

Euro-Mediterranean Relations between Continuity and Reinforced Cooperation. *Quo Vadis Barcelona?*

Thursday, 16 October

09:30 **Welcome Session**

H.E. Amb. Gonçalo Santa Clara Gomes, *Senior Project Manager, EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Lisbon*

Nawaf Tell, *Director, CSS, Amman*

H.E. Amb. Patrick Renaud, *Head of the EC Delegation, Amman*

10:15 **From 2005 to Where? Analysing the Foundations of Euro-Mediterranean Relations – Socialisation, Region-Building, Integrative Partnership?**

Chair: H.E. Amb. Maher Ali El-Sayad, *Head, Women for Peace & Former Assistant Foreign Minister, Cairo*

Roberto Aliboni, *Vice-President, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome*

H.E. Michael Frendo, *Chairman, Foreign and European Affairs Committee, House of Representatives, Malta; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta*

Shlomo Avineri, *Professor, Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

H.E. Kamal Qureshi, *Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Danish Parliament, Copenhagen*

Lily Habash, *Senior Advisor, Palestinian Authority, Ramallah*

11:45 *Coffee Break*

12:15 **Capitalising on Flexibility: Putting the Principle of Reinforced Cooperation at Work and Creating Synergies**

Chair: Mario Teldò, *President, Institute of European Studies, Brussels*

H.E. Amar Bendjama, *Euro-Med Coordinator Algiers*

Nadim Shehadi, *Associate Fellow, Chatham House, London*

Meliha Altunisik, *Professor, Middle East Technical University, Ankara*

Ali Lmrabet, *Moroccan Association for Human Rights, Barcelona*

13:30 *Lunch & Presentation of the Third World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies – WOCMES 2010, Géraldine Barré & Gemma Aubarell, IEMed, Barcelona*

15:00 – 18:00 **Working Group Sessions** {simultaneously held}

1. The Impact of Coalition-Building, Privileged Relationships and National Foreign Policy Interests on Interregional, Regional and Subregional Initiatives in the Euro-Mediterranean Area

Chair: Tobias Schumacher, *Deputy Project Manager, EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Lisbon*

Rapporteur: Raffaella Del Sarto, *Research Fellow, Oxford University*

Esa Aallas, *Journalist, Helsinki* – Beata Wojna, *PISM, Warsaw* – Tiago Marques, *EVI, Tallinn* –

Eduard Soler I Lecha, *CIDOB, Barcelona*

2. Bringing Southeast Europe and 'Barcelona' Together – Sharing Experiences and Evaluating Region-Building Prospects

Chair: Srdjan Cvijić, *Senior Policy Officer EU Affairs and Field Operations, ALDA, Brussels*

Rapporteur: Sultan Barakat, *Director, Post-War Reconstruction and Development unit, University of York*

Maria Grazia Dente, *Episouth, Rome* – Unto Vesa, *TAPRI, Tampere* – Andreas Marchetti, *ZEI, Bonn*

– Carmen Claudín, *CIDOB, Barcelona*

3. Security, Securitisation and Reform in Euro-Mediterranean Relations

Chair: Mahjoob Zweiri, Assistant Professor in Middle East Politics, CSS, Amman

Rapporteur: Isabelle Werenfels, Senior Researcher, SWP, Berlin

Thomas Derungs, University of Freiburg – Nadine Hani Abdallah, ACPSS, Cairo – Helle Malmvig, DIIS, Copenhagen – Gianluca Sadun Bordoni, University of Teramo – Sarah Wolff, LSE, London – Khalifa Chater, AEI, Tunis

4. Euro-Mediterranean Societies in the Light of Rising Energy and Food Prices – Developments and Consequences: A Role for the EMP?

