

## PRESENTATION

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Within the framework of the 30th anniversary of the Barcelona Process, in 2025 Aula Mediterrània, which has established itself as a reference in the promotion of research and academic cooperation in the Mediterranean, will hold the tenth edition of the Aula Mediterrània Interdisciplinary Research Seminar. This edition is an important milestone to strengthen the synergies among institutions, researchers and students in order to tackle the challenges of the region from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Aula Mediterrània, the interuniversity programme promoted by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) in collaboration with seventeen university master's degree programmes, has over the years become a meeting point and a reference space for the study and understanding of the Mediterranean and the Arab region. This year's edition continues and strengthens its collaboration with Aula Àrabe Universitaria, the interuniversity programme of Casa Àrabe, and relies on the support of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in order to disseminate its efforts in the field of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in higher education. The Seminar includes the participation of researchers of the Research Forum on the Arab and Muslim World (FIMAM), a leading research institution in Spain, as well as of the EuroMeSCo network, which brings together major think tanks in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

In this context, the Aula Mediterrània Interdisciplinary Research Seminar represents the annual gathering of the academic community dedicated to the study of the Mediterranean. Hosted by the Institut d'Estudis Catalans, on 24 and 25 February participants will discuss topics related to academic cooperation, research in the Euro-Mediterranean region, as well as present hematic studies promoted by research groups linked to the Master's Degree programmes involved. Moreover, Aula Mediterrània reaffirms its support to young researchers through the holding of the award ceremony of the 5th edition of the Best Aula Mediterrània Master's Dissertation with the participation of the winners who will present their research.

In this context, the tenth edition of the Seminar aims to:

- 1. Consolidate the Aula Mediterrània Interdisciplinary Research Seminar as a reference space in the development of the Euro-Mediterranean agendas of academic cooperation and Mediterranean research.** To this end, the first day's programme will include two roundtable discussions, organised in collaboration with the UfM, with the aim of addressing two issues of relevance in the context of the 30 years of Euro-Mediterranean academic cooperation.

**2. Facilitate exchange between academic actors and research groups** in order to identify those instruments, programmes and methodologies that allow the Mediterranean to be strengthened as an object of research, to position it in the academic programmes and to promote collaborations in European projects. To this end, a joint round table will be organised with Casa Árabe – Aula Árabe Universitaria to evaluate tools and share information on ongoing researches, with the aim of promoting joint work and strengthening academic cooperation. In parallel, a participatory working session organised by Aula Mediterrània will give the Master's Degrees leadership teams the opportunity to present their research and explore future collaborations.

**3. Promote interdisciplinary research in the Mediterranean.** The second day of the Seminar will be dedicated to the thematic sessions organised by the master's programmes of Aula Mediterrània. These sessions reflect the spirit of the Aula Mediterrània project, emphasising the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to addressing the challenges that the region is facing and reinforcing the centrality of knowledge in the development of Mediterranean cooperation

Therefore, the tenth edition of the Aula Mediterrània Interdisciplinary Research Seminar establishes itself as a platform for exchange and reflection, contributing to dialogue and research in the Mediterranean.

## PROGRAMME

### Euro-Mediterranean Academic Cooperation

24 February 2025

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9.00 – 9.30 **Accreditations**

9.30 – 10.00 **Welcoming remarks**

**Teresa Cabré**, President, Institut d'Estudis Catalans (IEC)

**Senén Florensa**, Executive President, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)

**Inaugural address by**

**Joan Borrell**, Deputy Secretary General in charge of Higher Education and Research, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

**Lorena Elvira**, General Secretary, European Union and Foreign Action (Government of Catalonia)

*Languages: Catalan and English with translation*

10.00 – 11.30 **Round table I**

30 years of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on research: past perspectives and future trends

**A Historical Overview and Key Lessons Learned**

**Ali Rhouma**, Project Officer, PRIMA Foundation

**Debate**

**Rafael Rodríguez Clemente**, Research Full Professor *ad honorem*, Institute of Environmental Assessment and Water Research, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)

