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Unione delle Università del Mediterraneo
Mediterranean Universities Union
Union des Universités de la Méditerranée
إتحاد الجامعات المتوسطية

RMEIM 2026 General Assembly 24 April 2026

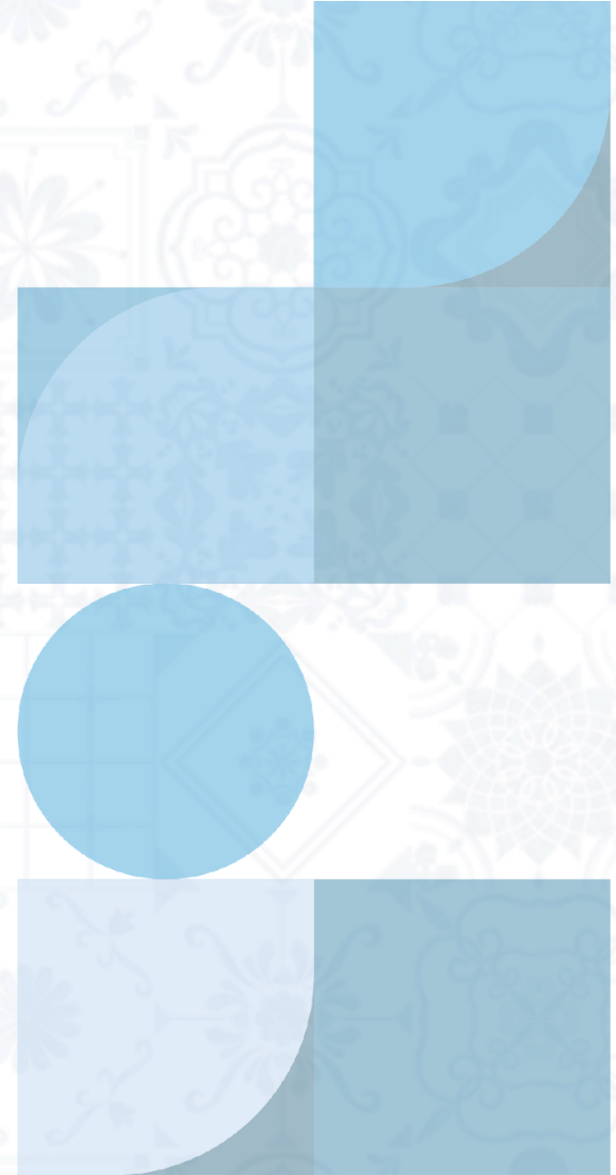
Silvia Marchionne
UNIMED Senior Project Manager

The logo consists of a solid blue circle containing the word "unimed" in white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

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إتحاد الجامعات المتوسطية

Universities Network for intercultural dialogue and international cooperation



Who we are

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UNIMED is a network of **185** Higher Education and Research Institutions from **25** countries, active in promoting academic cooperation in the **Euro-Mediterranean region** and in **Sub-Saharan Africa**, in the **Middle East** and in **Western Balkans**.

Founded in 1991

UNIMED Headquarters is in Rome, Italy



UNIMED Founding Members

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- University of Algiers 1
- University of Alexandria
- University of Cairo
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- Sapienza University of Rome
- University of Bari
- University of Catania
- University of Messina
- University of Palermo
- University of Sassari
- Mohammed V University
- University of Barcelona
- University of Tunis





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Vision

We strive to be a dynamic network that combines the resources of its members in mutual support, so as to benefit our communities on a local, national, regional, and global scale.

Mission

Facilitating international academic and research cooperation in order to enhance the scientific, cultural, social, and economic development of the region.



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Values

- Academic Freedom, Institutional Autonomy and Social Responsibility
- International Cooperation and Solidarity
- Being an inclusiveness, open mindedness, and independence member-led association.
- Mutual understanding
- Right and equity in access to higher education knowledge.
- Overcoming barriers and promoting mobility of students and all university staff.
- Promoting internationalization of higher education in order to enhance the quality of education and research
- Higher Education as an element of stability and sustainable growth.



What we do



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- Promoting the international scope of the members.
- Promoting access to the activity of project design and fund raising.
- Putting in place activities of communication and scientific and cultural initiatives of the members.
- Promoting the mobility of students, researchers and administrative and academic staff.



