



## Agenda

<https://conference2023.emnes.org/>

### DAY 1: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2023

*Location : Recinte Modernista de Sant Pau and Online*

- 13.30 -14:00 Registration and coffee
- 14:00-14:15 **Introduction**  
Prof. Rym Ayadi, President Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA), Director, Euro-Mediterranean and African Network for Economic Studies (EMANES), Spain
- 14:15-14:25 **Welcome speech:** H.E. Hala El Said, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt and Chairperson of The Sovereign Fund Of Egypt
- 2:15-3:30 **Keynote speech:** Prof. Giovanni Ferri, Director of the Master in Management of Sustainable Development Goals, LUMSA University, Italy
- 3:30- 4:00 Coffee Break
- 4:00-5:30 **Academic session 1: Regional integration and Global value chains**  
**Chair:** Giorgia Giovannetti, Vice President for international Relationships, University of Firenze  
**Paper 1.1:** The constraints of deeper regional economic integration in the light of experience  
**Authors:** Bernard Yvars\*, AFDEC – Bordeaux Institute of Political Studies  
**Discussant:** Marianna Grimmaldi, Swedish National Debt Office  
**Paper 1.2:** The effect of macroeconomic variable network-based indicators of the economic integration of Africa in the 21st Century.  
**Authors:** Tekilu Tadesse Choramo\*(Ghent University), Jemal Abafita, Yerali Gandica and Luis E C Rocha  
**Discussant:** Chahir Zaki\*, University of Orleans  
**Paper 1.3:** Are Global Value Chains Women Friendly? Evidence from Firm-Level Data in Developing Countries  
**Authors:** Marize Kalliny and Chahir Zaki\*(University of Orleans)  
**Discussant:** Enrico Marvasi\*, Roma Tre University
- 5:30-6:00 **Launch of the Short film “Whispers of the Earth: Symphony of change”**

**Synopsis:** In this unfolding narrative, Alba, a sculptor deeply committed to environmental causes, gathers clay from a lakeside. A serendipitous encounter with Mati, a young girl, sparks

an unexpected connection. However, upon Alba's departure, Mati discovers a forgotten ball of clay. Determined to return it, Mati embarks on a journey to find the elusive artist. While her attempts prove futile, the quest becomes a transformative experience for Mati, revealing her capacity to effect positive change independently.

This short film delves into the overlooked intersection of creativity and science in climate preservation, underscoring the crucial need to re-establish a connection between society and its natural surroundings. It reinforces the notion that our home extends beyond mere concrete walls, emphasizing the responsibility to safeguard a more expansive environment. The narrative explores the importance of passing down knowledge and serves as a poignant reminder that addressing climate change necessitates a collaborative, multigenerational effort, where shared humanity and connections bring us together.

**Executive Producer:** Rym Ayadi

**Produced by:** Barking Horse Studios

**Director and Writer:** Kolya-Alvaro dam de Nogales

**Sculptures:** Veronica and Edwin Dam de Nogales

**Cinematographer:** Emi Reyes

**Starring:** Matilde Avila and Veronica de Nogales

**Music by:** Ludovico Einaudi

**Sound by:** Dacio de las Heras

**First AC:** Raffaella Rosset

**Music Consultant:** Daniel Luque

6:00            **Social activity: Christmas lights of Sant Pau**

*Location : Recinte Modernista de Sant Pau*

## **DAY 2: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2023**

9:30-11:00    **Academic session 2: Human development and sustainability**

**Chair: Roger Albinyana, Managing Director, IEMed**

**Paper 2.1:** Human development and inequalities: The importance of social public spending

**Authors:** Ronald Miranda Lescano (Instituto de Economía of the Universidad de la República Uruguay); Oriol Roca-Sagalés; Leonel Muínelo-Gallo

