CREATING THE FUTURE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

19 SEPTEMBER 2017

SQUARE MEETING CENTRE | BRUSSELS
Today we meet young Mediterranean superheroes who change their reality every single day. Today we engage in dialogue about the power of youth to shape the future. Today we talk about ways we can all work on common solutions for a better Mediterranean region, north and south.

At Creating the Future of the Mediterranean, young leaders and decision-makers discuss our shared vision for the Mediterranean region.

We share our experiences and lessons learned. We talk about solutions to provide youth with opportunities to get stronger and affect change in the fields of public participation, sustainable development, cultural heritage, tolerance, media, freedom of expression and much more!

#netmedyouth #BuildTomorrow
AGENDA

1:30 PM  Registration

2:00 PM  Event opening
Welcome and introduction
with NET-MED Youth members Laetitia El Haddad & Saddem Jebali

How young leaders inspire action in the south of the Mediterranean
A youth-led conversation with
Nada Al-Nashif, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Social & Human Sciences
Mark Johnston, Director, Resources, DG NEAR, European Commission
Jens Nymand-Christensen, Deputy Director-General, DG EAC, European Commission
Film premiere: Meet today’s Mediterranean superheroes

2:40 PM  NET-MED Youth: A story of resilience
by Khadija Ali, NET-MED Youth - Libya

2:45 PM  A dialogue of many minds
Youth perspectives on emerging challenges in the region
with NET-MED Youth members Majd Beltaji & Elyes Guermazi

Session 1: Democratic governance & operationalization of youth strategies
Reema Khalil Salem, NET-MED Youth - Palestine
Ibtihal Benharroual, NET-MED Youth - Morocco
Nour Kaabi, NET-MED Youth - Tunisia
Tina Hocevar, Board Member, European Youth Forum
Aya Nasser, NET-MED Youth - Lebanon

4:40 PM  Have a coffee!

5:00 PM  Let’s transform our countries & our region
What does it take to build the ground for a sustainable tomorrow?
with NET-MED Youth members Laetitia El Haddad & Saddem Jebali
Marjeta Jager, Deputy Director-General, DG DEVCO, European Commission
Faten Kallel, Former Secretary of State for Youth in Tunisia
Marc Giacomini, Deputy Managing Director for Human Rights, Global and Multilateral Issues, EEAS
Elissar Naddaf, Advisor to the Minister of Information in Lebanon
Schams El-Ghoneimi, Foreign Policy Advisor for Alyn Smith, Member of the European Parliament

5:45 PM  Closing: Looking towards the future
Where are we heading and how do we get there?
with NET-MED Youth members Laetitia El Haddad & Saddem Jebali
Salma Negra, NET-MED Youth - Tunisia
Michael Docherty, Head of Sector, Political and Social Development, DG NEAR, European Commission
Nada Al-Nashif, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Social & Human Sciences

6:00 PM  Let’s have a chat over a drink!
Networking cocktail.
Mark Johnston, Director, Resources, DG NEAR, European Commission, took up his duties as Director for Resources at DG NEAR in 2016. He joined the European Commission in 1991. He first became Head of Unit in 2002, in DG RELEX (the predecessor of the European External Action Service). He has been heading the Budget, Public Procurement and Control Unit in the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries department (DG MARE) since 2007 and has been an Acting Resources Director there since 2011.

Jens Nymand-Christensen, Deputy Director-General, DG EAC, sits as Deputy Director-General for Education and Culture in charge of the Innovation, International Cooperation and Sport Unit and the Culture and Creativity Unit. Previously he served as Director for Policy Coordination at the Secretariat-General; Director for Better Regulation and Institutional Issues at the Secretariat-General; Advisor at the Danish Permanent Representation; among other functions.

Faten Kallel, Former Secretary of State for Youth, Tunisia, has been a consultant for several international agencies based in Tunisia. In 2015, she was in charge of the follow-up for the Smart Tunisia program. In 2016–2017, she was State Secretary for Youth. She is one of the 2017 Young Global Leaders.

Marc Giacomini, Director, Deputy Managing Director for Human Rights, Global and Multilateral Issues, EEAS, is a senior French diplomat who has also served as the French bilateral Ambassador to Chile and as Deputy Director of the United Nations, International Organisations, Human Rights and Francophonie in the French Foreign Ministry.

Elissar Naddaf, Advisor to the Minister of Information in Lebanon, is Advisor to the Minister of Information in Lebanon since February 2017, and previously served as an editor in the Ministry of Information. Naddaf has a PhD in French literature and studied journalism.

