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## Newsletter of the FEMISE Network

September/October 2019, Issue no. 18

FEMISE is a Euro-Mediterranean network gathering more than 100 institutes conducting socio-economic analysis on the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership with the financial support from the European Commission



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[To Access the full list of recent report](#)

#### Participate with FEMISE

- Join FEMISE EU-Med researchers data base
- Become a member of FEMISE network 
- Become a member of FEMISE Facebook Group and page :   
[Femise - Forum Euro-Méditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Economiques](#)
- Follow Us on Twitter: [@femisenetwork](#) 

#### Calendar / Upcoming Events

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Launch of FEMISE Euro-med Report 4 (20-21 November 2019, Beirut)



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### Focus

### ***FEMISE calls the Mediterranean to convert to sustainable development in its Annual Conference***

***"Sustainable Development: Drawing an Impactful EU-Med Roadmap"***  
***June 13th & 14th, 2019, Brussels***



Meeting in Brussels on 13 and 14 June 2019 for their annual conference, members of FEMISE focused on sustainable development, in its broad sense, in the Mediterranean region. The various speakers referred to the European Union's relations with its neighborhood and trade integration, the contribution of the private sector to growth and job creation, climate change and inclusiveness (inequalities, youth, refugees and social entrepreneurship).

"The European Union will not be able to formulate an offer on the neighborhoods South and East as long as it will not strengthen its cohesion", a sentence by Henry Marty-Gauquié, honorary director of the European Investment Bank (EIB), that can summarize the whole situation.

### **"Maghreb must become an industrial partner"**

Zouhair El Kadhi, general director of the Tunisian Institute of Competitiveness and Quantitative Studies (ITCEQ), notes that "Tunisia loses market share with the European Union (which accounts for 72.5% of its exports)" and "focus its exports on the less dynamic sectors globally, low-tech goods." It notes that "35% of Tunisian exports are made at the beginning of the chain, so without structural transformation."

He added that "the time has come for the Maghreb to change status and for a long time it has been considered as a consumer market, a place of extraction of raw materials, a plentiful and cheap labor force and more recently, a region with political instability."



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He recommends a new method of governance for the Mediterranean that gives a role to the civil society and the private sector to build bridges between the two shores and limit the role of states. As a marginal neighbor with a young and well-educated population, the Maghreb can become an industrial partner and the laboratory of a new ecological approach to housing and mobility. "

### "The problem is not with the start but with the up"

In the private sector, the focus was on start-ups and innovation. While Taoufik Abbad, head of department at the Department of Studies and Financial Forecasts (DEPF) of the Moroccan Ministry of Economy and Finance, recognizes that in Morocco, "the problem is not with the start but with the up ", Samir Abdelkrim, founder of StartupBRICS.com and Emerging Valley, validates that "start-ups are dying because of lack of support and lack of funding." Yet, as he proves, the advances are extraordinary. "In 2010, Africa as a whole had fewer than 50 innovation spaces, such as incubators and accelerators, and today there are more than 600. Development by the entrepreneurs themselves and not by the public authorities. Similarly, according to Samir Abdelkrim, "in five years, the level of fundraising has increased to reach the billion euros in 2018. This is a first step but remains insufficient."

Patricia Augier, President of the Femise Scientific Committee and Coordinator Femise-Institute of the Mediterranean, notes that "the private sector lacks dynamism." In the Mediterranean region, it grew by 4.1% on

average over twenty years, against 5.1% in the other developing countries and 7.9% in Asia.



Constantin Tsakas, Secretary General of Femise and Director General of the Mediterranean Institute, underlines the three challenges of social entrepreneurship: "that of employment, informality and lack of diversification." He cites Britain as an example where "In 2015, 59% of social enterprises brought

a new product or service against only 38% of SMEs." And to conclude, "even if the development of social enterprises is a long process, the potential and opportunities offered by the Mediterranean countries can be used to make social entrepreneurship an essential element of economic and social development policy. "

### "Reconciling young people with the education system"

Another theme presented at the is the inclusion of young people. For twenty years, in Marseille, the Second Chance School has been putting schoolchildren back on track thanks to rather short training models, more oriented towards learning through partnerships with companies. The idea has since spread across nine Mediterranean countries with a record of 26,000 young beneficiaries and exchanges of good practices from one bank to another. "A hundred schools exist in France, our goal is to achieve the same results in all Mediterranean countries", explains Astrid Desjobert, head of the Mediterranean New Chance Network and representative of the IECD (European Institute for Cooperation and Development). In France, schools register 60% positive outputs (integration of training or obtaining a job), in Morocco, the rate reaches 80% and in Lebanon



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98%. "We succeed in reconciling them with the educational system," says Astrid Desjobert.