What we do



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- Providing technical assistance to universities and international relations offices in the management of international projects.
- Organising a Sub-Thematic Network to encourage scientific cooperation in specific sectors.
- Organising academic conferences, debates, seminars and roundtables at national and international level.
- Promoting research and training projects among the members.

Institutional Partnerships

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Institutional Memberships

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Priority Areas

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**governance
of higher
education**

**digital
education**

**intercultural
dialogue**

employability

**refugees
and
migrants**

**sustainable
development**

SubNetworks

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SUBNETWORK ON EMPLOYABILITY

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- Initiated by the RESUME project
- Coordinated by Lebanese University and UNIMED
- Launched in Oct 2018
- 31 institutions from 13 countries

Activities:

- Mapping
- Exchange
- Capacity building
- Research
- Networking and promotion

AREAS OF WORK:

Skills development and employment,
Role university in employability
Entrepreneurship mindset
Ecopreneuriat and sustainability
Green innovation and employability
Sustainable development and employability
Development and training for career centre staff
Vocational training
Microcredentials



Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط

ANNUAL Events

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UNIMED General Assembly

The UNIMED General Assembly represents an important yearly event where rectors, presidents and representatives of UNIMED associated Universities meet to exchange views and to determine policy for UNIMED.



UNIMED WEEK in Brussels

The UNIMED WEEK in Brussels is an annual event providing the Euro-Mediterranean academic community with an opportunity to reflect on the relationships between European Institutions and the Mediterranean region.





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Initiatives for Student Engagement

UNIMED commitment for the youth engagement is carried out through a series of initiatives whose main actors are University students.

The initiatives, pursued in collaboration with UNIMED members and institutional partners, tackle topics such as intercultural dialogue, education for sustainability, employability and many others.

The final aim is to allow a peer-to-peer exchange and also an exchange with international stakeholders to strengthen the Mediterranean Generation.

START CUP COMPETITION



UNIMED Award at the Venice International Film Festival

- ❑ A contest of entrepreneurial ideas developed by university students enrolled in one of the universities around the Mediterranean.
- ❑ This competition aims to encourage participating teams to present innovative ideas in the field of entrepreneurship.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and the Lebanese University, coordinator of the SubNetwork, with the collaboration of the European Training Foundation and the support of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie – Moyen Orient.
- ❑ 3 days summit among Mediterranean university students to increase their mutual awareness and understanding and to support the development of competencies that help them to work together on societal challenges and to establish meaningful connections.
- ❑ Our ambition is to give more space and to make students' voices heard and to convey students' recommendations to all stakeholders as a contribution for boosting the Higher Education sector in the Mediterranean.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and Erasmus Student network
- ❑ The UNIMED Award, collateral prize of the Venice International Film Festival, is assigned by a jury of international students coming from UNIMED associated universities to the competing movie that best reflects the value of cultural diversity, promotes freedom of artistic expression and cultural exchanges.
- ❑ The aim of the UNIMED Award is to encourage cultural exchanges among students and highlight the value of cultural diversity in art.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and International university in Rome (UNINT).

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

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4
Editions

89

A blue line-art icon representing a group of five people, with one person in the foreground and four behind them.

6
Editions

150

A blue line-art icon representing a group of five people, with one person in the foreground and four behind them.

9
Editions

122

A blue line-art icon representing a group of five people, with one person in the foreground and four behind them.

Topics of the Start Cup Competitions

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Mediterranean Student Summit & Intercultural dialogue



- **Collaboration with Erasmus Student Network**
- **Part of the annual agenda of UNIMED activities and UNIMED's priority towards students engagement**
- **Sponsored and solidarity initiative**
- **Empower students & make them reflect on HE challenges at regional level**
- **Provide institutional, national and regional stakeholders with students' recommendations**

Mediterranean Students Summit Editions

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2022
BARCELONA

16 students
from 8
countries

2023
TANGIER

25 students
from 10
countries

2024
PALERMO

25 students
from 10
countries

2025
GIRONA

Between 30 &
35 students

Cyprus France Italy Portugal Spain
Algeria Egypt Lebanon Libya Mauritania Morocco Palestine Tunisia Turkey
Ghana Togo Ukraine

MSS & Internationalisation

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- Unforgettable international networking experience
- Peer exchanges, mutual challenges and inspiring models
- Take away in terms of tools and approaches
- University and country student ambassador
- Way to strengthen university staff/student partnership
- Actor of the internationalisation at home
- Hosting a MSS as part of the internationalisation strategy

UNIMED Award in the Venice International Film Festival

The logo for UNIMED, consisting of the word "unimed" in white lowercase letters inside a blue circle. The logo is part of a vertical stack of decorative elements on the left side of the slide, including squares and circles in various shades of blue.

