

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE EM-HERI 2026

EM-HERI 2026 EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
SUSTAINABILITY, OPEN SCIENCE AND GREEN CAREERS23 June 2026 · Tunis, Tunisia
Venue: ALECSO, Tunisia

TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 2026

09:00 - 09:30 Registration of Conference participants

09:30 - 10:30 Opening of the IEMed exhibition "A Sea of Heritages" (ALECSO Exhibition Hall)

OPENING CEREMONY WITH WELCOME ADDRESSES BY THE ORGANIZERS

10:30 - 10:45 Prof. Dr. Mohammad Sanad Abu-Darwish, Director of Science and Scientific Research Department, ALECSO
H.E. Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc, President, EMUNI University, Slovenia
H.E. Ambassador Dr. Senén Florensa, General Director, IEMed, Spain
H.E. Prof. Dr. Mohamad Ould Amar, Director-general, ALECSO, Tunisia

HIGH-LEVEL KEYNOTE INTERVENTIONS

10:45 - 11:15 H.E. Juan Lugo, Ambassador to the Special Mission for Mediterranean Affairs, Spain
H.E. Dr. Franci Demšar, Former President, Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education-CEENQA, and Director, Quality Assurance Agency, Slovenia
H.E. Prof. Dr. Usama Madi, CEO of Aqaba University of Technology, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

11:15 - 11:45 Coffee break

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL: MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP: A STEP TOWARDS THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

11:45 - 12:45 Moderator: Prof. Dr. Roberto Biloslavo, Vice-president of Euro-Mediterranean University

Panelists:

- Petra Kežman, Deputy Secretary General for Human Development at the Union for the Mediterranean Spain
- Dr. Senén Florensa, General Director of the European Institute of the Mediterranean
- Prof. Dr. Mohammad Sanad Abu-Darwish, Director of Science and Scientific Research Department, ALECSO
- Ambassador Hatem Atallah, Member of Management Board, EMUNI University, Slovenia
- Tom Ashwanden, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation to Tunisia
- Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc, President, EMUNI University, Slovenia

PANEL 1: HIGHER EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE EUROMEDITERRANEAN REGION

12:45 - 13:25 Moderator: Dr. Mounya Allali, University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy

Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. Mohammad Al-Badi, President, Open Arab University, Sultanate of Oman
- Prof. Dr. Saleh R. Abdussalam Gashoot, President, University of Gharyan, Libya
- Dr. Gino Schiavone, Senior Director, Internal Quality Assurance, Institute of Tourism Studies, Malta
- Prof. Dr. Leila Chikhaoui Mahdaoui, Professor Emeritus, University of Carthage and Former Minister of Environment, Tunisia

PANEL 2: OPEN SCIENCE, RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

13:30 - 14:10 Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Jaka Vadnjal**, EMUNI University, Slovenia

Panelists:

- **Prof. Dr. Ajaoun Ahmed**, Dean of the faculty of Legal and Political Sciences, Ibn Tofail University, Morocco
- **Dr. Anna Walek**, CTO and Head of Technology, OAPEN & DOAB, United Arab Emirates
- **Prof. Dr. Gassan Al-Kindi**, ProVice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Sohar University, Sultanate of Oman
- **Dr. Najwaa Fezaa Chriss**, Director of Programs and Projects, UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education, Saudi Arabia

14:15 - 15:15 Lunch Break

PANEL 3: GREEN SKILLS, INNOVATION AND FUTURE CAREERS

15:15 - 15:55 Moderator: **Paul Norris**, Director of Credentialing and Evaluation, QuadraBay, United Arab Emirates

Panelists:

- **Siza Zaby**, Managing Director of European Board of Human Restart GmbH, Germany
- **Prof. Dr. Mustafa Abdalmajd Safa**, President, Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine
- **Prof. Dr. Heba F. Salem**, President, 6 October Technological University, Egypt
- **Alessandro Miraglia**, Team Leader, Networking, Partnership & Communication Facility, MedWaves, Spain
- **Vladimír Hlásny**, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), & FEMISE

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break

WRAP-UP DISCUSSION

16:30 - 17:15 Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Anis Ben Amor**, Ambassador of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) for Tunisia, Higher Institute of Humanities, University of Tunis El Manar

Panelists:

- **Prof. Dr. Mohamado Lemrabott Jeyied**, President, University of Islamic Sciences in Aioun, Mauritania
- **Prof. Dr. Georg Votava**, Vice President, IHM – Institute for technology-based education in Health, Management and Social Services International, Austria
- **Prof. Dr. Chokri Hamouda**, President of the Continuous Professional Development Unit at the Arab Board of Health Specializations Under Arab League Countries
- **Prof. Dr. Zahi Mohammed**, Ibn Tofail University, Morocco

SCIENTIFIC SESSION

16:30 - 18:30 **Theme 1: Sustainability, Climate Action and Green Skills for Future Careers**

Moderated by **Prof. Dr. Gemma Aubarell**, IEMed, Director of the Culture, Gender and Civil Society Department

Theme 2: Research, Innovation and Open Knowledge for Inclusive Development

Moderated by **Prof. Dr. Mirella Korzeniewska-Wiszniewska**, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland

Theme 3: Arab–Euro–Mediterranean Cooperation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Diversification

Moderated by **Karen Gladović**, EMUNI University, Slovenia

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2026

09:00 - 11:00 General Assembly of EMUNI (for EMUNI Network members only)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

ROUND TABLE BY ALECSO: ARAB-EUROPEAN INTEGRATION INITIATIVE FOR JOINT SCIENTIFIC AND ACADEMIC MOBILITY.

11:30 - 13:30 In this roundtable discussion, we look forward to engaging with presidents, directors, and stakeholders from universities, organizations, and institutions across Arab and European countries participating in this conference. We aim to establish a significant milestone for the Arab-European Integration Initiative, which will serve as a platform that can be expanded to include additional universities and institutions from both regions. The initiative represents a strategic step toward ensuring that qualifications from Arab universities and institutions are more respected and recognized globally. By creating a framework that enhances cross-comparability, we will promote joint scientific and academic mobility, allowing the region to play a more prominent role in the global academic community