strengthening the Mediterranean dimension both within the framework of the European Union's Security Strategy and through possible liaison and coordination with the institutions and regional organisations concerned: NATO, OSCE, Arab League. Italy has proposed that the EU Security Strategy be up-dated: the last review dates from 2008. A very different context and time from today's.

However, we need to adopt a comprehensive approach. An approach that includes not just traditional security issues – such as maritime and energy security, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, combating terrorism – but also the "human dimension".

The Arab Spring confirmed that it is dangerous to ignore peoples' yearning for freedom and to delude ourselves that we can simply look the other way when faced with serious rights violations. Human rights have acquired an operational dimension. Promoting and defending them responds to our primary needs of security and political stability. Our goal must therefore be to place the issue of rights, starting with the rights of young people, women, and religious minorities, right at the centre of Euro-Mediterranean relations. One of the most effective ways to safeguard our security would be to include, in the transition countries' new constitutions, the principles of moderation recognised by international conventions governing human rights. And, indeed, by Islamic civilisation.



Conclusion

Chair's statement - 16th Ministerial Conference of Mediterranean Forum



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The 16th Ministerial Conference of Mediterranean Forum (Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and Tunisia) was held in Rome on February 20th 2012. Libya and Mauritania attended as Chair guests. The European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighborhood Policy, the Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean, the Secretary General of the Union for the Arab Maghreb, the Secretary General of the Arab League, the Deputy President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean also attended as observers.

The Ministers reviewed the general situation in the Mediterranean area in the light of the recent evolutions in the region and the ongoing initiatives aimed at further enhancing the cooperation and the integration between the two Shores of the Mediterranean.

During the proceedings, keeping in mind the new priorities imposed by the ongoing transitions, the Ministers exchanged points of view on the following issues with a particular focus to available instruments to urgently and effectively pursue the new priority objectives imposed by the continuing transformations of the regional scenario.

The role of the Mediterranean Forum

Confirming the general principles adopted by the last session of the Forum, in Algiers, on August 5th and 6th 2008, and agreeing that the renewed centrality of the Mediterranean Region in the global scenario requires an immediate reinforcement of the political dialogue, as well as the financial, social and cultural cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region, the Ministers reaffirmed the relevance of the Mediterranean Forum as an informal exercise for dialogue and consultation among countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region and underlined their commitment to its revitalization.

The Ministers underlined their commitment in identifying initiatives and strategies aimed at effectively advocating the needs expressed by the peoples of the region, in full compliance with the shared principles of democracy, human right protection, political dialogue and co-ownership.

Recent developments in the region and Perspectives and issues of the Mediterranean Cooperation

The Ministers reviewed the deep transitions ongoing in the region and underlined the

growing demand for an equitable socio-economic development and the key role played by the civil society. They stressed the necessity to urgently give effective and concrete answers to the needs expressed by the Mediterranean peoples and the necessity to identify mechanisms allowing a more effective support to the economic growth of the region. To this end it is of paramount importance to promote integration of the two Shores of the Mediterranean in order to enhance employment opportunities and to establish an efficient, diversified, sustainable economic system

The Ministers agreed on the common interest to develop a system based on democracy and stability of the region, based on historical, geographic, political, economic and social background of the Mediterranean region.

The Ministers welcomed the recent EU decision to renew and strengthen its Southern Neighbourhood Policy as a fundamental element also in the general framework of the international assistance provided by the Deauville Partnership. The Ministers underlined the urgency to enhance cooperation in the fields of governance, finance and trade, notably underlining the need to guarantee an effective and quick utilization of available resources, while avoiding inefficient allocation and maximizing the impact of initiatives.

Substantial discussions were focused on the question of migrations considered a key issue of common concern and a shared priority which must be approached with a global view. The Ministers agreed on the necessity to strengthen cooperation in the migratory field with an multifaceted approach that takes into account the fact that a sound social and economic development is the necessary precondition for an effective fight against illegal migration and the criminal organizations exploiting migratory flows.