Samah Ben Dhia urges "youth to push the doors of a network". President of Altafemina (400 members in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region), the Marseillaise campaign for "diversity and solidarity in benevolence and commitment." Its network, created in 2013 in Marseille, aims to promote and affirm the place of women,



promote and work to their presence in the governances. It now wants to spread in other Mediterranean countries, starting with Tunisia.

[Read More](#)

## FEMISE MED Briefs

The FEMISE Policy Brief series MED BRIEF aspires to provide Forward Thinking for the EuroMediterranean region. The briefs contain succinct, policy-oriented analysis of relevant EuroMed issues, presenting the views of FEMISE researchers and collaborators to policy-makers. Now, the policy briefs are available in Arabic language.

### FEMISE MED BRIEF no25: "Financial Inclusion and Stability in the Med Region"

by *Simon Neaime*

Despite a significant growth in profitability and efficiency, the Middle East (MED) well developed banking system seems to be unable to reach vast segments of the population, especially the underprivileged ones. To this end, the onus of policymakers in the region is to create effective opportunities for financial inclusion, and subsequently poverty and income inequality reduction. Using Panel data spanning the period from 2002-2018, GMM and GLS econometric models, and a sample of six MED countries (Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Jordan and Lebanon), this policy brief assesses empirically the impact of financial inclusion on income inequality, poverty, and financial stability in the MED region. While the empirical literature on the region is relatively scarce, this brief adds to that literature by bridging a significant existing gap, especially in the aftermath of the recent financial and debt crises and the recent political, social, and military turmoil that have been unfolding in several MED countries. [Read More](#)



*Simon Neaime*





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### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no24: “The Economic Impact of Migrants and Refugees on Europe”** *by Jamal Bouoiyour, Amal Miftah and Refk Selmi*

This policy brief presents some preliminary findings of a recent research regarding the economic impact of legal immigration in terms of growth and unemployment in a large panel of European countries. It sheds some light on a useful and interesting question for policy debate by explicitly distinguishing refugee and economic category immigrants.



**Jamal Bouoiyour, Amal Miftah and Refk Selmi**

Our research reveals a non-negative effect of immigration on per capita growth and on employment. The results allow to consider particular implications for the collaboration of EU countries on the immigration issue and seek to inform more specific and actionable public policy interventions. [Read More](#)

### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no23: “Developing Social Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation in the Mediterranean and Middle East”** *by Tallie Hausser, Constantin Tsakas and Karine Moukaddem*

Our Policy Brief analyzes the social innovation ecosystems in Beirut and Tunis and discusses ways for leading to inclusive innovation that creates jobs, income and opportunities for marginalized populations, women and youth. Findings show that the lack of a legal form for social enterprises, impediments to financing and investment, scarcity of human resources for upper management and difficulties in determining the proper customer base are among the core obstacles faced by social entrepreneurs. We argue that more innovative financing mechanisms should be available for them. Educating investors in the South Med around the concept of impact measurement and impact investment would be needed. Finally, capitalizing on Euro-Med cooperation could be an inclusivity game-changer. [Read More](#)



**Tallie Hausser, Constantin Tsakas and Karine Moukaddem**

### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no22: “Evaluation of IMF reform programs in a period of Political transition...”**



*by Prof. Sami Mouley*

**Sami Mouley**

The purpose of this report is to fill a knowledge gap on how to take into account reform evaluation methods. It attempted to provide parametric responses to the ex-post evaluation of IMF reform programs. Overall, the results show that when these programs, although appropriate, are not always followed by a positive effect on growth, the explanation should rather be sought in terms of the effectiveness of reforms, i.e., of compliance (compliance) of the structural benchmark countries of the economic policy actions contained in these programs. Delays (or dysfunctions) in the implementation schemes of the reforms would be attributed either to conditions exogenous to the programs (political or security uncertainties linked to an indicator variable tracing the effects of the Arab Spring), to defects in economic and institutional governance, poor allocation of resources and other non-productive aspects of public spending, which may be at the root of the slowdown in economic growth. [Read More](#)



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### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no21: “Catalyst for Empowering Women and Gender Equality: The Case of Egypt”** by *Doaa Salman and Mohga Bassim*

This policy brief proposes and recommends further policies to urgently, strengthen the current quest for empowering women and for reducing inequality in the Mediterranean countries and specifically in Egypt. It seeks to provide a policy-mix for additional policies that also contribute in achieving sustainable development. [Read More](#)



*Doaa Salman and Mohga Bassim*

### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no20: “The Long-Term Impact of Syrian Refugees on Turkish Economy”** by *Pr. Ramon Mahia and Pr. Ali Koc*