Chair: Moncef Cheikh Rouhou, Professor, HEC School of Management, Paris

Rapporteur: Bechir Chourou, Professor, University of Tunis

Akacem Naoual, University of Algiers – Name to be announced

5. Understanding Religiously Inspired Movements – Actors of Change or Spoilers?

Chair: Amr El-Shobaki, Senior Researcher, ACPSS, Cairo

Rapporteur: Richard Youngs, Senior Researcher, FRIDE, Madrid

Abdallah Boutheina, Office of the Committee for European Integration, Warsaw – Abed Nagla, University of Groningen – H.E. Amb. Samir El-Khoury, Beirut – Georges Fahmi, EUI, Florence – Wajdi Khalifa, University of Liège – Eva Wegner, University Mohammed V, Rabat

6. Nuclear Proliferation in the Euro-Mediterranean Area: Trends and Policy Options for Europe and “Barcelona +”

Chair: Mustafa Hamarneh, CSS; Chairman, Al Sijil Weekly Newspaper, Amman

Rapporteur: Erzsébet Rózsa, Senior Research Fellow, HIIA, Budapest

John Simpson, University of Southampton – Benjamin Kienzle, UAB, Barcelona – Aylin Noi, University of Marmara – Emily Landau, INSS, Jerusalem – Benjamin Bonin, Cooperative Monitoring Center, Amman

20:00 *Dinner & Key Note Speech by HE Dr. Muhi Edeen Touq, Commissioner, National Center for Human Rights, Amman*

Friday, 17 October

09:30 **Key Note Speech**

H.E. Nyamko Sabuni, Minister of Integration and Gender Equality of Sweden

10:00 **The Euro-Mediterranean Space between Change, Conflict-Resolution and Stagnation – Is there Reason for Hope?**

Chair: David Porpal, First Counsellor to the French Ambassador to Jordan

H.E. Andreas Reinicke, Ambassador of Germany to Syria

Rami Nasrallah, Head of the Board of Directors, IPCC, East Jerusalem

H.E. Amb. António Monteiro, Ambassador of Portugal to France and Former Foreign Minister of Portugal

Gershon Baskin, Co-CEO, IPCRI, Jerusalem

Maria Alkaial, Researcher, The Orient Center for International Studies, Damascus

11:30 *Coffee Break*

12:00 **Migrants, Refugees and Displaced People – The Political, Economic and Humanitarian Dimensions – Challenges for the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean**

Chair: Abdelkrim Dahmen, Movement for a Peaceful Society, Algiers

H.E. Imran Riza, Representative, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Amman

Bisher Khasawneh, Prime Minister's Office, Amman

Derek Lutterbeck, Swiss Chair & Deputy Director, MEDAC, Malta

Ivan Ureta Vaquero, Coordinator Migration Studies, Institute of Mediterranean Studies, University of Lugano

13:15 **Closing Session**

Chair: Luís Pais Antunes, Director, IEEI, Lisbon

Rapporteurs: Presentation of Working Groups Conclusions

H.E. Amb. Gonçalo Santa Clara Gomes, Senior Project Manager, EuroMeSCo Secretariat, Lisbon

14:00 *Lunch*

15:30 **EuroMeSCo General Assembly {members and observers only}**



**The EpiSouth Network:
Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries
working together for
the control of Communicable Disease
(www.episouth.org)**

Maria Grazia Dente
Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) Rome, Italy
(Italian National Institute of Health)

EuroMeSCo Annual Conference 2008 - Amman, 16-17 October 2008





Overview

Background information about the project

Main project achievements

Conclusions

- Added values
- Best practices
- Future challenges





EpiSouth Project Objective

Episouth Network aims at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries in the area of Mediterranean and Balkans





Funding and duration

The project is funded for a 3-year period (1 Oct 2006 to 30 Sept 2009) by the European Union-DG-SANCO and the EU participating Institutes.

The contribution of DG-ENLARGEMENT and DG-RELEX (through the TAEX facility) and of the Italian Ministry of Health (through the Epimed Project) has ensured the participation to the network of non-EU countries.