Countries of the Southern Shore of the Mediterranean are viewed more and more as possible final destination by migrants from sub-saharian regions and therefore it appears necessary to develop a stronger cooperation aimed at identifying common strategies and initiatives vis-à-vis the most underdeveloped Countries to further support their social and economic development.

The Ministers underlined the complementarities between the Union for the Mediterranean and the other Mediterranean fora, and agreed on the necessity to resume and revive the UfM. In this context they recognized that the current efforts to develop new financial mechanisms in the region will contribute to promote projects funding.

Underlining the fundamental and immediate impact for job creation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, the Ministers

stressed the importance of developing specific initiatives aimed at providing technical assistance and financial support in this sector and welcomed the Italian projects for the creation of a financial mechanism (Mediterranean Partnership Fund) and of a euro Mediterranean network proposed by Promos of Milan.

On security cooperation, the Ministers agreed on the necessity to reinforce regional cooperation with specific reference the Mediterranean Dimension of NATO OSCE and Arab League.

The Ministers further exchanged views on human dimension of cooperation, including civil higher education and professional training, human exchanges and mobility, society and interreligious dialogue, inter-parliamentarian dialogue and role of the media. The Ministers agreed on the fundamental shared value represented by the promotion and protection of human rights, with particular reference to the rights of youths, women and religious communities.

The Ministers also exchanged views on the developments in the Middle East.

Syria

Ministers condemned the ongoing repression against the Syrian population, which risks to lead the Country into civil war. They call for an immediate end of all violence.

They expressed their concern for the degradation of the humanitarian situation in a number of regions of Syria and asked the Syrian Authorities to allow humanitarian access and appealed for an International mobilization so that this assistance reaches the Syrian population.

Ministers support the Arab League initiative which paves the way to a peaceful settlement of the Syrian crisis in its entirety involving opposition forces. They welcome the adoption of a UNGA Resolution which endorses the Arab plan and expect that all organs of the UN (notably the General Assembly and the Security Council) can continue to fully fulfil their role.

Ministers support the creation of the "Group of Friends of the Syrian People" which must work on the basis of the Arab Initiative and whose format must be as wide as possible to express the growing international consensus on the Syrian crisis. They welcome the holding in Tunis on February 24th of the first meeting of the "Group of Friends of the Syrian People".

Middle East Peace Process

Referring to the conclusions of the 8th meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs

of the Western Mediterranean Dialogue 5+5, which took place in Tunis on 15-16 April 2010, the Ministers reiterate the urgency of implementing without delay a two-state solution, Israeli and Palestinian, both living side by side in peace and full security, the Palestinian State must be independent, democratic, contiguous, viable and sovereign. The Ministers express their full appreciation and give their support to the steps undertaken by the Palestinian National Authority.

In this framework, they call for an effective and credible revival of negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians in order to achieve a just, global and durable peace on the basis of relevant UN Security Council resolutions, of the principles of the Madrid Peace conference, notably on the exchange land for peace, of the Road Map, of previously subscribed agreements between the Parties and of the Arab Peace Initiative which will celebrate its 10th anniversary on March 27th. Ministers support Jordanian efforts aimed at facilitating resumption of direct discussions between Israelis and Palestinians in the context of the process established by the Quartet aimed at the conclusion of an agreement between the Parties before the end of 2012.

The Ministers, considering the settlement of colonies in the occupied territories as contrary to International law and liable to hinder the peace process in the Middle East, ask the Israeli Government to immediately suspend all colonisation activities in East Jerusalem and in the rest of the West Bank, including the so called natural growth of the colonies. Ministers ask the Parties to refrain from any provocative action liable to compromise the positive development of negotiations.

Deeply concerned about the situation on the ground, notably in East Jerusalem, they recall that the establishment of a genuine peace a way must be found through negotiations to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the future capital of two states. They will not recognize any change to the pre-1967 borders, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed upon by the Parties. They demand the end of all illegal and discriminatory practices against Palestinians in East Jerusalem.

They reiterate their conviction that a durable peace can only be achieved through a comprehensive settlement which includes the Syria-Israel and Lebanon-Israel tracks.

Next Presidency

The Ministers decided to entrust Morocco with the next Presidency of the Mediterranean Forum.