

Call for Contributions

Cahier du REF on Mediterranean Youth

Introduction

The REF - Réseau Euromed France (www.euromed-france.org) inaugurated in 2014 its publication "Cahiers du REF" which aims to shed the light on today's Mediterranean objectives while giving committed civil society activists the space to express themselves.

In 2022, the REF chose to give the space for youth to express themselves in the next issue of its Cahier which will be particularly about Mediterranean Youth, allowing them to address themes and topics that are most important to them. This publication will be coordinated by the steering committee of the Mediterranean Youth network (www.en.jeunessesmed.org), formed by 17 Mediterranean youth who are members and/or partners of the REF.

You may find the earliest versions of Cahiers du REF [here](#).

Who can contribute and how?

- **Any youth aged between 18 and 35 years** and coming from **one of the following countries:** *Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.*
- The contribution can take the form of **an article (analysis, testimonial, poem, comics, etc. – the format of the article is free), photos and/or illustrations** for the cover, corresponding to the themes indicated. This publication will contain around 20 articles and a dozen illustrations. The written contributions should not exceed 4500 words.
- Languages accepted are **French, English and arabic.**

PS: A balance of gender, country, language and region will be respected in the selection of contributions.



Thematics and Topics

The thematics of this publication will be aligned with the five objectives of the *Med Youth* network: **citizen participation, climate and social justice, mobility and migration, employment and training, and art and culture**. We suggest the following sub-themes, noting that **other topics** may also be suggested by the contributors:

- **Citizen participation:** impact of the pandemic on young activists, government restrictions, « Me too » movements in the different Mediterranean countries, political education, the financial difficulties of youth movements, the generational gap in the civil society, the role of youth in revolutionary movements, youth and the challenges they face in media, protests and repression, challenges of young independent journalists, rights and mobility of minorities, etc.
- **Social and climate justice:** awareness and commitment to environmental issues, recycling and reusing plastic, the division of natural resources in the Mediterranean region, renewable energy and youth, climate change, the impact of fires and the work of environmental movements of youth, etc.
- **Mobility and migration:** importance of mobility for youth, problems of youth mobility, internal migration in countries, the migration journey of Mediterranean youth: departure, dangers, insertion, education, employment, etc.
- **Employment and training:** youth unemployment, employment discrimination, education and skills in disaccordance with job market needs, work opportunities based on gender, neoliberalism, capitalism and non-productive practices, etc.
- **Art and cultures:** creative artistic initiatives in front of different challenges, new artistic practices for youth, art and politics, difficulties of access to art and culture in certain territories, etc.
- **Cross-topics:** mental health of youth (effects of the pandemic, psychological support for teenagers...), common culture of the Mediterranean region and intercultural exchange, the choice of spoken languages in different countries especially in North Africa, gender equity, violence based on gender in the digital space, etc.
- Your contributions can shed the light on objectives related to a specific territory/Mediterranean country. However, you can also choose to approach the topic with a more regional point of view (touch more than one country, even all Mediterranean countries). Interviews and direct testimonials are considered an added value to contributions because they allow youth voices to directly reach readers.

PS: the objective of this publication is not to produce academic findings but to transmit actual experiences and concrete aspirations lived by Mediterranean youth. You can always introduce your topic by setting the context and stating general explicative elements, however, do not hesitate to give later on concrete examples related to your lived



experiences or observations in order to give the readers a fine and tangible comprehension of the topic you are treating.

Contact

Should you wish to contribute, kindly fill **the following form** before **June 17th 2022**:
<https://forms.gle/xynTqAMRmdZEpkoy9>.

Contribution proposals will be examined by the steering committee of the *Med Youth* network, and you will be recontacted by the REF team before June 30th, 2022.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us on the following address:
Laetitia EL HADDAD, coordinator of the *Med Youth* network: Lelhaddad@euromed-france.org.

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