Turkey has become the country that hosts the largest refugee population in the world thanks with over 3.5 million refugees crossing the borders from Syria since 2011, the beginning of Syrian civil war. Whereas the social reactions against the unconditional acceptance of Syrian refugees remains on the agenda, studies investigating the extensive impacts of these refugees on Turkish economy are still limited. The March 2016 agreement between EU and Turkey redirected the flows of the refugees intended to go to Europe towards Turkey, which meant that a significant number of Syrian refugees may be staying permanently in Turkey. The main purpose of the research project is to simulate the medium and long-term aggregated economic impact of the refugees with the general equilibrium context by using the input-output analysis in Turkey focusing on the production and consumption sides. The main conclusion deduced from the research is that the production effect of the refugees, which can be interpreted as the contribution of the refugees in the production, is greater than their induced demand effect interpreted as their contribution on consumption for 2017, 2023 and 2028 respectively. [Read More](#)



*Pr. Ramon Mahia and  
Pr. Ali Koc*

### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no19: “Reforming Fossil Fuel Subsidies: Challenges and Opportunities for Mediterranean countries”** by *Stéphane Pouffary & Guillaume de Laboulaye*

Fossil fuel subsidies have been used for decades to support economic activities, but above all, officially, to enable poorest households to access low-cost energy services. That being the case, regardless of the country, this reality remains highly questionable given that most of these subsidies benefit the wealthiest households who consume much more energy than lower and middle-income households. Moreover, these subsidies are incompatible with a low-carbon society and they contribute to maintaining unsustainable systems from an environmental, economic and social point of view, creating an energy dependence on exporting countries. This policy brief focuses on the issues and challenges of reforming fossil fuel subsidies in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. It reminds that, far from their initial objective, these subsidies contribute on the one hand to slow down the achievement of national climate commitments and, on the other hand, to increase social and economic imbalances. [Read More](#)



*Stéphane Pouffary & Guillaume  
de Laboulaye*



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### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no18: “The EU’s Pursuit of “Resilience” in Southern Mediterranean countries”** *by Elisabeth Johansson-Nogués & Hani Anouti*

The main aim of this policy brief is to explore the conceptual and practical effects of the EU’s pursuit of resilience in relation to the southern Mediterranean partners. Our findings point to that the more pragmatic EU foreign policy since 2015 and the more flexible EU funding for policy objectives have been welcomed both in Europe and by southern ENP partners. The EU Global Strategy reflects a will to co-design policies with its southern Mediterranean partners. However, while holding great inherent potential, resilience has met with certain unforeseen teething problems in its first years of its implementation due to regional or intra-EU dynamics. Elaborating an effective new ‘resilience toolkit’ could allow reaching better outcomes in the Euro-Mediterranean region. [Read More](#)



### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no17: “Closing the Gender Gap: Policy- Making that Promotes Inclusive Mediterranean Societies”** *by Karine Moukaddem*

This MED Brief presents some preliminary findings of a recently launched assessment of existing policy measures regarding women empowerment issues in the South Mediterranean region. In order to explain the persistence of numerous gender gaps, I examine the reasons behind the inefficiency of national policies regarding gender equality, by comparing the wanted effects of implemented legal measures with the latest state of play in terms of gender issues in the different countries of the region. Combatting unconscious biases and policy inefficiency goes through increasing the outreach of female success stories, mentoring, promoting collaboration between stakeholders and embedding women empowerment in public-private partnerships. [Read More](#)



*Karine Moukaddem*

### **FEMISE MED BRIEF no16: “Green Public procurement vs. Environmental Taxation: Implications for EU-MENA Environmental Policy”** *by Vera Danilina and Federico Trionfetti*

Environmental policies are among the priorities of the UN agenda and figure highly in national and international policy agendas. This brief focuses on environmental taxes and green public procurement (GPP). These two environmental policy instruments differ in political viability and in the impact they have on consumers and producers. The brief provides a comparative analysis of their efficiency in closed and open economy and reveals the opportunities and threats of (un)harmonized environmental policy across countries. The results allow to consider particular implications for the collaboration of EU-MENA countries. [Read More](#)



*Vera Danilina and Federico Trionfetti*





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### Mediterranean Thoughts

#### Syrian refugees boost economic growth in Turkey

Since the conflict erupted in Syria in March 2011, millions of Syrians have been forced into exodus to the Mediterranean riparian countries: Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Italy. In 2018, 5.5 million Syrians (62% of total refugees) reside in Turkey, according to the latest figures from the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees. For the most part, Turkey was only a transit country to Europe. It has become a country of destination. The Syrians arrived massively in ten cities located in the border areas of Gaziantep, Adana before gradually gaining big cities like Mersin, Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir ... Several studies have found short-term impact of this influx population: rise in the unemployment rate, increase in the price of rents and food products. On the other hand, they have observed that consumer prices are falling as a result of lower prices or services produced by refugees, putting pressure on production costs. [Read More](#)



#### FEMISE recommendations to reduce gender inequality at the labor market



On The question of the equality of men and women in the labor market is acute in North Africa and the Middle East, countries marked by the weight of culture and secular traditions. In a study just released by the FEMISE on the issue of discrimination at workplace and wage gaps, the economists examine the situation of women in Egypt and Jordan. [Read More](#)

#### Information, a "public good" that FEMISE makes accessible

More than twenty countries celebrate the International Day of Universal Access to Information on 28 September. Focus on the action of the FEMISE network, which aims to promote access to information for citizens and decision-makers in the Mediterranean countries.

Information is a universal good, which is shared and transmitted, a right to which all citizens should have access. A fact that the network of researchers FEMISE is convinced. Thus, to promote this sharing of information in the countries of the Mediterranean, the Think Tank brings its solutions.





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"At FEMISE, we promote free access to information. We believe that it is a public good and we encourage all our partners and all members of the network to do the same," ensures Maryse Louis, Delegate General of FEMISE. [Read More](#)

### Reform to better understand the climate emergency

In the Femise Med Brief, Stéphane Pouffary and Guillaume de Laboulaye, respectively Founding Executive Director and Program Manager of ENERGIES 2050, describe the way forward to solve the problem of energy subsidies in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. The Med Brief also explains that, to best adapt to the specificities of each country, it is possible to temporarily suppress certain reforms, as long as the national or international economic or social situations are appropriate. The use of partial reforms can also be a solution with, at the same time, the introduction of compensatory measures. According to the article, this transition from fossil fuels to renewable energies does not only generate economic benefits for the countries of the Mediterranean basin; it also has environmental and social benefits. Morocco, Lebanon and Egypt have thus been able to invest the funds saved in the local production of renewable energies, namely solar, wind or hydro, with infrastructures such as power plants or a wind farm. [Read More](#)



### Mediterranean: “Facing an increasing water scarcity is one of the greatest challenges”

World Water Day is celebrated on March 22nd and this year its theme is “Leave no one behind”. The event is an opportunity for FEMISE and its partners to take stock of the situation in the Mediterranean, where the water problem has become a crucial issue. According to Karine Moukaddem, researcher at SciencesPo, Eco-Union and FEMISE, “we must find sustainable, less costly and more effective solutions. This is what the Union for the Mediterranean is trying to do, for example, with its platform for cooperation on water resources”. [Read More](#)





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### World Innovation and Creativity day: FEMISE takes a stand

Six days after Leonardo Da Vinci's birthday was the date chosen by the United Nations to celebrate innovation and creativity in the world. A very symbolic choice, as he was a man of universal spirit, an inventor, an engineer as well as an architect and a painter. De Vinci stands for what the United Nations expect for this international day « To encourage creative multidisciplinary thinking to help us achieve the sustainable future we want ». It is this sustainable future that FEMISE and its network of researchers aim at sketching through their work.

The think tank worked at clearing the field of Mediterranean innovation. Researchers first pictured a portrait of the situation, before making suggestions for developing this sector, « which could represent a hope for the future, to solve daily problems », according to Crowd Solving Yomken's Tamer Taha. [Read More](#)



### The Mediterranean Youth Climate network, FEMISE and IM conclude a partnership the Environment and Youth in the Mediterranean

MYCN, Institut de la Méditerranée and FEMISE announce their collaboration in the framework of a strategic partnership. The three institutions are committed actors in their efforts to contribute to inclusive and sustainable development models, to promote environmental and youth-inclusion values at the Mediterranean and international levels. They are aware of the need to pool means in order to act for strengthening the impact and outreach of messages, as well as to enrich knowledge. [Read More](#)



### South-South cooperation: FEMISE at the service of local actors

At the dawn of the International Day of South-South Cooperation, celebrated on September 12, we interviewed the researchers of the Euro-Mediterranean think tank FEMISE on the actions they are taking in favor of cooperation between the developing countries.

Till now FEMISE have 800 researchers, 100 research institutes and more than 100 completed research projects what show the dynamism of FEMISE in terms of South-South cooperation. The method used is "A philosophy based on collective action and collegiality" in order to "Provide analysis and help to better design public support and political measures to implement". [Read More](#)





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### Beyond Reform and Development & FEMISE conclude a strategic partnership for Inclusive Development in the Mediterranean

Beyond Reform and Development and FEMISE announce their collaboration in the framework of a strategic partnership. Both institutions are committed actors that provide policy research, capacity development and advocate reform for inclusive and sustainable development models in the Mediterranean.

The works of the FEMISE think-tank show that new models are needed in the Mediterranean to bring about sustainable development, innovation, social change and inclusive societies. Meanwhile, Beyond Reform and

Development aspires to attain participatory governance systems, innovative policies and inclusive civil society across the Middle East and North Africa through creating learning opportunities for people, institutions, and communities. Both actors are renowned for their ability to bridge global knowledge with the Mediterranean and Arab context. [Read More](#)



### Altafemina, FEMISE, and IM conclude a partnership for Women in the Mediterranean

More The three institutions are committed actors in their efforts to contribute to inclusive development models, to advocate values of diversity and solidarity and are aware of the need to pool resources to act for strengthening women's engagement in the Mediterranean. This is why Altafemina, FEMISE and Institut de la Méditerranée announce today that they decided to collaborate in the framework of a strategic partnership.

The works of the FEMISE think-tank and of Institut de la Méditerranée show that new models are needed in the Mediterranean to bring about social change, to allow young women to have confidence in themselves, to show the whole society the potential of women and to allow growing accustomed to equality of chances. For its part, Altafemina is an exemplary organization whose ambition is to develop a diverse network of professional and social relations, in order to propose strong women dynamics. The activities of Altafemina have a real resonance in the territory of the SUD Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region and the association aims to extend its model internationally. [Read More](#)

### "Solutions exist" to combat the effects of climate change

The Mediterranean countries are particularly confronted with the issue of global warming. But Stéphane Pouffary, director general of the ENERGIES 2050 association, is convinced of: "with political will, the region can find a way to effectively fight against adverse climatic effects and achieve sustainable development.

For Stéphane Pouffary, integrating environmental issues into public policies are no longer an option for southern Mediterranean countries. It is an emergency to fight not only against global warming, but also against the effects that it produces in economic and social terms.

[Read More](#)







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### How to respond to the major challenges of the countries of the region?

How can the Union for the Mediterranean act to help countries in the region adapt to new constraints? At the FEMISE Mediterranean Network Conference in Brussels, Miguel García-Herraiz Roobaert, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean in charge of Water, Environment and the Blue Economy, intervened to evoke the great challenges facing the countries of the Mediterranean today. "The complexity of the challenges we face requires a comprehensive approach," he said at the end of the meeting, calling for greater Mediterranean cooperation. [Read More](#)

### Morocco: deciphering an economic strategy

Taoufik Abbad, Head of Division at the Department of Studies and Financial Forecasting of the Moroccan Ministry of Economy and Finance, analyzes for Ecomnews Med the economic strategies of the Kingdom. Diversification of markets, FDI attraction, monetary flexibility: what is Morocco's economic strategy to boost its growth?

Dr. Abbad presented the main lines of the economy of the Kingdom. [Read](#) [More](#)



### Africa / Middle East: How to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?

How to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Africa and the Middle East? This is the question that Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President of the World Bank for the 2030 Development Agenda answered in the interview by Ecomnews.

17 Ambitious Sustainable Development Goals, 11 years to reach them. This is the challenge faced by countries in Africa and the Middle East by 2030, as envisioned by the United Nations Development Agenda. [Read More](#)

Other articles and interviews can be accessed [here](#).



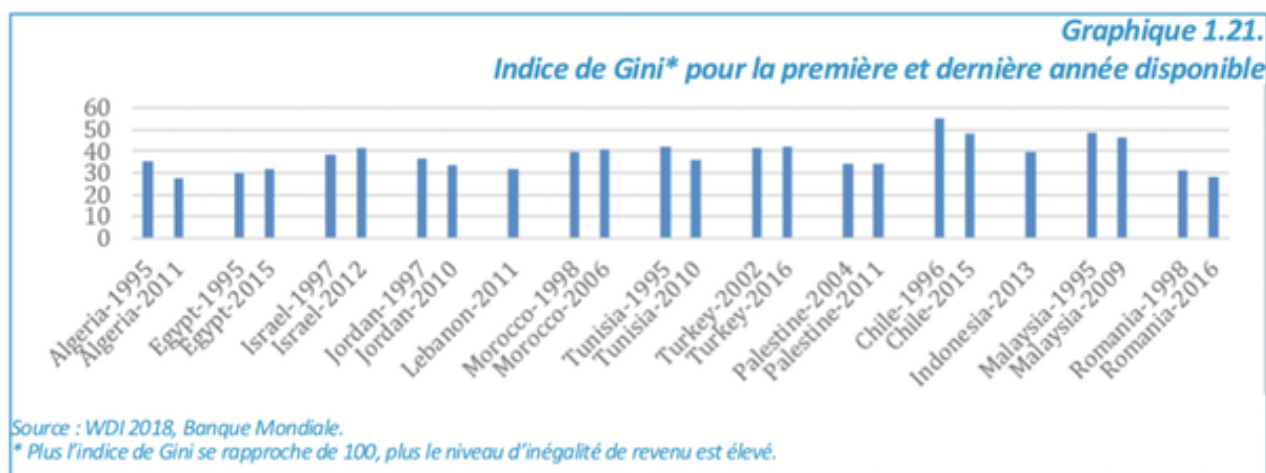


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### Social entrepreneurship, a development path south of the Mediterranean and in the Middle East

In the Southern Mediterranean countries (PSM), the mode of development is challenged by the difficulty to create jobs, to share the fruits of growth, and to ensure a "fair" distribution of economic progress. After the "Arab Spring" of 2011, many PSM still face a double challenge. Social entrepreneurship could play an important role in SMCs. It can, if supported by appropriate public policy, contribute to improving the economic security of vulnerable populations. The UK State of Social Enterprise Report 2015 shows that social enterprises are economically efficient while strengthening equity, diversity, equality, territorial development and respect for the environment. [Read More](#)





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### Med Change Makers

FEMISE is happy to announce the launch of its new series of interviews called « Med Change Makers ».

« Med Change Makers » are text and video-based interviews that allow dynamic FEMISE researchers to illustrate how their research addresses a policy-relevant question and contributes to the policy-making process in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

#### **Med Change Makers e08: Vera DANILINA, Green Public Procurement Vs. Environmental Taxation: Potential for Euro-Med Environmental Cooperation**



**Vera Danilina**

Environmental issues are among the priorities of FEMISE research / action. In the Mediterranean, the consequences of climate change will always be stronger than elsewhere. The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the adaptation needs of bordering countries are more than ever necessary.

Author of a FEMISE MED BRIEF, Vera Danilina focuses on environmental taxation and green public procurement (GPP). She provides a comparative analysis of their effectiveness and reveals the opportunities for harmonized environmental policy between countries. Her results suggest specific implications for environmental collaboration between EU countries and those of the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa). [Read More](#)

#### **Med Change Makers e07: Karine MOUKADDEM, Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in the MENA region**

FEMISE places the issue of Inclusiveness at the heart of its research strategy. The issue of women empowerment in the Mediterranean, and more generally in MENA, is of paramount importance to move towards a model of sustainable and inclusive development.

Author of a forthcoming FEMISE MED BRIEF, Karine Moukaddem provides an assessment of existing policy measures on women empowerment in the southern shore of the Mediterranean. She argues that behind the existence of a “Mediterranean paradox” are structural obstacles that are crucial to overcome. [Read More](#)



**Karine  
Moukaddem**



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### FEMISE NEWS

#### **FEMISE Annual Conference on “Sustainable Development: Drawing an Impactful EU-Med Roadmap, June 13th & 14th, 2019, Brussels**

The FEMISE annual conference provides a platform for the different actors of the EU-Med region of research institutes' members, academics, policymakers and representatives of the international community including the EU, to engage in a constructive dialogue about the future of the region and the role the EU can play in the context of the new Neighborhood Policy (ENP).

The objectives of this conference are threefold:

- (1) To take stock of what the South-Med region has achieved in the past few years in terms of sustainable development;
- (2) To highlight the main challenges they are still facing; and
- (3) To propose a road-map on how to move forward towards achieving sustainable development.

The conference plenary sessions addressed the FEMISE four main thematic pillars and linked them to the SGDs, taking into account their interlinkages, offering a platform for dialogue between the different stakeholders. [Read More](#)

#### **Workshop on: Social Entrepreneurship in the MENA Region: Inclusiveness and Growth, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Amman**

Under the Patronage of Her Royal Highness: Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, The Royal Scientific Society, iPARK, FEMISE and CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research are organizing this joint workshop to address the issues of social entrepreneurship (SE) in the MENA region and the roles of the different actors in providing financial and technical support to these initiatives. A special focus will be made on how SE can tackle the refugees crisis in Jordan and Lebanon.

