

MED DIALOGUES 2026

YOUTH FORUM

NAPLES | 19-21 NOVEMBER 2026

Are you a Master's or PhD student with expertise in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region? In the framework of the MED Mediterranean Dialogues, the annual conference organised by ISPI and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, ISPI offers a unique opportunity to engage with leading scholars, policymakers and practitioners, exchange ideas with peers from across the wider Mediterranean, and take part in interactive discussions on the region's most pressing geopolitical and socio-economic challenges, with a particular focus on inclusive and sustainable development, youth engagement, and women empowerment.

Within the 12th edition of the MED Mediterranean Dialogues to be held in Naples, Italy, on 19-21 November 2026, ISPI is pleased to announce the first edition of the **"MED Dialogues Young Ambassadors Programme"**, in partnership with **UNIMED** (Mediterranean Universities Union) and the **Union for the Mediterranean** (UfM).

At a pivotal moment for the **Mediterranean and the Middle East**, as evolving geopolitical dynamics continue to reshape regional security, societies, economy, energy markets and connectivity, bringing together a **new generation of changemakers** has never been more important.

The **"MED Dialogues Young Ambassadors Programme"** aims to foster dialogue, encourage innovative perspectives, and empower participants to **help shape the region's future**.

Selected participants will benefit from:

- Exclusive access to 6 tailor-made masterclasses led by world-leading experts from the MED Dialogues network
- Full access to the MED Dialogues conference (19-21 November)
- Travel expenses (economy flights) and accommodation for up to three nights (double room) in Naples

This is your chance to deepen your knowledge of the MENA's most pressing challenges, engage with key regional actors, and expand your network. Don't miss out on this opportunity and be part of the dialogue shaping the region's future!

Promoters

ELIGIBILITY

We are looking for **passionate, driven** and **outstanding students** with a strong interest in geopolitical dynamics across the wider Mediterranean region to join our “**MED Dialogues Young Ambassadors Programme**”.

What are the requirements to participate?

- Be currently enrolled in a **Master's degree** or **PhD programme**, or have graduated from one within the past two years.
- Coming from: **North Africa¹**, **Middle East²**, or **Europe³**.
- A strong interest/expertise in **MENA-related issues**.
- Excellent command of **English**.

How to apply?

Your expression of interest in participating (only by filling in the [online form](#)) must include:

- An **updated CV** (max. 2 pages) including information on the applicant's education and relevant work experience).
- A **short video** (max. 2 minutes) to explain the candidate's motivation to engage in high-level dialogue and regional cooperation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

We will accept applications until **6 September 2026** (23:59 CEST – Rome Time). Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Selected participants who require a visa to enter Italy will be provided, where necessary, with supporting documentation for their visa application. Applicants remain solely responsible for checking the applicable visa requirements and submitting their visa application in accordance with the guidelines of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI). Visa issuance remains at the sole discretion of the competent Italian authorities, and the provision of supporting documentation does not guarantee visa approval.

In case of further questions, please contact med.secretariat@ispionline.it or sara.leykin.ext@ispionline.it or lina.abdelwadoud.ext@ispionline.it.

Promoters



¹ Algeria; Egypt; Libya; Morocco; Tunisia.

² Bahrain; Iran, Iraq; Israel; Jordan; Kuwait; Lebanon; Oman; Palestinian Territories; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Syria; Türkiye; United Arab Emirates; Yemen.

³ Albania; Andorra; Austria; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; City of Vatican; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Latvia; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Malta; Monaco; Montenegro; Netherlands; Northern Macedonia; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; San Marino; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; United Kingdom.

Promoters



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



Unione delle Università del Mediterraneo
Mediterranean Universities Union
Union des Universités de la Méditerranée
اتحاد الجامعات المتوسطية



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط