

EMEA ANNUAL REPORT 2020



*Thinking and Acting for the future of
the Mediterranean and Africa*

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Message from the President

"March 2020 saw the eruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, which caught the world unprepared. Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa were all hit by the health crisis. Policy choices were at the forefront to save lives and keep economies afloat. Lockdowns, social distancing, working online and facing the uncertainty of a prolonged health crisis have been the menu of our daily lives. During this year, EMEA launched the COVID-19 Policy Monitor and Tracker for Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa, published a number of studies and policy papers on COVID-19, and organised the Fifth EMNES Annual Conference on the pillars for resilient socio economic models post-COVID-19 in the Mediterranean. The research conducted was aimed to at better understanding the policies needed to contain the pandemic and mitigate its socio-economic consequences.

EMEA is an independent research institution and forum of debate that provides innovative, forward-looking thinking and political, socio-economic and financial integrated analyses on the Euro-Mediterranean region and Africa in an emerging multipolar world. It strives to contribute decisively to the transition process in the Mediterranean and Africa amidst unprecedented global financial and economic crises and geopolitical uncertainties and conflicts."

- Professor Rym Ayadi
Founder and President of EMEA



2020 in numbers



39
team and board
members



53
external experts



33
partners from
16 countries



45
publications



15
events

Social Media



2,874,000 total impressions



9,500
total followers



26,000
shares,
comments and
likes



45
media articles

Year in review

19th – 20th January 2020

EMEA participates at the T20 Saudi Arabia

Prof. Rym Ayadi represented EMEA at the Inception Conference of T20 Saudi Arabia, which took place in Riyadh.



5th – 6th March 2020

EMEA sponsors CEPS IDEASLAB 2020

EMEA is a partner of CEPS and sponsor of Ideas Lab 2020. EMEA co-organized the session "Prime Talk: Africa home grown leadership and EU support".

18th March 2020

COVID-19 Policy Monitor and Tracker

EMEA launched a new regional policy research initiative on COVID-19 that aims to identify and assess the policy responses and socio-economic challenges linked to this global pandemic, as well as future responses to enhance our socio-economic resilience in Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa.

Year in review

EMEA webinars

EMEA hosted 14 webinars covering topics including clean energy, debt transparency, digitalization, regional integration and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



EMEA WEBINARS FALL CYCLE

**THE EU GREEN DEAL:
HOW DOES IT CONTRIBUTE
TO ENERGY TRANSITION IN
THE MEDITERRANEAN AND AFRICA?**

Thursday 10 December - 15:00 CET



EMEA WEBINAR

REFORMING INTERNATIONAL
DEBT ARCHITECTURE:
**CAN DEBT TRANSPARENCY BE
ACHIEVED FOR AFRICA?**

Thursday 22 October, 2020 15:00- 16:50 CET

EMEA TIA



EMEA WEBINARS FALL CYCLE

**BIODIVERSITY AND
CLIMATE CHANGE:
Lessons for the Mediterranean Sea**

Thursday 17 September 2020 15:00- 17:30 CET

[REGISTER TO JOIN WEBINAR](#)

MODERATOR	SPEAKERS	DISCUSSANT
Rym Ayadi	Sylvia Earle Ralph Chami Yara Saab Patricia Morales	Alessandra Sensi

EMEA



THE BLUE TRANSITION
SCENARIO 2050 FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN:
**TOWARDS TRIS
DEVELOPMENT MODEL**

EMEA

EMNES

Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

gortman
cooperation

EMEA research

EMEA strives to explore and understand the socio-economic and political challenges facing economies in the Euro-Mediterranean and Africa, amidst global geopolitical uncertainties, economic and financial crises and protracted conflicts. EMEA's research aims to offer sound evidence-based analyses, policy answers and targeted actions and initiatives to address the most pressing political, economic, financial, social and environmental issues in the region.

Socio-economic Policy

Building on MEDPRO quantitative and qualitative foresight analyses, EMEA develops new models and scenarios for policy and strategic decision-making, proposes new applications for regions, sub-regions and countries, and suggests policy guidance for achieving long-term sustainable political and socio-economic development. EMEA is also developing the foresight learning hub with its partners, and developed the innovative "TRIS" concept of socio-economic development: Transparent, Responsible, Inclusive and Sustainable.



Money, Banking and Finance

EMEA continues to enlarge its research on financial architecture, financial inclusion, stability and sustainability, and crisis management in the Mediterranean and Africa.