Areas of activities (WPs)

- ④ The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs) which should be considered autonomous in their scope, tasks, topic and membership
- ④ Each WP is led by a Public Health Institution and developed by a WP Steering Team, constituted by the WP Leader and those participating countries which have expressed their special interest for the related WP



Project organisation

• Country Focal Points (CFP)

Each country has identified and appointed one or two relevant persons, who act as CFPs of the Episouth Network and convey all the communication/information to the relevant officers in their respective countries

• Project Steering Committee (SC)

The project is led by a SC, composed by the 6 WP leaders plus representatives of ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro and WHO-HQ as observer





Participant Countries and Organisations

As per September 2008, the EpiSouth Network is composed by:

- 25 Countries with 60 Focal Points (+Tunisia in progress),
- and 6 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro, WHO-Lyo/HQ and Italian MOH)

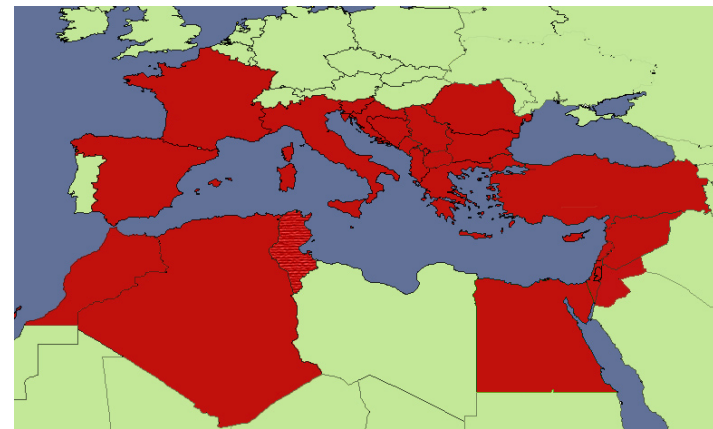
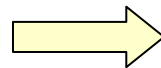
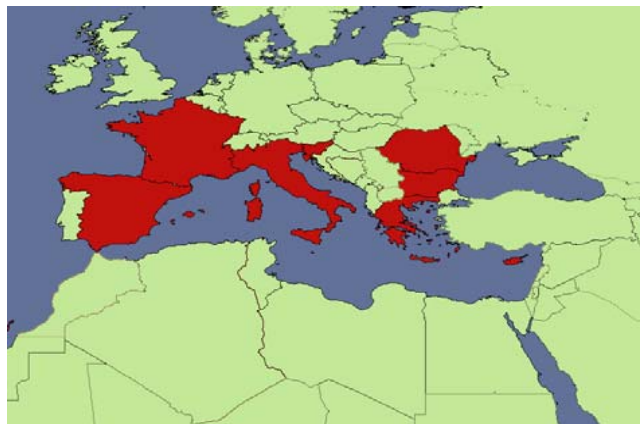


Main project achievements: Enlargement



- From 9 EU Countries to 25 (EU and non-EU Countries) plus 6 Collaborating Institutions

https://www.episouth.org/list_participating_countries.html





Main project achievements: Networking



- 1° EpiSouth Project Meeting (28-30 March 2007)

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp1/Report_1st_Episouth_Project_Meeting_28-30_March_07.pdf

- 2° EpiSouth Project Meeting (10-12 December 2007)

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp4/Meeting_Report_Atene.pdf



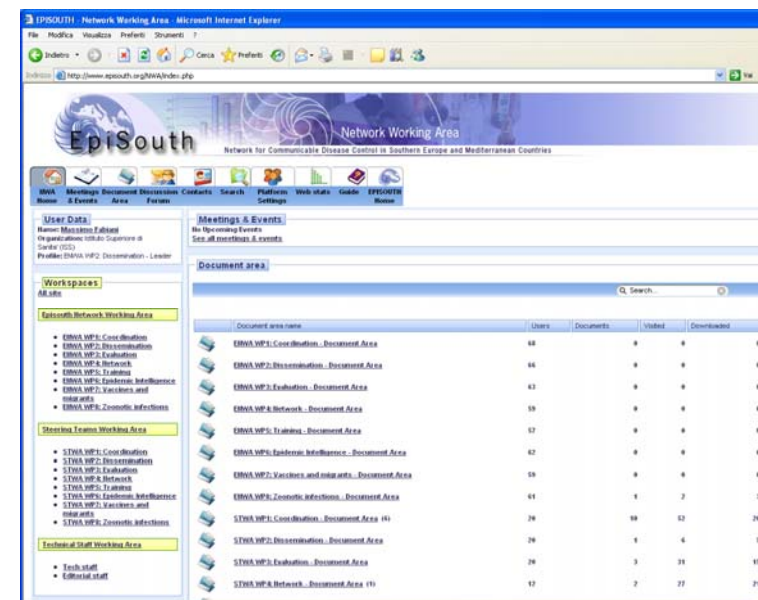
Main project achievements: **Networking**



