FEMISE
Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Institutes of Economic Sciences

The Think-Tank reference for EuroMed
Policy-driven research

“Policy-driven scientific research that shapes, impacts and informs on policy-making in the EuroMed”
FEMISE in a nutshell

FEMISE (Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Economic Institutes) is a network of research institutes from the North and South of the Mediterranean, which promotes dialogue and research on socio-economic issues and advises South Med countries on economic transition.

The FEMISE General Objective is to reinforce dialogue between stakeholders and conduct research on priority EuroMed issues.

Supports a network of 100+ economic research institutes from the North and South of the Mediterranean.

Provides platform for dialogues and debates among different stakeholders of researchers, international community, private sector, media, civil society and decision makers on EU-MED priority issues through conferences and policy seminars.

Conducts research on priority issues related to the EU-Med region defined by a scientific program that is prepared in collaboration with different stakeholders.

Disseminates the result of the research through different channels, such as research reports, policy briefs, articles, newsletters, etc. to ensure the largest dissemination possible including the general public.

Maintains consistent communication through a user-friendly website, social media platforms where stakeholders can exchange ideas and communicates recent news through newsletters.
EMISE is coordinated by the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Egypt and Institut de la Méditerranée (IM), France.

ERF is dedicated to promoting high quality economic research. Its objectives are to build strong research capacity in the MENA region; to lead and support the production of independent, high quality economic research; and to disseminate research output to a wide and diverse audience.

IM seeks to strengthen the analytical and action capacities of its local partners (PACA Region, General Council of Bouches-du-Rhône, the City of Marseille and the Marseille-Provence Chamber of Commerce) in the Mediterranean region, by promoting high quality research and projects.
Meet Our Staff

Through relevant research and policy advocacy, FEMISE strives to make a contribution towards the development of the South Med countries, Ibrahim ElBadawi, President of FEMISE.

Combining experience with dynamism

FEMISE comprises a distinguished Board of Directors, accomplished researchers from the region and a highly dedicated staff. Throughout all its processes, the FEMISE team makes sure to combine experience of seniors with the dynamism of the youth. A non-for-profit organization, FEMISE is mainly supported by the EU (DGNEAR) as well as other regional and international donors.
Adopting a clear role as an EU-Med think tank, FEMISE produces research, encourages dialogue and cooperation through the organisation of Conferences and Seminars, publishes to-the-point Policy Briefs and implements a broad dissemination strategy for its publications.

FEMISE organises a number of conferences, workshops and seminars each year. Annual Conferences are considered the platform where academics, researchers, international institutes and policy makers from the North and South of the Mediterranean gather to dialogue and exchange views on the most recent developments related to the Euromed region and their economic and social impacts on the Mediterranean partner countries.

Our network is responsible for numerous research activities. First, FEMISE Internal Competition allows members of the network to submit research proposals that go through a process of evaluation before being selected for funding.

Second, FEMISE produces an annual Euromed Report. This is the flagship report of the network, written by a group of international experts and senior economists, political and social economists on a given theme.

Lastly, FEMISE produces Commissioned Papers to fill specific knowledge gaps identified by donors. All EU-Med researchers and experts are regularly invited to submit original Policy Briefs (MED Briefs) based on recent research conducted on policy issues relevant to the EU-Med region.

MED Briefs provide concise information to policymakers, journalists and operators and are accompanied by a number of recommendations. Our MED-Briefs are essential communication tools that translate findings and recommendations of an academic research work into a simple and concise note that could be accessible by, not only the policy makers, but also the business community and the general public.
Our Value

100+ Institutes, 800+ Researchers

300+ Reports with common N-S voice

8000+ Contacts, policy-makers & private sector

Experience of 15+ years in EU-Med

4+ High-Profile Policy Dialogues per year

Youth Dynamism & Seniors Expertise

"FEMISE is about producing scientifically-sound knowledge to inform policy change, Patricia Augier, President of FEMISE Scientific Committee."

Ensuring our research is always policy-relevant

Policy Makers and their participation are in the heart of the FEMISE objectives.

Collaborations and partnerships with relevant national institutions and policy makers are continuously established.