- The UNIMED Award, collateral prize of the Venice International Film Festival, results from the collaboration between la **Biennale of Venice, the International University of Rome – UNINT and UNIMED**. This annual award, launched in 2017, is assigned by a **jury of international students coming from UNIMED associated universities** to the competing movie that best reflects the **value of cultural diversity, promotes freedom of artistic expression and cultural exchanges**.
- The award was established in memory of Prof. Franco Rizzi, former Secretary General and founder of UNIMED, for his lifelong and career commitment to improve cooperation between Euro-Mediterranean universities.
- For that purpose, the UNIMED Award promotes the understanding between peoples of different cultures and religious beliefs, it fights racism and discrimination, revealing the complex causes of violence and demonstrating the successful mastering of conflicts.
The aim of the UNIMED Award is to encourage cultural exchanges among students and highlight the value of cultural diversity in art.

- <https://youtu.be/5hlasIPN8uY>

UNIMED LEARNING SPACE

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- The UNIMED Learning Space offers a variety of open courses developed through the network's activities.
- It reflects UNIMED's commitment to providing learning opportunities for all students and citizens from the Mediterranean basin and beyond.
- Supports a community of over 4800 learners of all ages.
- Accessible at <https://learn.uni-med.net/>

UNIMED Learning Space

Log in

UNIMED Learning Space
Sharing knowledge across the Mediterranean

PAGES
Open Public Services

INSPIRE
Inspiring Educational Practices in the Higher Education Institutions of the Mediterranean Region

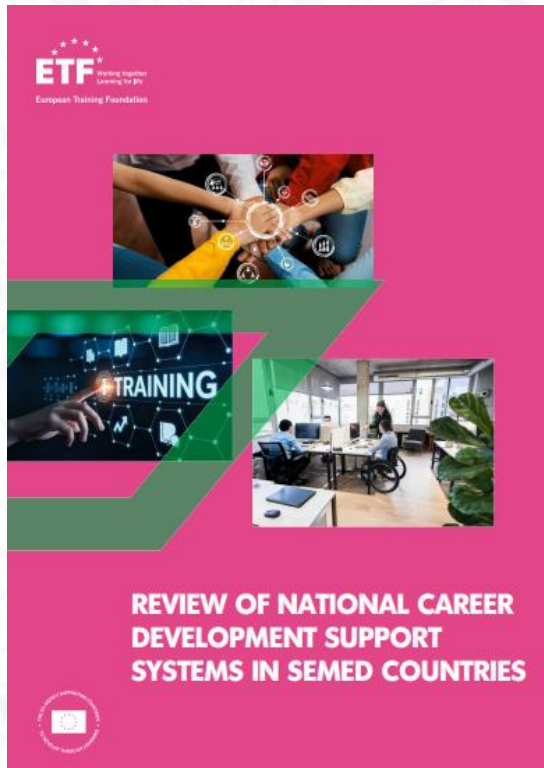
ESAGOV
European Association of Open Universities