A web-based **Network Working Area: a virtualised work environment** where Network participants exchange documents and information in a secure way.

A controlled-access **suite of tools:**

- Meetings and events management
- Document workflow and storage
- Forum for open discussion
- List of contacts
- Data-entry



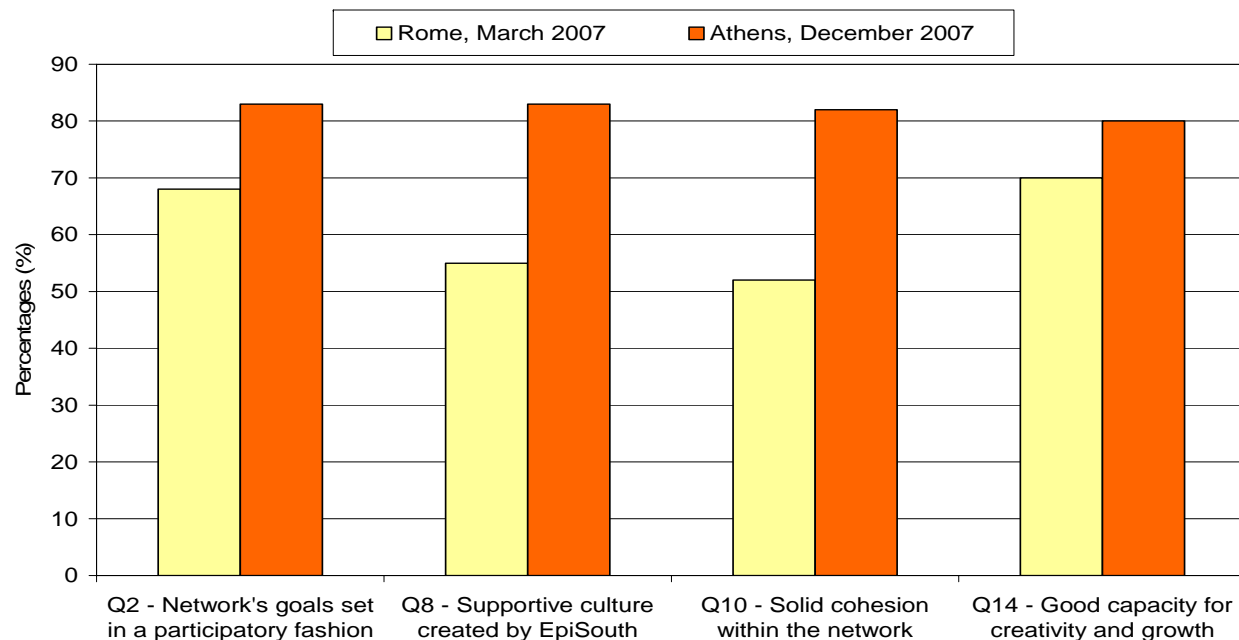
Document area name	Users	Documents	Visited	Downloaded
ERMS WP1: Coordination - Document Area	48	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Discussion - Document Area	44	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Evaluation - Document Area	43	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Network - Document Area	39	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Training - Document Area	37	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Vaccines and outbreaks - Document Area	42	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Zoonotic infections - Document Area	39	9	9	9
STMS WP1: Coordination - Document Area (1)	24	10	12	24
STMS WP1: Discussion - Document Area	24	1	4	5
STMS WP1: Evaluation - Document Area	24	3	11	15
STMS WP1: Network - Document Area (1)	12	2	22	21