As a result of the workshop, a policy brief presenting the main conclusions and recommendations of the participants and the various stakeholders will be developed. Outcomes of the discussion and the focus group will also contribute to the preparation of a report “Social Entrepreneurs’ Responses to the Refugee Crisis in Jordan and Lebanon”, developed by CASE and RSS under FEMISE funding. [Read More](#)



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### New FEMISE Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will make valuable contributions towards FEMISE strategy and vision. Members of the Board are key figures in the EU-Med region or outside with well-known achievements and contributions towards shaping the future of the Mediterranean. [Read More](#)



### FEMISE welcomes 6 new members!

FEMISE would like to welcome its 6 new members that joined the network:

- Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies (ACPSS), Egypt;
- Institut Supérieur de Commerce Et d'Administration des Enterprise (ISCAE) Morocco;
- [Institut Tunisien de la Compétitivité et des Etudes Quantitatives \(ITCEQ\)](#), Tunisia;
- [Yasar University](#), Turkey;
- [DIAL- UMR LEDa - Paris Dauphine](#), France; and
- [Foundation pour les etudes et recherches sur le développement Internationales\(FERDI\)](#), France.

FEMISE is pleased to announce that the number of network members reached 110 members' institutes: 58 from the North and 52 from the South. [Read More](#)





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## Newsletter of the FEMISE Network

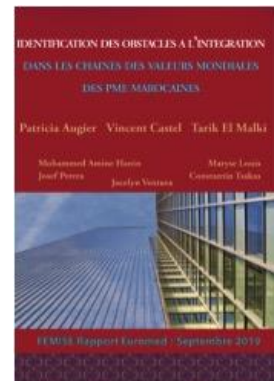
### Evaluation of the impact of trade chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements with six partners: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia

In partnership with ECORYS and CASE, FEMISE is conducting an EU funded project entitled "Evaluation of the impact of trade chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements with six partners: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia". This study aims at presenting an ex-post evaluation of the impact of the trade chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements between the EU and respectively Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. [Read More](#)

### FEMISE Euro-Med Reports

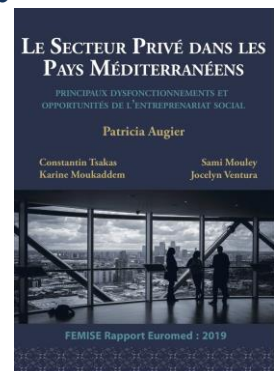
#### Launch of the FEMISE Euro-Mediterranean Report on "Identification of barriers to the integration of Moroccan SMEs in global value chains"

The purpose of this report is to identify the obstacles to the integration of Moroccan SMEs into global value chains. This new report is a continuation of the previous one because it again deals with issues that concern the private sector. However, this time it offers a more detailed analysis by targeting a specific problem, the integration of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in global value chains, in the case of one country in particular, Morocco. This choice enabled us (i) to carry out an in-depth analysis on a given problem, (ii) to work in close collaboration with a Moroccan institution (ISCAE) and with the African Development Bank (AfDB) office in Rabat and (iii) to enhance our report with case studies of Moroccan SMEs and with a series of interviews and working meetings with representatives of business associations and heads of national organizations concerned with the issue. Before the finalization of the economic policy recommendations, this study was also the subject of a workshop organized in Rabat in the presence of decision makers, entrepreneurs and senior civil servants. [Read More](#) or [download the full report](#)



#### FEMISE takes a closer look at the difficulties encountered by the Mediterranean private sector in FEMISE report "The private sector in Mediterranean countries - Main dysfunctions and opportunities for social entrepreneurship"

As pointed out by the Femise report "The private sector in Mediterranean countries - Main dysfunctions and opportunities for social entrepreneurship", it is only through the development of the private sector that jobs will be created in the southern Mediterranean. The document also recommends promoting the development of social entrepreneurship. The report highlights the lack of dynamism of the private sector in southern Mediterranean countries. It underlines the main causes of this blockage: a poor business climate, despite an improvement in rankings, insufficient private investment that does not generate productivity, and therefore countries that do not innovate enough. The report also takes note of the lack of funding and problems with payment delays. [Read More](#) or [download the full report](#)







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## Newsletter of the FEMISE Network

### FEMISE Recent Research Reports

#### **FEM43-04: Renewable Energy Development Strategies in the MENA Region,** *by Myriam BEN SAAD*

This work explores the question of the dynamic link between the development of renewable energies and growth. The main results of this work can be summarized as follows. First, the results show that efforts to develop renewable electricity generation must be supported in the short term because the relationship between renewable electricity production and GDP per capita is asymmetrical. In this case Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Turkey are concerned by this strategy which will enable them to increase well-being in the long term. Second, the current level of renewable electricity generation in Tunisia and Israel is low enough to have a significant effect on welfare. Both countries must therefore continue their efforts to produce renewable electricity in order to reach levels that allow them to have an impact on well-being. Thirdly, Iran and Lebanon are in a strategy that has a negative impact on welfare, namely hydroelectric power generation. They must try to develop other sources of energy by exploiting their potential in wind and solar energy. [Read More](#)