It is all about reaching a stage where we as knowledge producers and the stakeholders that use our knowledge collaborate closely."
Our Main Thematic Axes

Trade Integration

What have been the effects of the Association Agreements on the “outputs” of the partner countries? Should Mediterranean countries continue the process of opening up in the short term through the Deep Comprehensive and Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA)? Where are we on issues of rules of origin and cumulation? Even if South-South trade remains weak, can we identify the factors that favor it? What factors can encourage the development of trade flows and FDI between Mediterranean countries and sub-Saharan Africa? How can governments encourage innovation or technology transfers in the production side of their economy? This axis covers such related questions.

Growth, Jobs, Private Sector & Innovation

The private sector performance in the region is below potential and below expectations. It is neither dynamic nor productive enough. Furthermore, it is not creating jobs sufficiently. What is preventing the private sector from reaching its potential? What is the role of macro and micro constraints? What is the role of the international community to these regards? How to ensure a holistic approach to ensure that adopted policies are encouraging the private sector? How to promote innovation? How to provide incentives to move from the informal to the formal markets? Such issues are tackled here.

Climate and Environment

Where are we on the assessment of the economic and social effects to be expected in the Mediterranean countries? Can we take stock of the main measures put in place to deal with climate change and evaluate their effectiveness? How have countries or territories or sectors adapted to address the scarcity of water? Where are we in the field of renewable energies and what are the evaluations of the programs put in place? What would be the gains of a Mediterranean energy policy? These are some of the questions covered under this theme.

Inclusiveness

How have regional inequalities evolved and what is the impact on growth? What are the measures put in place to increase women participation and empowerment in the South Med countries? Can we evaluate their effectiveness? What is the economic cost of inadequate training of labor supply? What educational policy to put in place? Can social entrepreneurship be a tool to meet the goals of inclusive growth? What experiences, success stories, failures, limits, blocking points for its development? How to reduce youth unemployment? How is migration affecting the region? What is the impact of refugees on host economies? Such issues are tackled under this research theme.
Testimonies from our Partners

During my years as Secretary General of the UfM (2012-2018), I have worked extensively with FEMISE and its excellent team. FEMISE has always been a key partner. It provided solid and well-documented insights about the economic and social situation of the region as well as its perspectives, Fathallah Sijilmassi, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean from 2012 to 2018.

I would like to thank FEMISE for organizing the Mediterranean Economic Rendez-Vous which has become a leading event for economists, policymakers and the private sector from both sides of the Mediterranean, Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations.

Femise has become a reference of economic analysis by Mediterraneans for the Mediterranean, Michael Koehler, Director Neighbourhood South - DG NEAR-B, European Commission.

One of the reasons why it is so important for the EU to support this research work is because it grounds our policy-thinking on more facts, on more knowledge, on more analysis…but it is also a way to reach out to various stakeholders who we think are very important as contributors or actors in policy-making, Irene Mingasson, Head of Unit, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, DGNEAR, EC.

FEMISE combines academic quality and policy relevance, the knowledge of seniors and dynamism of the youth. It is a rare gem, the best example of North-South cooperation done right, Raed Safadi, Executive Director, Department of Economic Development, Government of Dubai, Former Deputy Director, OECD.
The Femise network remains open to non-profit institutes with interest in political economy, or research organizations and similar independent, non-profit organization from all 37 countries of the EU-Med Region.

Being member of the FEMISE network allows the institute to take part in FEMISE activities, including (but not limited to): (i) participating in its annual conferences and benefit from the knowledge on topics related to the EU-Med; (ii) participating in the Internal Consultation of FEMISE and receiving funds to undertake research projects; (iii) interact with other scholars and members to collaborate on future research. For more information, or inquiries, please contact us at: contact@femise.org

FEMISE recently launched a database for researchers of the EU-Med region.

This initiative will allow the research community to get more visibility, contacts, interact, collaborate, find specialists as well as partners for funding opportunities.

Everyone can be a member of this large community by filling in the information to be included in the database.

If you are interested to join, please contact us at: contact@femise.org. The FEMISE team will be happy to send you the short questionnaire.

All FEMISE Publications and News are available free of charge at: www.femise.org

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