Regional Integration & Partnerships

Inspired by the blue transition first introduced in MEDPRO and later developed in EMNES, the "Blue Transition Vision" is a multi-dimensional conception of regional integration building on complementarity between regions and sub-regions. A set of integrated indicators has been developed in line with the TRIS development model to monitor regional integration over time.



Publications

2nd April 2020

Blue Transition Policy Roadmap: towards Transparent, Responsible, Inclusive and Sustainable (TRIS) development in the Mediterranean

Rym Ayadi, Carlo Sessa

This study introduces the Blue Transition Scenario (BTS) to develop the narratives of the TRIS development model: Transparent governance, Responsible living, Inclusive economy and Sustainable energy and environmental goals. This framework aims to guide policy responses to manage the medium- and long-term challenges facing our economies and societies.

18th June 2020

L'avenir de L'Europe est au Sud

Fathallah Sijilmassi

Almost 25 years after the launch of the Barcelona Process in 1995 and more than 10 years after that of the Union for the Mediterranean in 2008, the European Union and the countries of the Southern Mediterranean are still seeking to define the contours of their partnership. This book provides a comprehensive account on the role of the Mediterranean to define a positive agenda for the region and beyond to Africa.

13th July 2020

Assessing Regional Integration in the Euro-Mediterranean: A multi-dimensional regional integration

Rym Ayadi, Kostas Fragkiadakis, Leonidas Paroussos, Emanuele Sessa

In the context of increasing fragmentation, mobility restrictions and disruption of global value chains, this study proposes an innovative Regional Integration Matrix (RIM) to assess the process of regional integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

28th September 2020

COVID-19 Policy Assessment Monitor Mediterranean and Africa: March – September 2020

Rym Ayadi, Giovanni Barci, Sara Ronco

Following several months of observations, the study provides a comprehensive overview of the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Mediterranean and Africa, policy and economic responses to curb it and to alleviate the socio-economic negative consequences in 2020.

Projects

EMEA leads and participates in projects funded by the EU under programmes including ENI CBC Med, Interreg and NEAR, which finance cooperation projects to foster fair, equitable development on both sides of the Mediterranean, and Horizon 2020, a Research and Innovation programme taking discoveries and breakthroughs from the lab to the market.

CREACT4MED

CReative Entrepreneurs ACTing FOR the future MEDiterranean (CREACT4MED) aims to enhance the role of culture and creativity as a vector for employment and resilience in countries of the Southern Mediterranean by unleashing the potential of the cultural and creative industries (CCI) to create economic value, enhance growth, create decent jobs and foster social inclusion, with a particular focus on young people and women. The project is coordinated by EMEA.

Total budget: €2.2 million, of which 90% is funded by the EU Commission

Implementation: March 2020 – August 2024

<https://creativemediterranean.org>



INVESTMED

Co-funded by the European Union under the ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme, INVESTMED aims to boost the sustainability and competitiveness of MSMEs, start-ups and recently established enterprises with training on sustainable business management, coaching and incubation services, and financial support.

Total budget: €3.8 million, of which 90% is funded by the EU under the ENI CBC MED Programme

Implementation: September 2020 – March 2023

<https://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/investmed>



Interreg Med Renewable Energy Project

The Interreg Med Renewable Energy Project is one of the 8 MED Horizontal Projects of the Interreg Med Programme, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The project aims to set a governance model for energy transition in rural areas and islands in the Mediterranean Region.

Total budget: €1.4 million

Implementation: November 2020 – November 2022

<https://renewable-energies.interreg-med.eu/>



Projects

TRIGGER

Trends in Global Governance and Europe's Role (TRIGGER), led by the European Centre for Policy Studies, aims to provide EU institutions with knowledge and tools to enhance their agency, effectiveness and influence in global governance, developing new ways to harness the potential of public engagement and participatory foresight in complex governance decisions. The Project is funded under H2020.

Total budget: €2.5 million

Implementation: December 2018 – November 2021

<https://trigger-project.eu/>



MEDPRO

MEDPRO is a network of 17 research institutes and around 100 researchers from both shores of the Mediterranean, funded under the Seventh Framework Program of the European Research Area, from 2009 to 2014, with a budget of €3.6 million.