Main project achievements: **Monitoring**



- Monitoring of Network Development through questionnaires distributed during the 1st and 2nd Project Meetings

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp3/2nd_Monitoring_of_EpiSouth_Network_Development_ATHENS.pdf



Main project achievements: Training



- Training needs assessment for all countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
- First training module (36 participants plus guests)
Madrid, 10-14 September 2007
https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/f_t_module/
- Second training module (33 participants plus guests)
Madrid, 2-6 June 2008
https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/s_t_module/
- Directory of training courses and fellowships (in progress)





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Main project achievements:

Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence



• Pilot assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/WP6-survey_Report_Fin.pdf

• Epidemic Intelligence weekly bulletins and thematic notes

• Website secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence with alerts originating from partners (in progress)

EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin - N°1
 March 19th, 2008 - March 25th, 2008

INDEX e-WEB n°1

- A(H5N1) Avian influenza: update of the situation as of 25th March 2008
 - Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO
 - Notification of new avian influenza outbreak (date first)
- Yellow fever in Latin America
- Meningitis in Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	2002-2005		2006		2007		2008		Total
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burma	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cameroon	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	7
China	0	0	23	0	0	3	3	3	30
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	28	10	25	0	4	1	67
Indonesia	20	13	88	45	42	36	12	11	229
Italy	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Malaysia	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Philippines	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Thailand	22	14	7	3	0	0	0	0	38
Turkey	0	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	16
Vietnam	93	42	0	0	0	0	3	3	138
Total	118	72	118	79	69	38	14	10	325

Vietnam
 On March 18th, 2008 the Vietnamese authorities have notified two new avian influenza outbreaks:
 - In the province of **Ca Mau**. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in July 2007.
 - In the province of **Quang Nam**. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in June 2007.

To date, at least 5 provinces have observed avian influenza outbreak during the last 3 weeks: Quang Tri, Soc Trang, Quang Binh, Quang Nam, Ca Mau.

Comments:
 The identification of new outbreaks in a country already affected does not change the global epidemiological situation.



Main project achievements:

***Vaccine preventable diseases
and migrant populations***



- Pilot assessment of vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
- On-line questionnaire compilation for the survey on assessment of countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population (in progress)



Main project achievements:



Cross-border emerging zoonoses

- Assessment and selection of five zoonoses of priority in the Episouth countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/WP8Report Public area FINALE REV 9-4-08.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/WP8Report_Public_area_FINALE_REV_9-4-08.pdf)
- Situation report by country regarding: Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Leishmaniasis, Rabies and West Nile Virus
- On-line questionnaire compilation for the Directory of Human and Veterinary PH officials (in progress)

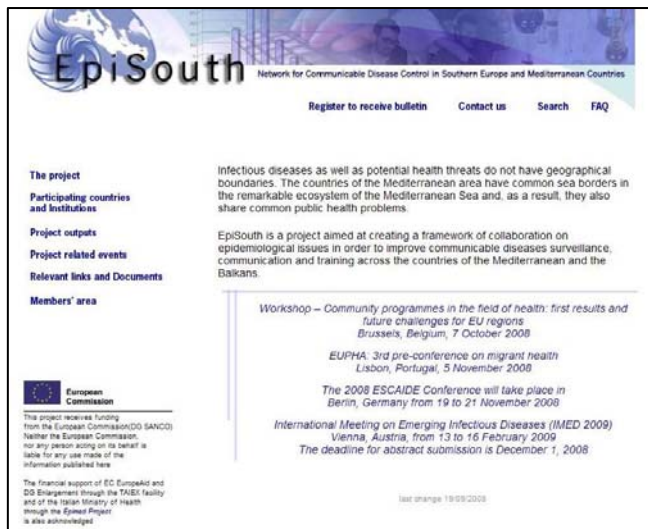


Main project achievements: **Dissemination**

EpiSouth Web Site www.episouth.org

EpiSouth Quarterly Bulletins

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp2/EpiSouth_Electronic_Bulletin



EpiSouth Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Register to receive bulletin Contact us Search FAQ

The project
Participating countries and Institutions
Project outputs
Project related events
Relevant links and Documents
Members' area

Infectious diseases as well as potential health threats do not have geographical boundaries. The countries of the Mediterranean area have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea and, as a result, they also share common public health problems.

