

MEDGOVERNANCE

A prospective view on a Mediterranean macro-region

Institut de la Méditerranée
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Regione Toscana

Diritto Valori Innovazione Sostenibilità



REGIONE
PIEMONTE

PLURAL
CENTRO STUDI EUROPEI

CeSPI



Institut de la Méditerranée

maema



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The Medgovernance project

- ◆ The Medgovernance partnership
 - ◆ Regional authorities (Tuscany, Piedmont, Lazio, Provence Alpes Côtes d'Azur, Catalonia, Andalusia) and CPMR
 - ◆ The Network of Mediterranean Institutes (RIM including IM, IEMED, Cespi, Paralleli, IEMED, Fundacion Tres Culturas, MAEM/MEMA)
- ◆ General objectives:
 - ◆ Enhancing multilevel governance in Europe
 - ◆ Improving the contribution of regions to Euromediterranean policy-making processes

Phase 1: analysis of the Euromed governance framework

- ◆ Objectives :
 - ◆ Assess the actual contribution of regions in today's European policy making
 - ◆ In 5 different policy fields (transport, competitiveness, environment, culture...)
 - ◆ In depth analysis of case studies with a focus on European or national-driven policies (*top down processes*)
 - ◆ Prepare Phase 2 and Identify room of manoeuvre for a strategic initiative of Mediterranean regions

Phase 2: a strategic phase

- ◆ Aims at growing awareness on key Mediterranean territorial decision-makers (regional and local authorities, state administrations, private stakeholders) through the organization:
 - ◆ 3 Master Classes: Sevilla, Marseilles, Firenze
 - ◆ 5 thematic seminars: transport, competitiveness, environment, culture and migrations
- ◆ A preliminary process of stakeholders interviews aiming at:
 - ◆ Mapping and framing the issue of a macro-region in the context of the Mediterranean area
 - ◆ Preparing the MEDGOV events (Master Classes, Thematic Events)

Macro-regions: hype or opportunity?

- ◆ Macro-regions have raised a strong interest in the EU:
 - ◆ Lobbying processes for various new strategies (Atlantic, Adriatic, Alps...)
- ◆ A path for preparing a future Mediterranean territorial cooperation framework?
- ◆ Still, a lot of questions:
 - ◆ Do the Baltic Sea and the Danube experiences constitute a new model?
 - ◆ Are there obvious rationales to initiate a Mediterranean MR?
 - ◆ How would it articulate with existing Mediterranean policies and instruments?
 - ◆ What would be possible scenarios for a MR approach in the Mediterranean?

The « enquiry » methodology

- ◆ About 30 interviews performed by the RIM between April and June 2010 on the basis of a common questionnaire
- ◆ Different categories of stakeholders (Italy, Spain and France):
 - ◆ European institutions: EC, CoR
 - ◆ Central administrations: ministries of foreign affairs, ministry of economy, territory planning...
 - ◆ Regional authorities
 - ◆ Regional and local authorities: CGLU, IMC, Arc Latin, Medcities
 - ◆ Experts
- ◆ « Starring »: Mercedes Bresso, Alfredo Mantica, David Sweet ...

Main learnings from the Baltic Sea & Danube experiences

- ◆ Different layers of innovation:
 - ◆ A territorial Strategy
 - ◆ An Action Plan with Flagships Projects
 - ◆ A high-level of political recognition and visibility
- ◆ A complex and ambiguous governance framework
 - ◆ The ambiguous role of Member States: key initiator and « marginalized » in the elaboration phase; role of the High Level Working Group?
 - ◆ The central role of the European Commission in the elaboration phase
 - ◆ The limited contribution of regional and local authorities

Main learnings (2)

- ◆ **4 key assets** for initiating a macro-regional approach
 - ◆ A relevant scale with key shared issues
 - ◆ i.e. environment in the Baltic Sea
 - ◆ Different levels of territorial development
 - ◆ The willingness to cooperate and to experiment
 - ◆ Active lobbying of Member States

8 rationales for initiating a Mediterranean macro-region

1. Remaining transnational territorial issues in need for a renewed policy: transport, environment, migrations...
2. Addressing the deadlocks of the UfM and other intergovernmental instruments
3. Capitalizing on the outcomes of territorial cooperation
4. Coordinating the « patchwork » of Mediterranean policies
5. Securing a geopolitical balance within the EU
6. Anchoring Mediterranean countries in the EU Neighbourhood
7. Introducing a more strategic approach within EU territorial programmes
8. Mainstreaming territorial cooperation in the future Cohesion Policy

Potential fields of tensions

- ◆ The geographic mapping: a pan-Mediterranean approach vs sub-regional processes
- ◆ Coordination with the UfM and other Mediterranean policies
- ◆ Coordination within the European Commission
 - ◆ Power struggle among DGs
 - ◆ Future role of the EU Presidency ?
 - ◆ Future role of the EU External Action Service ?
- ◆ Cooperation culture in the Mediterranean area

Potential fields of tension (2)

- ◆ Financial tension:
 - ◆ Impact of the global economic crisis in the European countries
- ◆ Time and timing:
 - ◆ Preparing a macro-regional approach is highly time-consuming and requires a lot of human resources
 - ◆ The perspective of preparing the 2014-2020 introduces a « state of emergency »
- ◆ Marginalization of regional authorities?

Position of the key stakeholders

- ◆ The Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries: the « silent majority »
- ◆ The key EU Member States:
 - ◆ Italy: strong interest and specific interest on the Adriatic and Ionic area
 - ◆ Spain: interest for an Atlantic macro-region; focus on securing the UfM process and the establishment of the Secretariat
 - ◆ France: focus on securing the UfM process; growing awareness of the geopolitical stakes and potential opportunity for the UfM process itself

Position of key stakeholders (2)

- ◆ The European Commission:
 - ◆ Key driver and promoter of the Baltic Sea and the Danube Strategies
 - ◆ Reluctant to support new Strategies
- ◆ Local and regional authorities: obvious enthusiasm

3 scenarios for a Mediterranean macro-region

- ◆ Scenario 1: Several Mediterranean macro-regions
- ◆ Scenario 2: A macro-regional UfM
- ◆ Scenario 3: A macro-region of strategic integrated projects