<https://www.medpro-foresight.eu/>



Platforms

EMEA promotes open access knowledge and research via open access, up-to-date digital platforms:

EMEA Research Platform

Brings together leading economists and high-level international and local experts to think for the future of the Euro-Mediterranean and Africa in a multi-polar world.

<https://research.euromed-economists.org/>



COVID-19 Tracker

Using data from the WHO, Statista and other sources, provides a comprehensive view of the spread of the virus, testing, fatality rate, and economic implications in each country, through a series of automatically updated graphs and live maps.

<https://research.euromed-economists.org/covid-19/>



COVID-19 Policy Response Monitor

A dynamic tool to monitor and assess the evolution of policy responses to the pandemic in Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa.

<https://research.euromed-economists.org/introduction/>



Platforms

Bank Business Model Research

A tool for researchers and market participants (depositors, creditors, rating agencies, regulators and supervisors) to better understand the nature of risk attached to bank business models and systemic risk throughout the economic cycle.

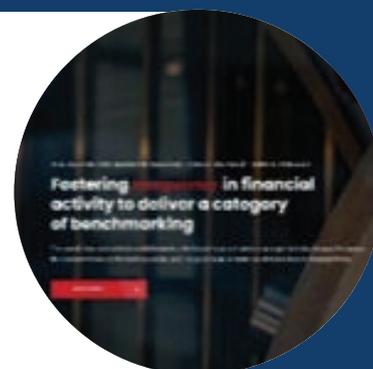
<https://bbmresearch.org/>



Bank Conduct Risk Research

Aims to foster transparency in financial activity and to deliver a category of benchmarking, which comprises the level of conduct costs and the conduct risk of the banks, as an analytical tool for the banks and their stakeholders.

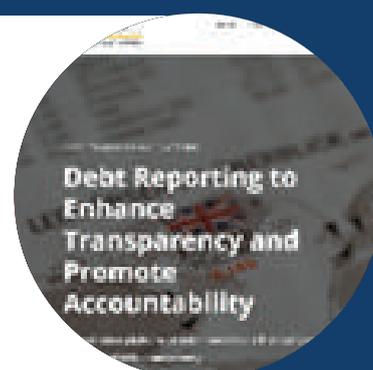
<https://www.cbrconductcosts.com/>



Debt Transparency Initiative

Aims to enhance knowledge about debt related issues, particularly in low-income countries (LICs) and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs).

<https://dtransparency.org/>



Networks

EMEA promotes regional networks of excellence, bringing together economists and high-level experts from across the Euro-Mediterranean and Africa to support integration and development in the region.



EMNES

The Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES) is a network of 35 Universities and research Institutions from Algeria, Belgium, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and the UK. It consists of a core team of over 100 experts in all economic fields, including the members of the Steering, Associate and Advisory Committees, as well as the main EMNES researchers and fellows. EMNES aims to provide a renewed vision for socio-economic development in the Mediterranean region, mainly focusing on employment creation, social inclusion, sustainable development and regional integration. EMNES is promoted and coordinated by EMEA.

<https://emnes.org/>



EMGN

EMGN is a Network of Credit Guarantee Schemes, promoted by the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA) and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMED), and with the support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). It seeks to alleviate the region's structural constraints for MSMEs to access to finance by gathering guarantee schemes active in the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The network is active in training, advocacy and research and development. It currently comprises 8 institutions from the Euro-Mediterranean region, and is associated with the Global Network of Guarantee Institutions (GNGI) and the European Association of Guarantee Institutions (AECM).

<https://emgn.eu/>



About EMEA

Founded in 2012, EMEA is an innovative independent regional think tank, with in-house economic and policy research, action development and implementation capacity. It brings together a large network of leading economists and high-level experts across Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa. It serves as a forum for debate on the political and socio-economic reforms in the region, with the aim of promoting sustainability, inclusiveness, regional integration and prosperity. EMEA seeks to contribute to the rethinking of the Euro-Mediterranean and African region amidst unprecedented global, financial and economic crises, geopolitical uncertainties and conflicts, and an increasingly multi-polar global context.

EMEA is not-for-profit institution set up in October 2012 in Barcelona under Catalan Association Law. It is supported by 35 Universities and research institutions from 17 countries across the region.

EMEA is funded by the EMEA foundation, founder and international partners, as well as through grants, funding programmes and projects from international organisations such as the EU (NEAR, H2020, Interreg, ENI CBC Med and others), the Union for the Mediterranean, and the European Training Foundation.



