



# The EU and Italy for Sustainability in Africa and the Broader Med Region

## CONCEPT NOTE

Rome, Monday March 4, 2024

EU Parliament and Commission Offices

(149, IV Novembre St., Rome)

**Conference Aims:** The Conference's Goal is to develop a coherent and rational framework related to EU and Italian policies on Sustainability for Africa and for the broader Mediterranean Area (Black Sea and the Gulf Region) in order to:

- **Develop a scientific and open approach to regional sustainability plans in the area**
- **Discuss the need to encourage local cooperation as a contribution to environmentally sustainable policies**
- **Emphasize the importance of sustainability as an instrument of *collective identity* passed down through the generations**
- **Define how food culture can be a transversal tool for approaching different UN-SDGs, in particular *Identitary Cuisine*, also in order to develop women's chances of economic autonomy contributing to reducing the gender gap**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM AND LIST OF INVITED PARTICIPANTS



- **When and Where:** Monday, March 4, 2024, EU Parliament and Commission Offices: Via IV Novembre 149, Rome
- **Who: Co-Organizers:** *The Italian Network for the Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue* (RIDE, Head of the *Anna Lindh Foundation* in Italy), the European Commission Office in Italy, and *Mediterranean Perspectives*, with the Contribution of: The *European Parliament* Office in Italy, The *PRIMA Foundation* (Italian Secretariat), The Department of Social, Political, and Cognitive Sciences at the *University of Siena* (UNISI), *The European Gulf Information Center* (EGIC), *Il Castagno*, *Materviva*, *Salvia*, *Kmetro0*, *Grimaldi Impianti*;  
**Chairwoman:** Michela Zanarella, President, *The Italian Network for the Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue* (RIDE); **Scientific Coordinator:** Enrico Molinaro, Secretary General, RIDE; President, *Mediterranean Perspectives*
- **What:** International Conference: *The EU and Italy for Sustainability in Africa and in the Broader Med Region*, in the context of the *Medi-Jer* annual inter-institutional Euro-Med initiative (VI Ed. 2024)

***Sala delle Bandiere*** Conference Room (First Floor) of the ***EU Parliament in Italy***

## 10.30-11.00: Conference Registration

## 11.00-11.15: Introductory greetings

- Carlo Corazza, Director, Office of the *European Parliament* in Italy
- Antonio Parenti, Head, *European Commission* Representation in Italy
- Matthew Robinson, Director, EGIC (video)

## 11.15-12.00: An Institutional Perspective



- Jo (Jyotsna) Puri, Associate Vice President, Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD), International Fund for Agricultural Development of the United Nations (IFAD)
- Emanuela Del Re, EU Special Representative for Sahel (video)
- Doha Zamel, External Water Expert, *Union for the Mediterranean* (UfM, online)
- Francesco Corvaro, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Italian Government
- Sergio Marchi, Head, Technical Secretariat, *Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Forests* (MASAF)
- Gennaro Migliore, Emeritus President, *Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean*-PAM, Director, *Center of Global Studies* (video)
- Renato Loiero, Economic Advisor, Italian Prime Minister Office

## 12.00-12.45: The European and Italian Parliaments' Debate

- Nicola Procaccini, *European Parliament* member, *Fratelli d'Italia*
- Francesca Peppucci, *European Parliament* member, *European Popular Party* (video)
- Giuseppe Ferrandino, *European Parliament* member, *Renew Europe, Azione*
- Brando Benifei, *European Parliament* member, *Democratic Party* (video)
- Piero Fassino, Vicepresident, Defence Commission, Italian House of Deputies
- Simona Petrucci, Commission on Environment, ecological transition, energy, public works, communications, technological innovation), Italian Senate, member, *Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean* (APUfM)
- Mercedes Bresso, *European Parliament* member, *Democratic Party* (online)



## 12.45-14.00: The Media and Research Dimension: Sustainability, Safe Climate, and Biodiversity Ecosystems

### 1. 12.45-13.00: The Media Dimension

- Davide Dionisi, Special Envoy of the Italian Government for Religious Freedom
- Marco Taradash, Journalist
- Micol Pancaldi, Head, International TV coproduction and training, COPEAM (RIDE and ALF Italy member)