APPRAIS
Association of Open Universities in the Mediterranean Region

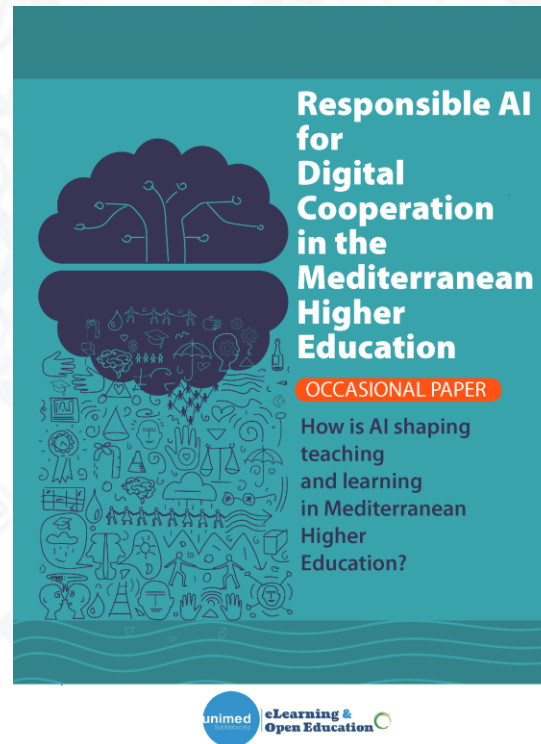
ESAGOV
European Association of Open Universities

Publications

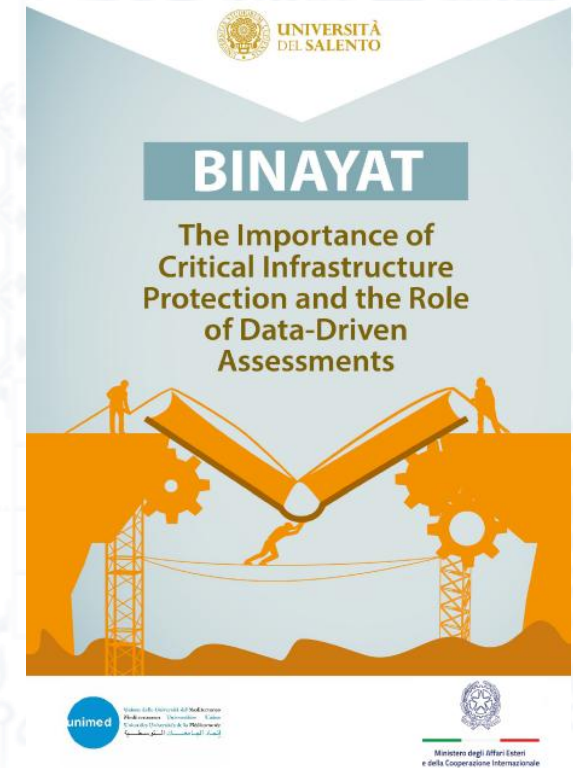
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2025



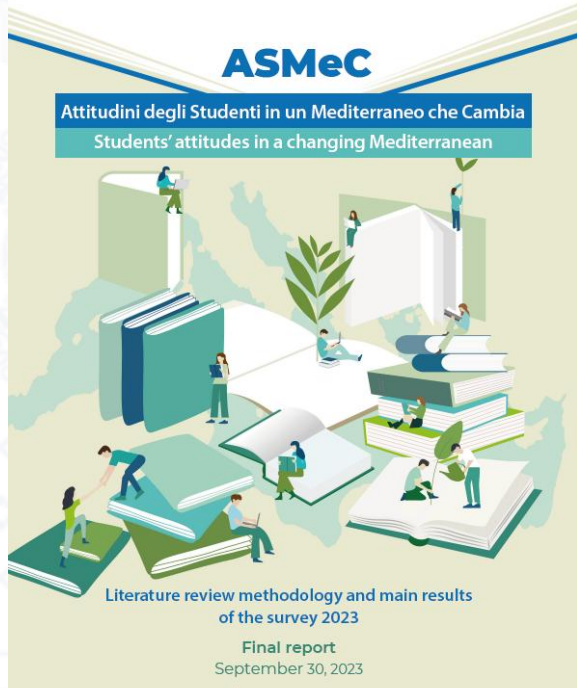
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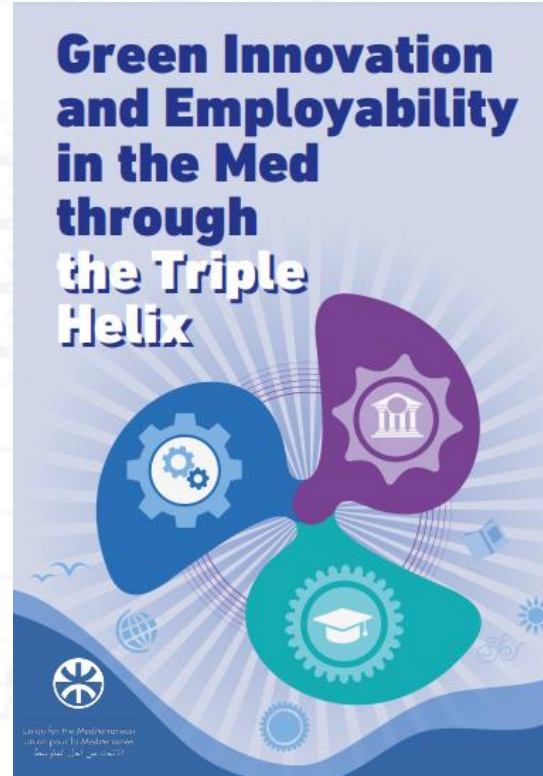
2024

