

Introduction

Preamble : governance, territories and cooperation

I. Ongoing changes in the Mediterranean region (5 to 7 pages)

1. Arab revolutions and their impact on the region as a whole

- 1.1. Transition of Maghreb States after the « Arab springs »
- 1.2. Strong antagonisms that must hold the attention of Western countries
- 1.3. An irreversible process and the emergence of *counter-powers*

2. The new priorities of States faced with social and local, regional imbalances.

- 2.1. Territorial development as a mean to reduce *territories disparities*
- 2.2. Major issues: employment and youth

3. Developments in public governance, reforms under way

- 3.1. Public governance reform and public service modernisation
- 3.2. A new political will: the decentralisation way

4. The new role of local and regional authorities in the different countries

- 4.1. Local and regional authorities, the relevant scale for public policies building
- 4.2. Local and regional authorities, the relevant scale for the establishment of cooperation policies

II. The new framework for cooperation in the Mediterranean (5 to 7 pages)

1. Consultation frameworks at national levels.

- 1.1. The Barcelona process or the Euromed partnership
- 1.2. The European neighbourhood policy
- 1.3. The Union for the Mediterranean
- 1.4. 5 + 5 Dialogue
- 1.5. Other areas of concertation in the Mediterranean

2. New cooperation actors.

- 2.1. BRICS
- 2.2. Arab States of the Gulf (Arabia, Qatar)
- 2.3. Turkey

3. 2014-2020 perspectives of the European Policy in the Mediterranean

- 3.1. Europe 2020 in the Mediterranean
- 3.2. Cohesion policy in the Alps-Mediterranean Euroregion context
- 3.3. The next programming period 2014-2020

4. The new neighbourhood policy

- 4.1. The objectives of the new neighbourhood policy
- 4.2. The funding of the new neighbourhood policy

5. Increased support of the Commission to Local and Regional Authorities (LRAs) in the European policy development aid.

- 5.1. The establishment of Structured Dialogue.
- 5.2. Capacity building and training in territorial engineering.

6. Consultation and dialogue frameworks at local government level.

- 6.1. The ARLEM
- 6.2. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

<h2>III. Tools and issues relating to decentralised cooperation in the Mediterranean (15 pages)</h2>

1. The role and position of decentralised cooperation during the past three years: support to the new role of Local and Regional Authorities, issues concerning decentralisation aid, support to democratic transition, civil society inclusion.

- 1.1. The Arc Latin
- 1.2. European Network of Local Authorities for Peace in the Middle East (COEPPPO)
- 1.3. The Arab Town Organisation (ATO)
- 1.4. MedCities
- 1.5. The Euromed cities network
- 1.6. The Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- 1.7. United Cities

2. Financing constraints leading to selectivity and more effective aid: impact of the financial crisis on Mediterranean cooperation.

- 2.1. What role for public investment and what budgets for communities?
- 2.2. What methods and goals for the development of the EU budget?

3. Increasing synergies with international efforts

- 3.1. Networks calling for the World Bank...
- 3.2. ... but also for the FAD and the MCI

IV. Democratic governance at the heart of new cooperation priorities (10 pages)

1. Review of the different institutional stages that led to the emergence of the democratic governance concept.

- 1.1. The Washington Consensus
- 1.2. The Paris Declaration
- 1.3. European Development Cooperation Charter in Support of Local Governance
- 1.4. Busan

2. New cooperation guidelines

- 2.1. The World Bank
- 2.2. The UNDP & UN Habitat
- 2.3. The IMF

3. Emergence of the democratic governance concept in cooperation policies

- 3.1. Concept definition of democratic governance and distinction with the concept of “good governance”
- 3.2. A new paradigm: the political dimension of development
- 3.3. The multi-level governance and recognition of civil society

4. An approach that remains all the same highly technocratic along with a prescriptive approach to “good governance”.

- 4.1. Complex and uneven changes of the States.
- 4.2. Questioning the European « toolbox »

V. A necessary and demanding approach (15 pages)

1. A necessary approach: consensus on the need to reform cooperation tools in the Mediterranean

- 1.1. Facing the new processes of institutional construction (role of the State, role of Islam, State/religion relations in the Mediterranean area)
- 1.2. Double talk: essential support to democratic governance; and implicit respect for the European Security Strategy

2. Implementing a demanding and complex approach: a review of the conditions and principles for its implementation, mutual responsibilities, new approach to conditionality, shared programming and assessment

- 2.1. The necessary balance between governance and interference
- 2.2. The solidarity agreement

3. In the Mediterranean: the EU approach is still highly prescriptive, in contrast with changes observed in other areas

4. The Mediterranean exception: the reserved attitude of fund donors and particularly of the European Union on a local and regional approach to cooperation and governance

- 4.1. The EU between silence and recognition

5. Decentralised cooperation: breaking new ground in the promotion of an enabling framework for democratic local governance (link with the workshops)

VI. Towards a shared political framework for decentralised cooperation in the Mediterranean
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(to be developed together with the political declaration)