**Marilena Rossano**, Italian National Focal Point of the UfM Regional Platform on Research and Innovation

**Yoran Beldengrün**, Policy Analyst, Global Science Forum, OECD

**Chair**

**Giuseppe Provenzano**, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

**Rapporteur**

**Amira Elmasri**, Erasmus Mundus Scholar, Master' Degree in Educational Policies for Global Development (GLOBED-UAB) and member of the EuroMeSCo Network

*Session organised in collaboration with the UfM*  
*Language: English with translation*

11.30 – 12.00 **Coffee break**

12.00 – 13.30 **Round table II**

Promoting shared academic values. Freedom, integrity and dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region

#### **Keynote Speech**

**Sijbolt Noorda**, Former President of the Magna Charta Universitatum Observatory and President Emeritus of the University of Amsterdam

#### **Penalists**

**Naouel Abdellatif Mami**, Vice Rector of External Relations and Cooperation, Mohamed Lamine Debaghine Sétif 2 University and member of the board of the Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED)

**Othmane Benmoussa**, Vice President for Research, Innovation and Partnership, Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes

**Pastora Martínez Samper**, Commissioner for International Actions, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)

#### **Chair**

**Joan Borrell**, Deputy Secretary General in charge of Higher Education and Research (UfM)

#### **Rapporteur**

**Martí Serra Figarola**, EuroMeSCo network

*Session organised in collaboration with the UfM*  
*Language: English with translation*

13.30 – 15.00 **Lunch**

15.00 – 16.30 **Round table III**

Tools to promote research and higher education on the Mediterranean

**Fatima Zohra Iflahen**, Professor, Cadi Ayyad University Marrakech

**Irene Martín**, Vice-Rector for Internationalisation, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)

**Aïda Díaz Sáez**, International Plan Manager, Department of Research and Universities, Government of Catalonia

**Camille de Garidel Thoron**, President, Consortium of Euro-Mediterranean Universities Téthys

### Chair

**Mònica Rius Piniés**, Deputy to the Vice-Rectorate for Internationalization Policy for relations with the Mediterranean, Sub-Saharan Africa and Neighbouring Countries, UB

### Discussant

**Ana Planet**, Professor, Department of Contemporary Arab and Islamic Studies, UAM

*Session organised in collaboration with Casa Àrabe – Aula Àrabe Universitaria  
Languages: Catalan, Spanish and English with translation*

16.30 – 17.00 **Coffee break**

17.00 – 18.00 **Award Ceremony for the Best Aula Mediterrània Master's Dissertation – 5<sup>th</sup> Edition**

**Senén Florensa**, Executive President, IEMed

**Felip Roca**, Director of International Relations Services, Barcelona City Council\*

**Aïda Díaz Sáez**, International Plan Manager, Department of Research and Universities, Government of Catalonia

### Presentations

**Elisabetta Ciuccarelli**, Programme Manager, Culture, Gender and Civil Society Department, IEMed

### Dialogue among the winners of the Best Master's Dissertations

**Ismael Santos Smaq Molina**, Master's Degree in History and Identities in the Western Mediterranean (15th-19th Centuries), UB/UA/UV/Universitat Jaume I

**Iman Soliman**, Master's Degree in International Security, IBEI

**Chaima Ben Ahmed Homya**, Master's Degree in International Relations, Security and Development, UAB\*

### Chair

**Jorge Luengo**, Tenure Track Professor in Modern History, UPF

*Languages: Catalan, Spanish and English with translation*

All the sessions scheduled for the 24 of February will take place in the *Sala Pere i Joan Coromines*

## Research Analyses the Challenges of the Mediterranean

25 February 2025

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9.30 – 11.30 **Aula Mediterrània Workshop**

Towards an agenda of Mediterranean research

*Participatory workshop to share ongoing research and identify possible collaborations on Mediterranean issues*

**Chair**

**Senén Florensa**, Executive President, IEMed

**Main takeaways: steps forward**

**Gemma Aubarell**, Director of the Culture, Gender and Civil Society Department, IEMed

*Languages: Catalan and Spanish*

*Room: Puig i Cadafalch*

11.30 – 12.00 **Coffee break**

12.00 – 14.00 **Parallel sessions**

**Session 1.** Education, Gender and Migration. Current Challenges of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

*Room: Pere i Joan Coromines*

*Language: English*

*Master's Degree in Diplomacy and International Organizations, CEI-UB/  
IBEI Masters*