#### **FEM43-05: The Long-Term Impact of Syrian refugees on Turkish Economy,** *by Pr. Ramon Mahia*

An input-output approach (IO) is used to estimate the economic contribution of Syrian refugees linked to (1) their access to Turkish labour market and (2) the new investment generated by Syrians' capital through saving within the country. By using this methodological approach, we are explicitly considering the intersectoral linkages of the Turkish economy, enabling us to expand the focus of a classic impact study. Some of the results for 2017 (Short term impact) are: The total value-added impact generated by the occupations of Syrian refugees in the Turkish economy was an estimated 27.2 billion TL at the end of 2017, representing 1.96% of total Turkish GDP. Production effect is estimated at 1.51% of GDP for 2017. This impact supposes an increase in production of 30.59 billion TL across different sectors, generating 20.9 billion TL of value added. Induced demand effect accounts for the rest of global impact, for 0.45% of GDP in 2017. This induced demand effect implies new production estimated at around 11.7 billion TL, generating 6.2 billion TL in value added. This induced demand effect is essentially produced by direct consumption and investment of Syrian population; the direct effect is estimated at 0.3% of GDP for 2017. All in all, native employment induced by Syrian economic integration (from both production and demand effects) was an estimated 132,454 persons in 2017. [Read More](#)

#### **FEM43-03: Morocco and Tunisia in Global Value Chains: Focus on Business Services as Innovation Drivers,** *by Pr. José A. CAMACHO*

In this report we will argue that for a better understanding of how business services can contribute to competitiveness and growth in Morocco and Tunisia decomposing trade flows in terms of value added can be a useful first step. We start from the OECD-WTO Trade in Value Added database (OECD, 2016) to decompose exports in value added in business services from Morocco and Tunisia to the EU28 and to the rest of the world. This decomposition is used to compute several indicators of participation in the GVCs. Two business services industries are examined: computer and related activities and R&D and other business activities. Combining an adequate trade liberalization and investment policy reforms and



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the promotion of business linkages between foreign and domestic firms could help local companies move up to GVCs thanks of the transfer of knowledge, skills and technology. [Read More](#)

### **FEM43-08: Feminization of Occupations and its Effects on Gender Wage Gap in South Mediterranean Countries, by Doaa M. Salman**

The issue of gender equality in the labour market is an important one. For the MENA region, however, the issue is additionally important due to the traditional role that women play in the economy and the cultural (including religious) beliefs that drive gender relations in these countries.

Focusing on Egypt and Jordan, the study produces policy recommendations in two directions:

On the one hand, addressing the cultural and wider societal barriers to female employment which may be giving unequal access to jobs (both in occupational and in remuneration terms). On the other hand, developing enabling policies for increased female labour force participation, such as extension of childcare provision and especially maternity leave and pay. [Read More](#)

### **FEM43-14: Refugees and Hosting Countries: Integration Models and Cooperation Policy Options, by Marco Zupi and Alberto Mazzali**

In both European and Jordan perspectives, it is crucial to prepare instruments able to capture the ongoing changes and to identify the relevant targets, as well as to monitor the rapidly growing segment of the migrants that has been integrating into the local economic fabric. Italian policy oriented research will soon be facing the need of exploring a new context where a greater share of migrant population will be made up with refugees with smaller resource assets both in terms of funding sources, social and family networks and safety nets. In this perspective, the mutual contamination of research and political experimentation in distant contexts, 911which in many respects start sharing similar concerns, must be cultivated and strengthened. The experience launched in Jordan that addresses the issue of economic integration of refugees is an important basis for the development of specific policies. The small contribution represented by the present study can, in this perspective, provide insights and trace some paths for a desirable deepening of the research. [Read More](#)



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### FEMISE Opportunities

#### **FEMISE is creating a database for researchers of the EU-Med region**

This initiative will allow the research community to use the FEMISE database to get contacts, interact, collaborate, find specialists, partners etc. contracts.

To construct the database, we need your input. To maximize the inclusion of all FEMISE researchers, a questionnaire has been created where researchers and doctorate students fill in the information about themselves to be included in the database.

Please circulate this to as many researchers and doctorate students as possible from your institution so that they may also register.

If you are interested, [fill in the questionnaire](#).

### Calendar / Upcoming Events

#### *Save the DATE*

*Policy launch of FEMISE Euro-med Report 4:  
Repatriation of Refugees: Conditions,  
Scenarios, Economic Costs and  
Reconstruction plans in Conflict-afflicted  
Arab Countries  
(20-21 November 2019, Beirut)*

### Participate



Become a member of [FEMISE network](#)



Become a member of FEMISE Facebook Group and page : [Femise - Forum Euro-Méditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Economiques](#)



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