



EuroMemo Group Conference 2016

Suggested topics for the workshops

6. EU-external relations: destabilising the neighbours (coordinator: Catherine Sifakis)

The EU Neighbourhood Policy towards East European and Caucasian (ex Soviet Republics) countries as well as Southern Mediterranean countries constitutes an essential component of the Union's external relations. Launched in 2004, after the last EU major enlargement, the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) aims to prevent the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbours by implementing a space of prosperity and security in the periphery of the Union. Twelve years after its official launch, the ENP's objective is admittedly, far from being reached. On the one hand, the ENP towards East European and Caucasian countries ("Eastern Partnership") - implemented without strategic vision of the EU relations with Russia - has contributed to a destabilisation of certain "Eastern Partnership" countries (Ukraine). On the other hand, the practice of military interventions by key European countries in North Africa has not only played a significant part in the collapse of certain States (Libya) in the region therefore making effectively null and void the Mediterranean Neighbourhood policy; it also threatens – by favouring a massive migratory flow towards Europe - the viability of the Schengen agreements, a cornerstone of the European edifice.

Papers are invited which critically assess the ENP, its recent evolution and its perspectives. Contributions to a progressive agenda in this area are also welcome.