**Discussant:** Moubarack Lo\*, Economic Prospective Office of Senegal

**Paper 2.2:** The Impact of Social Protection Intervention on Alleviating Social Vulnerability (Evidence from Ethiopian Rural Households)

**Authors:** Tewelde Gerlase Haile\* (Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee)

**Discussant:** Yeganeh Forouheshfar, EMEA

**Paper 2.3:** A Model of Public Education, Environmental Awareness and Environmental Quality– an Overlapping Generations Approach

**Authors:** Fatma Safi, University of Sfax

**Discussant:** Marwa Biltagy\*, Feps

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-1:00 **Academic session 3: Financial inclusion**

**Chair:** Najat El Mekkaoui, Paris Dauphine University and EMEA

**Paper 3.1:** Advisors for micro-entrepreneurs: is one as good as another in accessing alternative finance?

**Authors:** Doriana Cucinelli (EMEA and University of Parma), Maria Gaia Soana and Beatrice Ronchini

**Discussant:** Claudia Girardone\*, Essex Business School

**Paper 3.2:** Impact of financial inclusion on carbon dioxide emissions

**Authors:** Rania Makni\* (IHEC Carthage); Ezzeddine Delhoumi

**Discussant:** Mais Shaaban\*, EMEA and Al- Zaytoonah University Of Jordan

**Paper 3.3:** CBDCs and deposit-funded banking systems

**Authors:** Magdalena Kozińska (Warsaw School of Economics) and Sakshi Narula\* (Indian Institute of Technology Delhi)

**Discussant:** Doriana Cucinelli, EMEA and University of Parma

1:00- 2:00 Lunch break

2:00-2:45 **Regional integration session**

**Introduction:** HE Fathallah Sijilmassi\*, General Director, African Union Commission

**Presentation:** Elena Stotts Lee, Research Assistant, EMEA

**Discussants:**

- George Zestos\*, Christopher Newport University
- Aboubaker Benslimane\*, JokkoLabs

2:45- 4:15 **Academic session 4: Food security and green growth**

**Chair:** Sandra Challita, EMANES Coordinator, EMEA and emlyon

**Paper 4.1:** The Impact of Financial Development On Green Complexity: Cross-Country Evidence

**Authors:** Pınar Yaşar, Başak Dalgıç, and Burcu Fazlıoğlu (TOBB University of Economics and Technology)

**Discussant:** Najat El Mekkaoui, Paris Dauphine University and EMEA

**Paper 4.2:** Food Security, Prices and Geopolitical Risk: A Panel Threshold Regression (PTR) Approach

**Authors:** Samer Mehibel (Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée pour le Développement), Reda Hamza Boudjana, Messaoud Lazereg and Amel Bouzid

**Discussant:** Sara Ronco\*, EMEA and Università degli Studi dell'Insubria

**Paper 4.3:** Effects of economic complexity and energy consumption on inclusive green growth

**Authors:** Isaac K. Ofori\* (University of Cape Coast), Emmanuel Y. Gbolonyo and Nathanael Ojong

**Discussant:** Ivan Hajdukovic, EMEA

4:15 – 4:30 Coffee Break

4:30 – 6:00 **Policy Session: What Euro-Med African Partnership for climate change adaptation and mitigation?**

### **Description**

The Mediterranean is where a diverse array of societies thrives, united by a shared heritage and now, a shared challenge: climate change. The socio-economic fabric of the region, interlaced with varying degrees of wealth, development, and cultures, grapples with the tangible consequences of a shifting climate. From agricultural decline to economic instabilities threatening heritage-rich coastal cities, the impacts are profound and far-reaching to the African continent.

The Mediterranean's collective response to this climate crisis transcends mere environmental concern, evolving into a vital socio-economic battle anchored in mitigation and adaptation that demands cross-border solidarity and concerted action and burden sharing.

It is against this critical juncture that the panel discussion is convened, aiming to foster united efforts that span the economic disparities and social diversities of the region.