EpiSouth is a project aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

Workshop – Community programmes in the field of health: first results and future challenges for EU regions
 Brussels, Belgium, 7 October 2008

EUPHA 3rd pre-conference on migrant health
 Lisbon, Portugal, 5 November 2008

The 2008 ESCAIDE Conference will take place in
 Berlin, Germany from 19 to 21 November 2008

International Meeting on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IMED 2009)
 Vienna, Austria, from 13 to 16 February 2009
 The deadline for abstract submission is December 1, 2008

last change 19/09/2008



EpiSouth Electronic Bulletin
 Issue 1 – January 2008

EpiSouth Documents
 This document is the first issue of the EpiSouth Electronic Bulletin, published on 10th January 2008.

EpiSouth Events
 The 2nd EpiSouth Meeting for Health Professionals (EpiSouth Meeting) will be held in Athens, Greece, on 15th November 2008.

In this issue:
 EpiSouth Activities: The project is introduced in 8 week packages.
 The EpiSouth Network: The EpiSouth Network after one year of activities.
 Project Update: Conclusions from the Conference "Health and Migration in the EU: better health for all in an inclusive society" (Athens, 27-28 November 2007).
 EpiSouth Newsletters: How often the EpiSouth Training Module and journal (published at the ESCAIDE Conference).
 EpiSouth Events: 1st EpiSouth Meeting of EpiSouth.

EpiSouth Activities
 The project "EpiSouth" is aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across Mediterranean countries. The Project is articulated in 8 week Packages (WP).

1. WP1: Co-ordination of the project
2. WP2: Dissemination of the project
3. WP3: Evaluation of the project
4. WP4: Network of public health institutions
5. WP5: Training in field level surveillance
6. WP6: Cross border systems surveillance
7. WP7: Vaccine preventable diseases and related surveillance
8. WP8: Epidemiological and surveillance systems to cross border surveillance systems

The EpiSouth Network
 Starting as an EU project, EpiSouth structure is growing in Mediterranean countries from an initial deployment of 10 countries (Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Bulgaria), EpiSouth now gathers from international organisations and EU member states, Switzerland, and Southern Africa.

Focus Topic
 The Conference Health and Migration in the EU better health for all in an inclusive society (Athens, Portugal, 27-28 November 2007) was set to provide the scientific basis and political support for the development of an important and long overdue theme into the EU health agenda.



Episouth Network Added Values

- focuses on countries cross-border issues
- succeeds in creating cohesion and concrete collaboration among 26 countries of South Europe, Balkans, North Africa and Middle East
- fills a geographical area with common public health problems (Balkans and Mediterranean Basin) that is not addressed, as a whole, neither by the European Commission nor by WHO





Balkans and Mediterranean basin

➤ European Commission:

- **ECDC(9/26)**: Southern European Union Countries of Mediterranean: Bulgaria, Cyprus France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain
- **European Neighborhood Policy (18/26)**: all EU plus Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (20/26)**: all EU plus Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey

➤ WHO

- **Europe region: WHO-EURO (17/26)**: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, FYROM, Turkey
- **Eastern Mediterranean region: WHO-EMRO (7/26)**: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Africa region: WHO-AFRO (1/26)**: Algeria





Episouth Network Best practices

- the methodology and approaches adopted have enhanced co-ownership of participant countries
- the presence of international institutions (ECDC, EC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO, WHO-HQ) has allowed sharing views and facilitated interaction





Future challenges

- The health sector, although recognized and included in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (2005) and in the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Union of Mediterranean (2008), should be further valorized
- Although migration was added in the Barcelona Declaration (2005) the related health issues are rarely addressed
- Sustainability of the Network after the Episouth project end in 2010





Thank you