### 2. 13.00-14.00: The Research Dimension

- Enrico Giovannini, President, *The Italia Alliance for Sustainable Development* (ASviS)
- Daniele Frigeri, Director, *Research Center for International Politics* (CESPI: RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Elisabetta Righini, Director, *Yunus Social Business Centre*, Urbino University (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Felicia Bongiovanni, Artistic Director, *Yunus Social Business Centre*, Urbino University (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Salvatore Capasso, Head, Department of Social and Human Sciences, *Italian National Research Center* (CNR), Board of Directors, RIDE
- Matteo Costola, PhD Student, *Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma* (UNINT)
- Sara Savastano, Director Research and Impact Assessment Division, IFAD
- Pierangelo Isernia, The Department of Social, Political, and Cognitive Sciences, *University of Siena* (UNISI, RIDE and ALF Italy member, online)
- Richard Elelman, Head of Politics, *Eurecat* (video)



- Desirée Quagliarotti, Researcher, ISMED-CNR, Italian Representative at the ALF Advisory Council
- Sandro Dermì, President, *Plexus International Forum Onlus* (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Giovanni Stanghellini, The *PRIMA Foundation* (Italian Secretariat), *Santa Chiara Lab, University of Siena* (RIDE and ALF Italy member, online)
- Gianfranco Tamburelli, Senior Researcher ISGI CNR (Group Coordinator, DASS SIDI)

*Spazio Europa (Ground Floor) of the EU Parliament and Commission in Italy*

**14.15-15.00: Identitary Lunch Break**

*Sala delle Bandiere Conference Room (First Floor) of the EU Parliament in Italy*

**15.00-16.00: The EU, the *Mattei Plan*, Africa, and the Broader Med Region**

- Marco Ricceri, Secretary General, Eurispes (RIDE and ALF Italy member), Coordinator, Multidisciplinary BRICS Laboratory
- Georgios Mitrakos, Director General, *International Center for Black Sea Studies* (ICBSS)
- Roberto Ridolfi, Eurispes, Member, Multidisciplinary BRICS Laboratory
- Mmathari Mashao, Minister of the South African Embassy in Rome
- Firas Habbal, President, *Emirates Scholar Research Center* (online)
- Gianluca Senatore, Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche, *Università Sapienza*
- Gianluigi Rossi, Director, *Observatory on the Mediterranean, S. Pio V Institute of Political Studies* (RIDE and ALF Italy member)



- Michael Driessen, 2012 Associate Professor of Political Science, Director of MA in International Affairs, *John Cabot University* (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Piercamillo Falasca, Institutional Advisor, EGIC
- Virgilio Dastoli, President, *European Movement* (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Marco Scurria, Secretary, EU Policies Committee, Italian Senate

## 16.00-17.00: Lifestyle, Culture, Food Security, and Wellness

- Alexandra Valkenburg, EU Ambassador at the Holy See and UN organizations in Rome
- Rajae Naji El Mekkaoui, Moroccan Ambassador at the Holy See
- Issa Kassissieh, Palestinian Ambassador at the Holy See
- Andrea Canepari, Head, Office for Internationalisation of local governments, tourism, sport, Italian chambers of commerce abroad, EXPOs, promotion of Italian design, Italian food and wines, Directorate General for Country Promotion (DGSP), MAECI
- Stefano Scalera, Counsellor to the Minister, Deputy Head, Minister's Cabinet, MASAF
- Cristina Chirico, Head, International Relations Office, *CIA-Agricoltori Italiani (Italian Farmers)*, Facilitator on Food Security, *Working Group World Farmers Organization*
- Andrea Porro, Secretary General, International Secretariat, WFO
- Angelo Argento, President, *Cultura Italiae* (RIDE and ALF Italy member)
- Karl Wolfsgruber, Anthropologist, Director, Biodiversity and Sustainability Division, *Renaissance Evolution Foundation*
- Elena Pascale, Director, *Cavalsassi Foundation*
- Remo Cecconi, Quality Manager, *Materviva SPA*



**17.00-17.15: Conclusions, Discussion, and Future Prospects**

**17.15-17.30: Final Identitary Refreshment**