Our panel is aimed to set the path toward socio-economic resilience through shared initiative and responsibility. The Mediterranean nations, intertwined in a complex web of trade, tourism, and tradition, recognize their interdependent futures. The conversation will prioritize strategies for sustainable economic development, just transition, equitable resource distribution, and policy synchronization to safeguard the region's socio-economic interests. Participants will delve into the multi-layered socio-economic challenges presented by climate change and explore collaborative solutions vital for the region's stability.

**Moderator:** Rym Ayadi, President Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA), Director, Euro-Mediterranean and African Network for Economic Studies (EMANES), Spain

### **Panelists:**

- Cinzia Alcidi\*, Director of Research, Head of the Economic Policy Unit at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Belgium
- Nathalie Hilmi, Section Head of Environmental Economics, Scientific Center of Monaco
- Grammenos Mastrojeni, Senior Deputy Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean
- Faten Aggad\*, Editorial Advisory Board member, South African Journal of International Affairs
- Iolanda Fresnillo, Policy and Advocacy Manager - Debt Justice Eurodad

8:00 **Conference dinner**

*Location : Firo Tast, Av. de Gaudí, 83, 08025 Barcelona*

### DAY 3: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2023

- 9:30-10:00 Registration and coffee
- 10:00-10:45 **Policy Keynote:** Ekkehard Ernst\*, member of the STOA International Advisory Board, president of the Geneva Macro Labs and chief macroeconomist at the International Labour Organization
- 11:00-12:30 **Academic session 5: Labour Markets**
- Chair:** Raul Ramos, Vice-Dean of Research and Doctorate of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Barcelona
- Paper 5.1:** Informal Employment and Job Quality for Youth in Egypt prior the Pandemic  
**Authors:** Adrien Frontenaud and Philippe Adair (ERUDITE and University Paris-Est Créteil)  
**Discussant:** Alex Hamed\*, Christopher Newport University
- Paper 5.2:** GVC and Labor Market Outcomes: Evidence from MENA  
**Authors:** Yasmine Eissa\*, (Misr International University)  
**Discussant:** Giorgia Giovanetti, University of Firenze
- Paper 5.3:** The relationship between labor market institutions and innovation in 177 European regions over the period 2000–2015  
**Authors:** Gaetano Perone\* (University of Pisa, Italy)  
**Discussant:** Raul Ramos, University of Barcelona
- 12:30- 2:00 Lunch break
- 2:00-3:30 **Academic session 6: Climate Risk**
- Chair:** Nathalie Hilmi, Section Head of Environmental Economics, Scientific Center of Monaco
- Paper 6.1:** Climate Risk and Bank Capital Structure  
**Authors:** Yassine Bakkar (Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom)  
**Discussant:** Serena Sandri\*, EMANES and German Jordanian University
- Paper 6.2:** Interpretable machine learning models for ESG stock prices under transition and physical climate risk  
**Authors:** Haithem Awijen, Sami Ben Jabeur (ESDES Lyon Business School), Julien Pillot  
**Discussant:** Yixiao (Ethan) Jiang\*, Western New England University
- Paper 6.3:** CO2 Emissions and the Link to Financial Development in Nigeria: New Discoveries through Asymmetric Cointegration  
**Authors:** Muhammad Abdulaziz Muhammad, Kamal Tasiu Abdullahi (Istanbul University)  
**Discussant:** George Zestos\*, Christopher Newport University

- 3:30- 4:00      **Concluding Remarks and Announcement of the Best Paper Award**  
**Dr. Cinzia Alcidi\***, Director of Research, Head of the Economic Policy Unit  
at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Belgium  
**Prof. Rym Ayadi**, President Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association  
(EMEA), Director, Euro-Mediterranean African Network for Economic Studies  
(EMANES), Spain
- 4:00-5:00      EMANES Steering committee (closed meeting, by invitation only) EMEA  
offices

*\* The speaker will attend online*