Goals

- To develop innovative political and socio-economic thinking and research for the Mediterranean and Africa in a globalised world;
- To monitor and to contribute to reform processes in the political, economic, financial and social agendas in the Mediterranean and Africa taking into account the global and regional societal challenges;
- To provide recommendations on new avenues to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth, on the future of regional integration, and renewed EU-Mediterranean and EU-African partnerships and policies;
- To promote innovative initiatives in the fields of economics, management and finance and to take stock of best international practices;
- To disseminate and promote new political and socio-economic thinking and views through research and a regular flow of publications and public events;
- To provide targeted expertise on areas relevant to the developments of the Mediterranean and Africa to international and regional organisations;
- To develop a network of excellence of economists and high-level experts in the Mediterranean and Africa;
- To promote activities and actions for a transparent, responsible, inclusive and sustainable economic development in the Mediterranean and Africa.

About EMEA

Founder and President

Rym Ayadi, Professor

Bayes Business School, City University of London; Senior Advisor, CEPS

Executive Board Members

Cinzia Alcidi

Co-Director of Research at CEPS; Research Fellow, LUISS School of European Political Economy

Pantelis Capros

Head of E3MLab, ICCS; Professor of Energy Economics and Operation Research, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, National Technical University of Athens

Mariano Gomariz

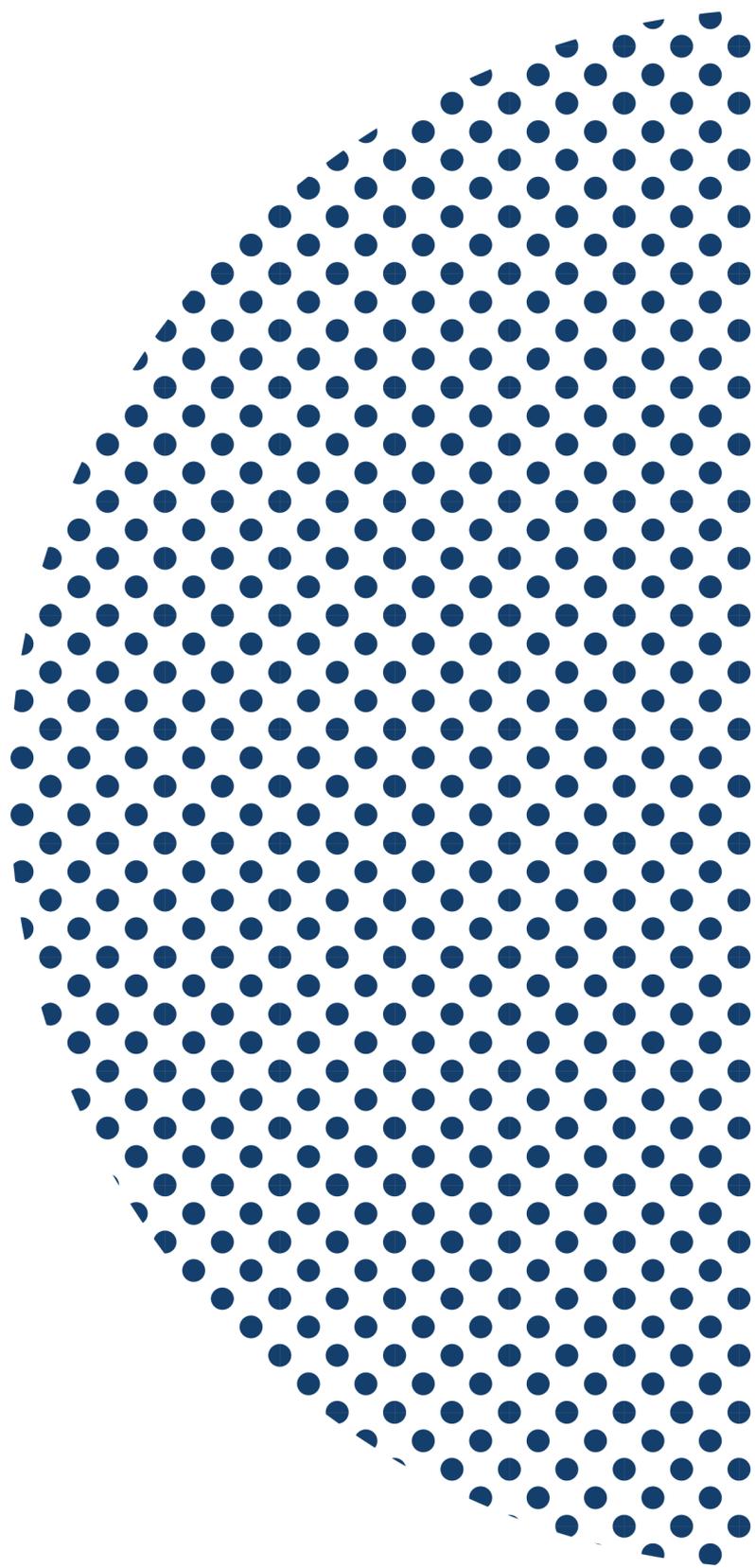
Founder, UTN Tax & Legal

Consuelo Varela Ortega

Professor of Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Carlo Sessa

Research Director and Former President, ISINNOVA



About EMEA

Advisory Board Members

Roger Albinyana

Managing Director, IEMed; Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, University of Barcelona

Raja Almarzoqi

Chief Economic Advisor at Ministry of Economy and Planning - MEPSaudi; Faculty Member, Economics Division, Institute of Diplomatic Studies

Sergio Arzeni

President, INSME; Senior Advisor, Friends of Europe

Emilios Avgouleas

International Banking Law and Finance Chair, University of Edinburgh

Bertrand Candelon

Professor of Finance and Head of Research of Louvain Finance, Université Catholique de Louvain; Scientific Director, Institut Louis Bachelier

Ralph Chami

Co-Founder of Rebalance Earth, Assistant Director, Institute for Capacity Development, IMF

Giovanni Ferri

Professor of Economics, Department of Law, Economics, Politics & Modern Languages, LUMSA University

Ekkehard Ernst

President at Geneva Macro Labs Chief of Macroeconomic Policies and Jobs Unit, ILO

María Helena de Filipe

Spokesperson of SMEs in the European Economic and Social Committee, President, AFAEMME

