



EUROMESCO WORKOUT COURSES 2026 – CALL FOR TRAINERS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Deadline to apply: 11 February 2026 at 23:59 CET

As part of EuroMeSCo's capacity-building initiative, with financial support from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), a series of online and offline training sessions, labelled 'EuroMeSCo Workout Courses,' will be implemented in 2026.

These sessions aim to strengthen the research skills and capacities of EuroMeSCo's think tankers and researchers, based on identified needs and prior consultations within the network.

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSES AND METHODOLOGY

ONLINE

The **online** EuroMeSCo Workout course consists of 3 to 4 sessions (the number of sessions will depend on the theme and the training proposal of each course), with a week between each session. Each session will last for 2 hours. The online courses will take place between April and June 2026. The expected number of participants per session is about 15. **The course will only be scheduled if more than 10 candidates apply.**

OFFLINE

Some EuroMeSCo Workout courses may be held **in person** back-to-back with the **IX Euromed Young Researchers Forum** and/or with **EuroMeSCo's Annual Conference** (date and venue to be confirmed). The exact format and scope will be discussed with the selected trainers.

Both online and offline trainings are thought to be very interactive, practical (rather than theoretical) and involve a peer-to-peer dimension.



COURSES

Generative AI and digital tools for research and policy work: benefits, limits and ethical challenges (*Online course*)

This course aims to equip researchers and think tankers from the Euro-Mediterranean region with a solid understanding of how generative artificial intelligence and digital tools can be effectively used in policy research and analysis across diverse political, institutional, and socio-economic contexts. Participants will explore practical applications of AI for literature reviews, data analysis, drafting policy outputs, and knowledge dissemination, with a particular focus on issues relevant to Euro-Mediterranean policy debates.

The training will place strong emphasis on ethical and governance challenges, including transparency, bias, data protection, intellectual property, and the responsible use of AI in contexts marked by asymmetries in digital capacity and access. Participants will reflect on how to integrate AI tools while preserving analytical rigor, methodological robustness, and institutional credibility. By the end of the course, participants will be able to critically assess and responsibly use generative AI and digital tools to support research and policy work addressing shared challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Track II & 1.5 diplomacy lab for think tanks

(*In-person course, back-to-back with the EuroMeSCo Annual Conference*)

This practical course is designed to strengthen the capacity of Euro-Mediterranean think tankers to engage in Track II and Track 1.5 diplomacy processes in a region characterised by political fragmentation, protracted conflicts, and limited formal dialogue channels. The course will introduce participants to the principles and practices of informal diplomacy, with particular attention to the role of think tanks as neutral conveners, knowledge brokers, and facilitators of dialogue across the Mediterranean.

Through hands-on exercises, simulations, testimonials from the ground and case studies rooted in Euro-Mediterranean experiences, participants will learn how to design,



implement, and support Track II and 1.5 initiatives. This training session will cover agenda-setting, stakeholder mapping, trust-building, facilitation and moderation techniques, as well as strategies to ensure policy relevance and follow-up. By the end of the course, participants will have strengthened their practical skills to contribute to inclusive dialogue processes and policy-oriented confidence-building efforts in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

** As this course will be held in person, the possibility of inviting experts, senior mediators, and practitioners to share their hands-on experience could be foreseen in the proposal.*

Project design & proposal writing for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation (Online course)

This course aims to enhance participants' capacities to design high-quality project proposals and build effective partnerships in support of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation. Focusing on key funding instruments such as ENI/NDICI, Erasmus+, PRIMA, Horizon and related programmes, the training will help participants understand donor priorities beyond 2026, and funding logics in a context marked by regional interdependence and shared policy challenges.

Participants will acquire practical skills for project conceptualisation, including problem analysis rooted in Euro-Mediterranean realities, objectives setting, results frameworks, work plans, budgets, and consortium building across different Mediterranean contexts. The course will also address cross-cutting issues such as impact, sustainability, inclusiveness, and regional ownership. By the end of the training, participants will be better equipped to translate research expertise and policy ideas into coherent, competitive, and regionally relevant project proposals for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

HOW TO APPLY?

Interested candidates are required to submit their applications via the [dedicated online form](#). The application should include a detailed training proposal of no more than 500 words aligned with the outlined course objectives and any additional supporting materials deemed



necessary. Applications will be evaluated based on their relevance, clarity, and potential impact.

Deadline for applications: 11 February at 23:59 CET

- ✓ The selection process will be completed by **25 February 2026**. All applicants will be notified by email of the results of their application.
- ✓ Selected trainers will be asked to prepare a detailed curriculum of the selected course.

TRAINING PROPOSAL

The proposal should include the following:

- ✓ Summary and specific objectives of the course
- ✓ Course structure divided by sessions (each online course should consist of 3 or 4 sessions of 2 hours each; the offline course should consist of one session of 2 hours)
- ✓ Methodological approach for the course

TRAINERS' SELECTION PROCESS

Trainers will be selected based on the information they provide in the application form, and particularly a first proposal of the course curriculum (in 500 words).

Joint proposals of two trainers running one course together and sharing the sessions (e.g. a mixed team made of one professional trainer or practitioner and one think tanker), will be accepted.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SELECTED TRAINERS

The selected trainers will be asked to:

- ✓ Build from the proposal sent as part of the selection process, provide a detailed curriculum of the course within the deadline set in the calendar below.
- ✓ Comply with the visual identity of EuroMeSCo when displaying power point



presentations during the training sessions and other deliverables. Templates will be provided by the IEMed ahead of the start of each course.

- ✓ Complete all the courses as announced in the detailed curriculum, respecting dates and timing communicated to the participants.
- ✓ Deliver a Final Training Report at the end of the course including a self-assessment, lessons learned and recommendations.

The IEMed will be responsible for:

- ✓ Coordinating the selection process of participants.
- ✓ Coordinating the administrative, technical, and logistical aspects of the course (online and offline).
- ✓ Coordinating the evaluation of the course.

INDICATIVE CALENDAR

- ✓ **11 February 2026:** Deadline for candidates to send their applications
- ✓ **25 February 2026:** Notification to selected trainers
- ✓ **18 March 2026:** Deadline for the confirmed trainers to send their detailed course curriculum

The ONLINE courses will take place in April and June 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

Payment: The process leading to the payment of the trainer's fees will be activated upon submission of a Final Training Report.

Contract: A contract will be signed between each trainer and the IEMed, upon receipt of the detailed curriculum.



TRAINER'S FEE

Per online session (2 hours): €870 gross.

Per offline session (2 hours): €1160 gross.

The fee¹ is a total amount covering all possible costs that may arise during the preparations and the implementations of the course.

OTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- ✓ IEMed will provide round-trip flight tickets, accommodation expenses and meals for the Trainers during the **offline EuroMeSCo Workout**, and will cover visa costs, if needed, according to IEMed's travel and subsistence procedures.

¹ If the trainer is paid as a natural person, according to Spanish Law, a 24% Spanish income tax deduction applies (for persons with a fiscal residence outside of Spain) and a 15% Spanish income tax deduction applies (for persons with a fiscal residence in Spain).

Including VAT and any applicable social security and welfare costs. The amount is fixed, closed and without possible variations, on the understanding that it covers all the expenses necessary for the appropriate provision of the services until their completion. Consequently, in all cases, all the direct or indirect general expenses, licences, and state, regional or local taxes, including VAT and income tax, will be understood as included.