Green and Digital Transition in the Euro-Mediterranean: Youth Connecting the Dots Across Economic Development, Migration and Security

IV EuroMeSCo Youth Forum
October 2021, Barcelona

AGENDA

Day 1

09:00 – 09:30   **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

09:30 – 13:00   **3 Parallel Working Group Sessions**

1. ***Aligning the twin green and digital transition with the Euro-Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions' socio-economic development goals***

In the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic context, with disrupted global economies, and following the European Commission's release of the new Agenda for the Mediterranean for a "green, digital, resilient and just recovery, guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and the European Green Deal", this session aims to develop strategies that ensure the close alignment of green and digital transition with the region's social and economic development goals. The socio-economic challenges (e.g., weak rule of law, poor governance) will be assessed, as well as the opportunities (e.g., future-oriented jobs, economic diversification) involved in these transitions for societies at large, and young people in particular. It will also explore mechanisms for youth engagement in mainstreaming a green or digital transition in the region.

2. ***Foresights for migration in the Euro-Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions: implications of the green and digital transition***

In the new Agenda for the Mediterranean advanced by the European Commission, the green and digital transition sit at the core of the priorities. Over the years, migration has posed both numerous benefits and challenges to the whole Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions with complex cross-sectoral implications (economic, social, security, political, etc.). The aim of the session is to unpack the transformational potential of the green and digital transitions for Mediterranean migration (e.g., with regards to migrants' integration in host societies, opening legal and circular migration pathways). It also invites young researchers to contribute to the reflection on the opportunities and bottlenecks in the transition, whether green or digital, relevant for policy-makers in the field of migration management, for migrants or for Mediterranean and neighbouring societies at large.

3. **A closer look at the complex link between green and digital transition and security in the Euro-Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions**

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the urgency of accelerating the green and digital transition in the increasingly geopolitically volatile Euro-Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions. The aim of this session is to investigate the complex link between green or digital transition and the security situation in these regions by addressing the costs and benefits of these transitions with the objective to shift from a securitisation lens of the green transition and to ensure a cyber-secure digital transition. It will also reflect on how young researchers can provide innovative approaches to adopt a comprehensive framework for cooperation that would be beneficial to both shores of the Mediterranean.

11:15 – 11:45   **Coffee Break**

13:00 – 14:30   **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00   **Parallel Scientific and Business Sessions**

1. **Scientific Session: R&D-Industry Collaborations to Support Innovation – A Practitioner's perspective**
   The aim of this session is to showcase the translation of research into practical applications through such collaborations which accelerate the transfer of knowledge between researchers and practitioners.

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2. **Business Session: Digital Transformation Opportunities for Business Development – Perspective from the Private Sector**
The aim of this session is to explore the cross-cutting and transformative nature of digitalisation on the business environment which could help realise large productivity gains for the economy.

16:00 –19:00   **Social Programme**

20:00 – 22:00   **Dinner**

Day 2

09:00 – 12:00   **Parallel Training Sessions:**

                           "Infographics and Data Visualisations for Research Communication: Effective Knowledge Visualisation and Knowledge Sharing Tools"
This session will enable young researchers to acquire theoretical concepts and starter cartography skills and, more importantly, a first-hand experience creating data visualisations and static/interactive infographics through main online tools and resources. This session will end with a tangible output related to the topic of the Forum.

                           "How to Write Policy Briefs"
This session aims at familiarising the participants with techniques and methodologies to write impactful policy briefs. It will consist of a theoretical part and a practical one.

10:30 – 10:45   **Coffee Break**

12:00 – 13:30   **Leaders Talks**

13:30 – 14:30   **Buffet Lunch**