**Chair**

**Andrea Noferini**, Lecturer, Department of Political and Social Sciences, UPF, and CEI-International Affairs

**Education and Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation: Digital Innovation, Active Learning and the Global Knowledge Divide**

**Alessia Chiriatti**, Researcher and Head of the Educational Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

**Gender Justice in the Euro-Mediterranean Region**

**Hiba El Khamel**, Programme Coordinator, Women's Rights and Gender Justice, EuroMed Rights

Securitzation and externalisation of Border and Migration Control in the Mediterranean Space

**Lorenzo Gabrielli**, Senior Researcher at GRITIM-UPF

**Session 2.** Intercultural Coexistence in Medium-Sized Cities

*Room: Nicola d'Oliver*

*Language: English*

*Master's Degree in International Studies - International Organizations and Cooperation, UB / Master's Degree in Advanced Studies in Architecture, ETSAB-UPC / Master's Degree in Migratory Movements in the 21st Century: Concepts, Reality and Actions, UdG / Master's Degree in Urban Anthropology, Migrations and Social Intervention, URVs*

**Chair**

**Laura Huici**, Associate Professor of International Public Law, UB

Living the Modern: Micro-Scale Adaptations of 20th Century Architecture in Beirut

**Mazen Haidar**, Associate Professor, Paris-Malaquais School of Architecture, PSL University

Urban Migration in Contexts of Uncertainty: Opportunity and Challenges of Multi-Stakeholder Partnership in Intermediary Cities in Tunisia and Morocco

**Janina Stuermer-Siovitz**, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow of the Project *Equal Partnership-African Intermediary Cities as Actors and Partners in Urban Migration Governance*, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität

Changes in the Urban Landscape in Small and Medium-Sized Cities: Neighbourhoods, Segregation and Borders

**Javier Martín Uceda**, Researcher in the Territorial and Environmental Analysis and Planning Research Group (APTA-UdG)

PARALLEL SESSIONS

14.00 – 15.00

**Lunch**

15.00 – 17.00

**Parallel sessions**

**Session 3.** Migrations in the Mediterranean: The African Perspective

*Room: Pere i Joan Coromines*

*Language: English*

*Master's Degree in Migration Studies, GRITIM-UPF*

**Chair**

**Oriol Puig**, Researcher GRITIM-UPF

[The North-South Discourses: Africa's Migration Policy Interests and Perspectives](#)

**Kwaku Arhin-Sam**, Director of Friedensau Institute for Evaluation and Lecturer in the School of Social Sciences, Friedensau Adventist University

[International Migrations in Africa: Narratives, Sovereignty and Cooperation Challenges through the Example of Morocco](#)

**Nadia Khrouz**, Lecturer, Sciences Po Rabat-International University of Rabat, and Researcher at the Center for Global Studies (CGS-IUR)

[African or Mediterranean Migration Routes? African Perspectives on Migration](#)

**Iván Martín**, Researcher at the GRITIM-UPF and EuroMedMig and Senior Fellow of the Policy Center for the New South

**Session 4.** Transcultural Lives in the Ottoman World: Links and Flows in Early-Modern Istanbul and Beyond

*Room: Prat de la Riba*

*Language: English*

*Master's Degrees in World History and Asian-Pacific Studies in a Global Context, UPF*

**Chair**

**Nausikäa el Mecky**, Tenure Track Professor in History of Art and Visual Culture, UPF

[Ottoman Mobilities in Early Modern Age: Bringing Worlds Together](#)

**Jorge Luengo**, Tenure Track Professor in Modern History, UPF

[Migrant Missionaries in Early Modern Anatolia: Intellectual and Mystic Networks in the Ottomanizing Mediterranean](#)

**Sinem Eryilmaz**, Adjunct Professor, Early Modern History, UAB

[Transformation of the Ransom Economy and the Mobility of Captives Following the Cyprus War and the Battle of Lepanto](#)

**Nida Nebahat Nalçacı**, Independent Researcher

[Migrants and Captives from the Greek Islands in Early Modern Ottoman Istanbul](#)