Jad Nfidhi, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Social & Human Sciences, took up her duties as Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences at UNESCO in 2015. Previously she served as Assistant Director-General/Regional Director of the International Labour Organization’s Regional Office for Arab States, based in Beirut. She started her UN career at UNDP in 1991, serving in Libya, Lebanon, Iraq and at Headquarters in New York. As a development economist and practitioner, she serves in an advisory capacity on several boards, notably the Boards of Trustees of Birzeit University and the Human Development NGO, Taawon.

Nada Al-Nashif, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Social & Human Sciences, took up her duties as Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences at UNESCO in 2015. Previously she served as Assistant Director-General/Regional Director of the International Labour Organization’s Regional Office for Arab States, based in Beirut. She started her UN career at UNDP in 1991, serving in Libya, Lebanon, Iraq and at Headquarters in New York. As a development economist and practitioner, she serves in an advisory capacity on several boards, notably the Boards of Trustees of Birzeit University and the Human Development NGO, Taawon.

Schams El-Ghoneimi, Foreign Policy Advisor for Alyn Smith, Member of European Parliament, is a foreign policy advisor at the European Parliament in Brussels. He has worked extensively on EU foreign policy, Middle East politics, Brexit and CETA. He previously worked as Crisis Action’s Middle East political analyst in Cairo, Egypt during the Arab spring. He is an expert on the Syrian conflict and has co-founded Refugees Are Not Alone and Syrians Got Talent to help refugees and locals live together in Europe. He has written a number of political pieces and has lectured in several universities.

Marc Giacomini, Director, Deputy Managing Director for Human Rights, Global and Multilateral Issues, EEAS, is a senior French diplomat who has also served as the French bilateral Ambassador to Chile and as Deputy Director of the United Nations, International Organisations, Human Rights and Francophonie in the French Foreign Ministry.

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Saddem Jebali is pursuing his master’s studies in Public Policy Master’s program of the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, Germany. He also works as journalist and development consultant in the MENA region with focus on civil society and governance and hopes to counter the violent extremism. Saddem has worked in the international development sector in the Arab world for 6 years.

Ibtihal Benharoual is a PhD student in Public Policy in the laboratory Gender, Society & Culture. She is a member of the advocacy and research study team on Gender at the Hassan II university in Casablanca and is interested in public policy and youth policy. In NET-MED Youth, she represents Prometheus Institute for Human Rights and Globalization. She is also the founder of Rusibis Coworking Space in El Jadida.

Irene Pourdeyrou is a lawyer and expert on media monitoring. She is a PhD student in Media and Communication Sciences at Montpellier Media Monitoring in 2011, where she supervises media monitoring projects on elections, women’s image, hate speech, etc. She has supervised media monitoring projects on elections, women’s image, hate speech, etc. She is a journalist and expert on media monitoring.

Shani Landau is the Jordanian Haaretz reporter. She has an MA in Labor Policy and Globalization. Shani is manager of NGOoms, a hub for more than 18 civil society organizations cooperating with each other in order to create a social network. She strives to enable social change by youth in Israel.
All around the Mediterranean, we need to empower young women and men to speak out, act and lead, to find solutions to pressing challenges and build a more just, inclusive and sustainable tomorrow. The NET-MED Youth partnership between UNESCO and the European Union is breaking new ground to support young people as partners and positive changemakers across the region.

Over the past 3 years, this has enabled networking and cooperation between youth civil society organizations and stakeholders, it has helped revise and shape public policies and dialogue, it has enhanced the representation of young people in media, while strengthening youth employability skills.

Alaa Aljarrash lives in Lebanon. He graduated in Civil Engineering from Homs, Syria, and in Public Health and Medical Social Assistance in Tripoli, Lebanon. He is actively engaged in the inclusion of young Syrian refugees in civil society organizations in Lebanon and works for the promotion of life skills and social cohesion.

Nada Elfeituri is an architect, writer and social activist from Benghazi. She began working in civil society after the 2011 Libyan revolution volunteering for media and cultural organizations. She founded the Young Writers of Benghazi, which aims to foster creative expression among Libyan youth. She is an executive committee member of the Libyan Institute of Architects, focusing on empowering young architects.

Aya Nasser is a 26-year-old Project Coordinator and M&E Officer at the Lebanese NGO Development for People and Nature Association (DPNA). She has been working on youth programs since 2015. Aya has a BS and an MS in Accounting and Finance. She has several training certificates in Trauma Healing, Profound Stress, Stress Management, Creative Facilitation, Active Citizens, and more.

Salma Negra is the National Coordinator for NET-MED Youth in Tunisia. Prior to joining UNESCO, Salma taught management at a university for 8 years where she founded a “Career Center” to enhance the professional career of the Institute’s management graduates. She has a Master’s in Accounting and Management and a Bachelor’s in High Commercial Studies. She is an activist and has founded many NGOs.

Irina Bokova UNESCO Director-General
www.netmedyouth.org

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