



New political perspectives for the Mediterranean region

The Institute of European Democrats mainly focuses towards the political relations between the European Union and other strategic areas of the world, its Common Foreign and Security Policy and the EU's Neighbourhood Policy. IED considers the international projection of the EU as one of the pillar for the future achievement of the Europe as a real and respected global player in the international community and the political relations that EU will be able to build and to strengthen over the next few years with the other main strategic areas in the world, will be the most important trial of its capacity to run an effective and innovative foreign policy.

In particular, an important field of interest for the foundation is to deepen and analyse the fascinating but also complex and subtle relations currently existing among the European Union, the Mediterranean region and the neighbouring Islamic world, where political, economic, cultural and religious aspects are growing even more intertwined. On the occasion of the Conference "**The European Union and the future of the Mediterranean region**" held in Brussels on July 8, 2008, IED presented a paper on the latest political developments regarding the EU Mediterranean initiatives at the eve of the Paris Summit hosted by the French EU Presidency.

The Union for the Mediterranean: an update

by Roberto Aliboni, Vice President of the Italian International Affairs Institute - IAI and Head of the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Programme of the Institute

On the subject, the IAI's contribution to a EuroMeSCo research project on "Putting the Mediterranean Union in perspective":

"The Union for the Mediterranean initiative. A view from the southern perspective"

A contribution on the economic aspects of the south and east countries of the Mediterranean by Prof. Fouad M. Ammor, Deputy Secretary General of GERM - Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches sur la Méditerranée, Rabat.

"L'Union pour la Méditerranée: la dimension économique est aussi une dimension sécuritaire"