Senen Florensa

President of IEMed

Mona Toema El Garf

Former Chairperson of the Egyptian Competition Authority (ECA)

Hakim Ben Hammouda

Former Minister of Economy and Finance, Tunisia; Former Director, WTO

Moubarack Lô

President of the Emergence Institute; Director General, Economic Foresight Bureau

Jorgen Mortensen

Former senior economist DG for Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission, Former Associate Senior Research Fellow CEPS

Fathallah Sijilmassi

Director General, African Union Commission, former UfM SG

Nermine El-Tahri

Former Assistant Minister for MSMEs, Ministry of International Cooperation, Egypt

Sübidey Togan

Professor of Economics and Director of the Centre for International Economics, Bilkent University

Benoît Tremblay

Honorary Professor, HEC Montréal

53 external experts on economics, finance and development from the Euro-Mediterranean region and Africa.

Partners

African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET, Ghana)
Apogee Information Systems (Greece)
Union of Mediterranean Conferderations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED, Tunisia)
Centre for Banking Research, The Bayes Business School – City, University of London (UK)
Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS, Belgium)
Devstat (Spain)
E3M Lab at the Institute of Communication and Computer Systems of the National Technical University of Athens (Greece)
Egypols (Egypt)
Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI, Slovenia)
European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed, Spain)
Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences (FEPS, Egypt)
Federation of Mediterranean Businesswomen Associations (AFAEMME, Spain)
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM, Italy)
Forum for Euro-Mediterranean Innovation in Action (FEMIA, France)
Institut Tunisien de la Compétitivité et des Etudes Quantitatives (ITCEQ, Tunisia)
International Network for Small and Medium Enterprises (INSME, Italy)
Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI, Italy)
l'Istituto di Studi per l'Integrazione dei Sistemi (ISINNOVA, Italy)
Le Manager (Tunisia)
Libera Università Maria Ss. Assunta (LUMSA, Italy)
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAIB, Italy)
Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI, Netherlands)
Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS, Palestine)
Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM, Regional)
Positive Agenda Advisory (PAA, Morocco)
Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC, Spain)
SUSTINENTES – Sustinentes s.r.l. (Italy)
The Geneva Macro Labs (Switzerland)
The Victoria Forum (Canada)
TRT Trasporti e Territorio (TRT, Italy)
Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (UPM, Spain)
Università degli Studi di Firenze (USF, Italy)
Université Euro-Méditerranéenne de Fès (UEMF, Morocco)





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