**Denise Klein**, Senior Researcher at the Leibniz Institute of European History in Mainz

**Session 5. Linguistic Dissidence: Language as a Factor of Identity in Contemporary Maghreb**

*Room: Puig i Cadafalch*

*Language: Spanish*

*Master's Degree in Construction and Representation of Cultural Identities, UB /  
Master's Degree in Contemporary Arabic Studies, UAB*

**Chair**

**Abdallah Tagourramt**, Lecturer of the Master's degrees

*Amazigh Literature as an Expression of Identity: The Case of the Izran*

**Asmaa Aouattah**, Amazigh Writer, Philosopher and Cultural Activist

*I Speak All the Languages, but in French*

**Gonzalo Fernández Parrilla**, Associate Professor of Arab Language and Literature, UAM, and Specialist in Contemporary Moroccan Literature

*Tunisian in the Audiovisual Sector: Between Writing and Orality*

**Neus Tirado**, PhD Candidate in the UAB and Specialist in the Sociolinguistic of Tunisia

 17.00 – 18.00 **Book presentation**

*Breve historia del conflicto entre Israel y Palestina* (Ilan Pappé, Capitán Swing, 2025)

With **Ilan Pappé**, Professor of the Arabic and Islamic Studies Department, University of Exeter, and **Cristina Mas**, Journalist in the newspaper *Ara*, author of *Palestina des de dins* (Ara Llibres, 2025)

*Room: Prat de la Riba*

*anguage: English with translation into Catalan*

 18.00 – 20.00 **Parallel sessions**
**Session 6. Empowering Refugees and Migrant Children: From Vulnerability to Transformative Change**

*Room: Pere i Joan Coromines*

*Language: English*

*Inter-University Master's Degree in Contemporary Migration, Rights and Social Cohesion, UAB-UB*

**Chair**

**Emilia Aiello**, Researcher at CER-Migracions

From Vulnerability to Agency: Strengthening Refugee Empowerment and Active Participation

**Adnan Abdul Ghani**, Project Manager and Expert on Migrations in Save The Children Sweden

Performative Creativity for Transformative Change: Inclusion and Empowerment of Refugee and Migrant Children

**Anna Krasteva**, Professor of Political Sciences and Director of the Centre for European Refugees, Migration and Ethnic Studies (CERMES), New Bulgarian University

Insights from the H2020 REFUGE-ED Project: Enhancing Educational Inclusion and Well-Being for Refugee and Migrant Children

**Teresa Sordé**, Professor, Department of Sociology, UAB

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**Session 7.** Patterns of Conflicts in the Modern Mediterranean (16th and 17th Centuries)

*Room: Prat de la Riba*

*Language: Catalan*

*Master's Degree in History and Identities in the Western Mediterranean (15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Centuries), UB, University of Alicante, Universitat de València, Universitat Jaume I*

**Chair**

**Jaume Dantí**, Professor of Early Modern History, UB

Border, Identity and Conflict in the Early Modern Mediterranean

**Òscar Jané**, Associate Professor of Early Modern History, UAB

Noble Genealogies in Conflict in the Pre-Early Modern Catalonia (15th-16th Centuries)

**Mariela Fargas Peñarrocha**, Associate Professor of Early Modern History, UB

Legal Forms to Resolve Conflicts in the Mediterranean of Common Law

**Josep Capdeferro**, Senior Lecturer in History of Law, UPF

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**Session 8.** The Disintegration of the Middle East Region

*Room: Pi i Sunyer*

*Language: English*

*Master's Degree in Internationalization: Economic, Commercial, Legal and Political Aspects, UB /*

*Master's Degree in International Relations, Security and Development, UAB /*

*Master's Degrees in International Journalism and Advanced Studies in International Affairs Blanquerna-URL*

**Chair**

**Aurèlia Mañé**, Department of Economic History, Institutions, Policy and World Economy, UB

*From Crisis to Change: why the Middle East needs a New Social Contract*

**Nancy Ezzedine**, Research Associate, Clingendael's Conflict Research Unit

*Networks vs Hierarchies: why Israel struggles to win Wars Against Non-State Actors*

**Andreas Krieg**, Senior Lecturer, School of Security Studies, King's College London

*Shifting Sands: Instability, Israeli Impunity and the 'Chaos of the New Middle East'*

**Hiba Hassan**, Lecturer in International Relations, Blanquerna-URL

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