Publications

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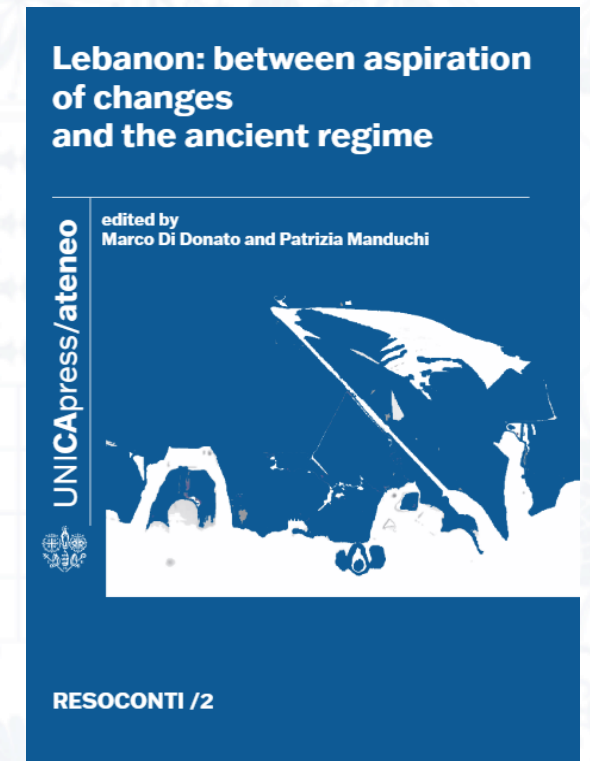
2023



2023



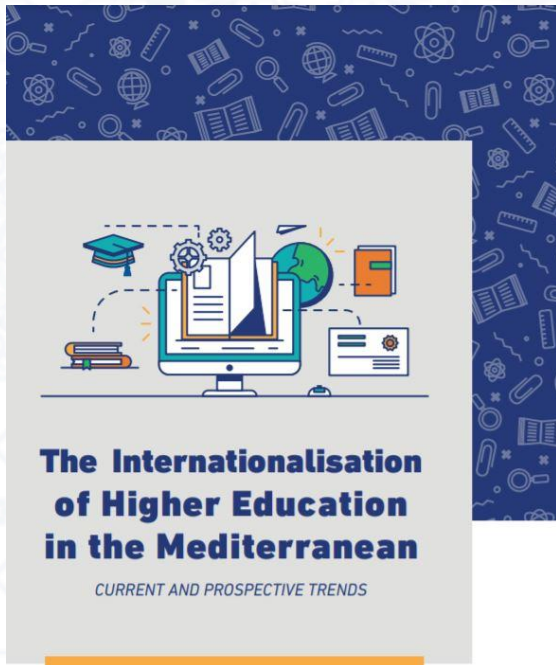
2022



2022

Publications

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The Internationalisation of Higher Education in the Mediterranean

CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE TRENDS



2021



SCENARIOS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF VIRTUAL EXCHANGE IN HIGHER EDUCATION



2021



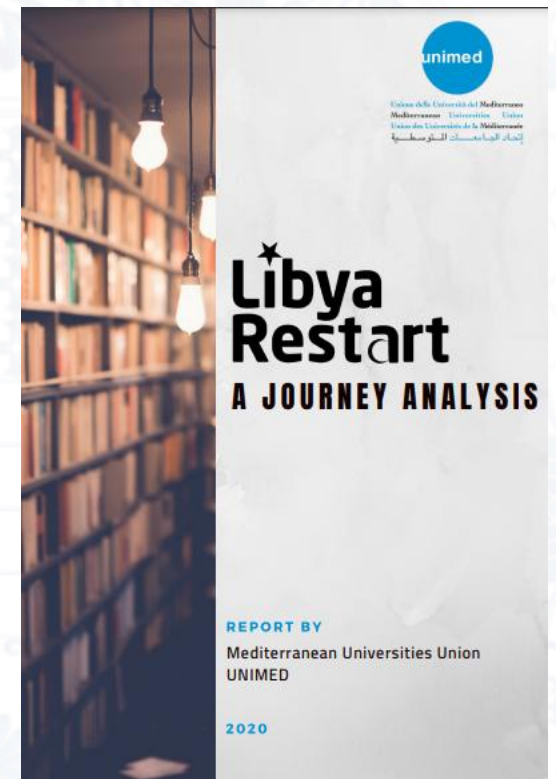
THE PERCEIVED IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN

OCCASIONAL PAPER

APRIL 2021



2021



Libya Restart A JOURNEY ANALYSIS

REPORT BY
Mediterranean Universities Union
UNIMED

2020

2020

Podcast

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Mediterranean INTANGIBLE HERITAGE SOUNDSCAPE



Mediterranean Intangible Heritage Soundscape, a podcast by Paolo Scarnecchia, produced by UNIMED.

A journey in the Mediterranean Soundscape.

In each episode, Paolo Scarnecchia, author of the podcast, meets experts, performers and artists who will present the musical traditions, passed down from generation to generation, and influenced by migrations, history and people all along the centuries in the Mediterranean region.

Launched in **January 2024** - Available on **Spreaker**.



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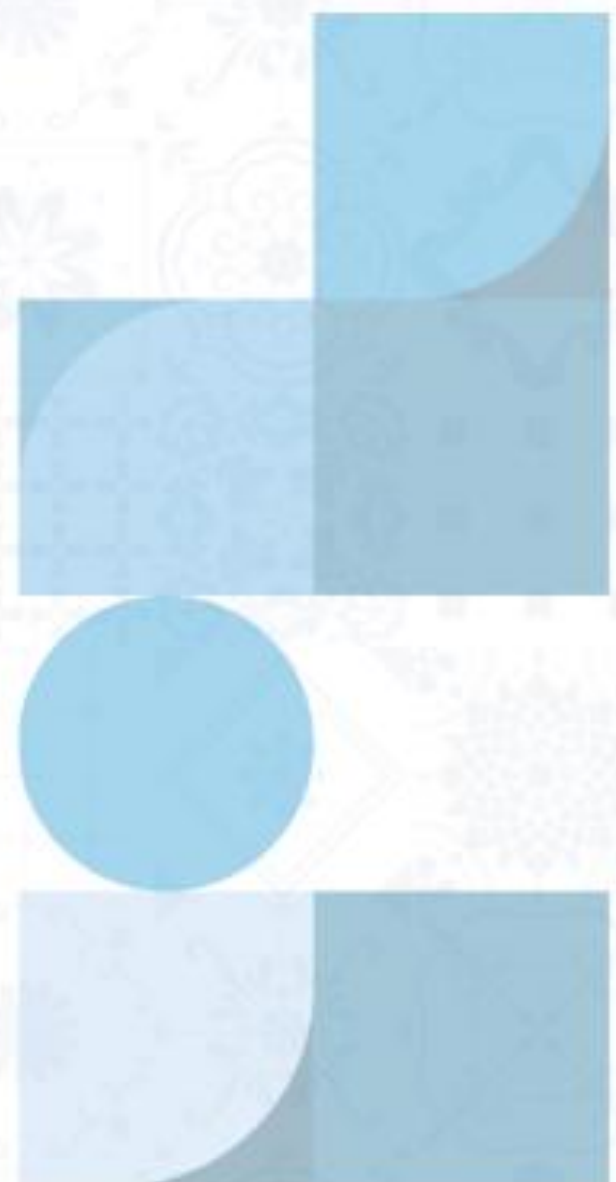


UNIMED – Mediterranean Universities Union

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Thank you for your attention

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